

**City of Golden Valley Bicycle & Pedestrian Task Force
Annual Implementation Update Meeting
April 18, 2018
Council Conference Room
6:00-8:00 PM**

Present:

Council Members: Steve Schmidgall, Gillian Rosenquist

Task Force Members: Billy Binder, Dawn Hill, Hubert Humphrey III, Paul Klaas, Robert Mattison, Dawn Peterson, Laura Pugh

Staff: Jason Zimmerman, Emily Goellner, Marc Nevinski, Jeff Oliver, Amy Morgan

Also Present: Greg Anderson

Call to Order

Schmidgall called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Task Force Role

Nevinski provided a brief history of the Task Force's activities since it was established by the City Council in 2016. The Task Force was tasked with creating a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for the Transportation Chapter of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, which was completed in March 2017. The draft Comp Plan will be released for public comment in mid-May. In September 2017, the City Council agreed that the Task Force could continue meeting on an annual basis to receive updates on the implementation of the Plan, and that the Chair and City Manager may call special meetings as special issues arise. A special meeting on the LimeBike bike share program took place in February 2018.

Task Force members asked for clarification on when special meetings will be held in the future. Staff noted that specific criteria has not been established, but the Chair and City Manager will work together to determine when a special meeting is appropriate. There was discussion of whether new members should be recruited to the Task Force. Three members were not present at the meeting, but two have expressed interest in staying involved.

Nevinski noted that the Task Force's role going forward to was receive updates, ask questions, and provide citizen feedback on the progress of the plan's implementation. It is not the role of the Task Force to take on advocacy efforts that represent the City of Golden Valley or to direct additional work. The next annual meeting will take place in spring 2019 as projects are closing out and before budgeting for 2020 begins.

Implementation Update

Staff provided a summary of the implementation efforts that have taken place in 2017 and 2018, which included the following projects:

1. Crossing and signage improvements to Luce Line on Plymouth Ave at the intersection with Hwy 169 by Three Rivers Park District

2. Addition of on-street bike lanes and trail reconstruction on Plymouth Avenue between Mendelssohn Ave and Winnetka Ave
3. Sidewalk construction on Golden Valley Rd, Decatur Ave, and 7th Ave in the Hwy 55 West Redevelopment Area
4. Construction of a multi-use trail on Rhode Island Avenue between Medicine Lake Rd and the Pennsylvania Woods Nature Area
5. Recent staff meeting with MnDOT to discuss options for the improvement of crossings of Hwy 55 at Boone Ave/General Mills Blvd, Winnetka Ave, Rhode Island Ave, Douglas Dr, Schaper Rd, Meadow Ln, and Theodore Wirth Pkwy - MnDOT will be repaving Hwy 55 from Boone Ave/General Mills Blvd to Hwy 100 between 2022 and 2027, which will provide the opportunity improve pavement markings and potentially traffic signals
6. Hwy 55 and Douglas Drive intersection will require additional design work before federal and state funding applications can be prepared – this design work will be considered during the upcoming City budgeting process. It was noted that this project must remain independent from the repaving of Hwy 55 planned for 2022-2027 due to the significant difference in scope, cost, and funding sources for the projects
7. On-street bike lanes were added to Glenwood Ave between Hwy 55 and Xenia Ave by Hennepin County in 2017. Bike lanes will be added east of Hwy 100 in 2019 or 2020 and the City will assess the crosswalks in the portion of roadway at that time
8. Sidewalk construction and other ADA improvements will be made in the area adjacent to the intersection of Xenia Ave and Golden Hills Dr
9. Maintenance will be conducted on the Hwy 100 pedestrian bridge near Briarwood Nature Area this summer in partnership with the City of Crystal
10. Three Rivers Park District is pursuing funding from Hennepin County and the Metropolitan Council for the final design work and construction of the Bassett Creek Regional Trail on Golden Valley Rd between Regent Ave and Bonnie Lane. There was additional discussion about the implementation of a multi-use trail on Golden Valley Rd from Douglas Dr to Regent Ave. After additional design work is completed by Hennepin County over the summer, staff will assess the options for funding and implementation for this segment.
11. Hennepin County installed temporary safety improvements to a crosswalk on Golden Valley Rd that connects a bus stop to Courage Kenney, which they are interested in making permanent in the future
12. Representatives from the Canadian-Pacific (CP) Railway inquired with the City, County, and Three Rivers Park District in fall 2017 about the future of a railway segment that CP is willing to sell at some point in the future. The segment runs between the intersection of Xenia Ave/Glenwood Ave and the intersection of Theodore Wirth Parkway/Luce Line Regional Trail. Staff added this segment to the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan as future multi-use trail. Staff noted that this is a long-term project due to the high cost for the land and that discussions with adjacent property owners such as Breck School will be necessary as the project progresses.
13. A multi-use trail on the south side of Talo Apartments will be built this summer
14. The Central Park adjacent to the Central Park West Apartments includes bicycle and pedestrian facilities that connect South Tyrol neighborhood/Kennedy Addition residents with the West End. A multi-use trail on Wayzata Blvd between Hwy 100

and the City of Minneapolis boundary is shown on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan, but funding for its construction has not yet been identified. Funding will likely be arranged in partnership with City of St. Louis Park and City of Minneapolis. The Task Force and staff discussed whether on-street bike lanes could be implemented in the interim since it is less costly than a multi-use trail. It was noted that on-street bike lanes could create or worsen significantly safety concerns on that roadway and that a multi-use trail was the most appropriate facility to ensure safety of users.

15. Public Works staff will be installing signage for the signed bike routes on nearly 4 miles of local streets this summer, which are located in Maintenance District 3
16. Staff is obtaining a cost estimate for the installation of all on-street bike lanes and sharrows in the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan to understand how it can be incorporated into the City budget in the future
17. LimeBike bike share program will conduct a soft-launch over the following weekend. The Task Force had several questions about how the bike share program would operate and how problems and concerns would be addressed as they arise. The pilot program will last through the end of 2018 at no cost to the city, at which point the City will weigh the pros and cons of the service and decide if the program should continue.
18. The 2040 Comprehensive Plan will be released for public comment in mid-May. It includes the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. Task Force members are encouraged to provide feedback on the entire plan this summer.
19. The City will be conducting a planning study of the downtown area this summer to understand the opportunities for redevelopment and ways to improve the bicycle and pedestrian network
20. The 2018 Bike Rodeo will take place on May 3rd at Crystal Community Center

Staff also provided updates from the neighboring cities of Plymouth, New Hope, Crystal, Robbinsdale, St. Louis Park, and Minneapolis.

Staff concluded the summary with a list of next steps, which included several of the projects previously summarized, which will be completed over the next year. It was noted that staff would continue pursuing grant opportunities, conducting studies, looking for opportunities to partner with other agencies, and consider the projects in the Implementation Plan throughout the City budgeting process.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.