

Urban Trails Committee – Minutes – March 12, 2025 – Regular Meeting

Attendees: Athena F., Steve M., Kristen B., Brooke C., Brent S., Julia W., Mike H., Jason N.

Staff/Ex-Officio: Henry Brown, Carissa Finnerty, Trent Prall, Eric Mocko, Anita Sheetz, Andy Gingerich

Guests: Jack

Minutes

Call to Order/Announcements:

Meeting Minutes

1. February Minutes

Brent moves to approve January minutes with amendments. Brooke seconds, unanimous approval.

Action Items

1. Better Block University

Henry shared the letter from the grantor, which was a bit vague. Brooke shared that he is not available on the required dates but that the Committee or staff should have some representation. Henry will email back to ask if more than one member could participate if there are conflicts with a given time.

2. 4th & 5th Streets Letter

Trent shared outcomes of his meeting with Mike and staff recommendation to send the letter to Council only via Mike and not to the paper. It will be signed by the Chair and Vice Chair and submitted to the City Manager.

Discussion Items

1. Active Transportation Counts Methodology

Subcommittee met two weeks ago. Henry shared the discussion about moving scooter shared the update that we are discussing whether to continue counting by mode or pivoting to count by facility type used (e.g., sidewalk, bike lane, travel lane). This is partially motivated by some misleading information if rapid e-scooter users are grouped together with kids on push scooters. The Committee discussed pros and cons of switching methodology and of data longevity. The general sentiment was to keep counts modal but to try to group e-scooters with bikes or on their own. Andy recommended an “non-bike electric mobility” category to be comprehensive.

2. Infrastructure Priorities Preparation

Henry shared the plan to walk through each project with the Committee during the end of March workshop and shared the survey that is proposed to be sent to CrossAbility to get a disability lens to help build out the equitability ranking.

1. Sidewalk gaps or repairs
2. Bike lane gaps
3. New bike lanes
4. Bike lane upgrades
5. Shortening crossing distances
6. Installing crossing sensors
7. Multiuse paths on roadways
8. Multiuse paths on canals and drainage ways
9. Bridges
10. Open-ended suggestions

Eric raised the question of does this need to be an annual effort, or could new projects simply be slotted in. This is proposed to be addressed later this year as a part of the Roadmap update.

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Updates

1. Bike Month & Counts

Henry shared that there is some discussion of pivoting volunteer efforts and locations.

Carissa shared draft flyer. Committee members offered to post around town.

2. Engineering Update

May 2 “chain breaking” on Monument Phase II. Crosby Utility phase is underway, Horizon roundabout starts construction early April. D ½ Road utilities completed. Second reading of Impact Fees at Council on April 2. 7th Street study is continuing. Broadway/C340 Bridge Trail is at 30% design, grant submitted; construction is anticipated for Fall. North Avenue expenses will be added to MMOF fund application.

3. Bike Clinic

Carissa shared the recent efforts towards having a bike repair clinic at the Resource Center. Roughly 22-25 were waiting up to an hour in advance to have bikes serviced by seven techs from Fruita High School bike maintenance class. About 10 bicycles were donated. This is planned to continue as a monthly activity with support from Carissa and the City.

4. Reminder of Special Workshop

Reminder of meeting in two weeks!

Public Comment

Jack shared about the woman traveling across the street at Warrior Way who was struck and killed in her wheelchair. This is the most recent in a string of deaths on the street and it is important to keep working on making our streets safer despite the public backlash.

Adjournment

Kristen moves to adjourn at 7:04.