

**City of Golden Valley Bicycle & Pedestrian Task Force
Annual Implementation Update Meeting
April 30, 2019
Council Conference Room
6:00 PM**

Attendance

Council Members: Steve Schmidgall, Chair

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

Task Force Members Not Present: Paula Pentel

Staff: Emily Goellner, Senior Planner/Grant Writer, Marc Nevinski, Physical Development Director, Jeff Oliver, City Engineer

Call to Order

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

Meeting Summary

Staff provided a summary of the implementation efforts that have taken place in 2018 and 2019.

Oliver noted that the City is preparing plans to stripe several roadways in the City with on-street bike lanes based on the Bike Ped Plan. Some of the routes might be striped next year instead, depending on the final cost estimates and budget. Rhode Island Avenue was originally included, but removed due to unanticipated concrete work and signal modifications at Highway 55. They are talking to MnDOT about the use of a leading interval at that signal. Some routes will require the removal of on-street parking in order to fit the bike lanes. The project also includes signage. They are also talking about using green paint in intersections for better visibility. Oliver noted that there will be open houses this summer for property owners living on or near the routes to discuss the designs. It is expected that a contract for the work would be awarded in July or August. Binder asked about whether the off-street trail on Wayzata Boulevard from Highway 100 to the border to Minneapolis would be included with this project. Oliver confirmed that it would not be because this project is focused on just on-street bike lane striping. Binder asked if the City would build on-street bike lanes instead of a trail. Goellner noted that the off-street trail was selected for that segment to ensure safety. There are high speeds and volumes in that corridor and the feasibility study conducted a few years ago determined that facility type would work best. Binder asked about timing and Oliver said it is on the list for an upcoming year and that the City will work with St. Louis Park and Minneapolis to coordinate it.

Goellner summarized the plan to install signage on local streets in Maintenance District 2 and 3 this summer and referred to the map attached in the agenda packet. She also summarized a project with Hennepin County's Active Living Program to improve connections between Downtown Golden Valley and the Luce Line.

Goellner and Oliver talked about a 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

Goellner shared two conceptual drawings of a pedestrian bridge over Highway 55 at Winnetka Avenue. It could possibly include a "Welcome to Golden Valley" sign and would connect people from Downtown to Brookview Community Center. Humphrey noted that he is very supportive of this project. Other Task Force members agreed.

Oliver noted that Hwy 55 and Douglas Drive intersection will require additional design work before federal and state funding applications can be prepared, but it continues to be listed in the City's legislative priorities for state funding.

Mattison summarized the challenges of the Luce Line flooding near Schaper Park and Theodore Wirth Park due to the presence of ski trails. He asked that staff keep this issue on the agenda in the future until it is resolved. Oliver noted that storm sewer drainage improvements are needed and it will be kept on the agenda.

Nevinski gave an update on the Glenwood Avenue repaving project from Hwy 100 to the border of City of Minneapolis and Goellner gave an update on Meadowbrook Elementary's plans for expansion and potential for Safe Routes to School funding. Klaas noted that the bridge over Hwy 100 has challenging size constraints for bike lanes.

Goellner shared information about the potential trail connection at Laurel Avenue to connect to Brunswick and Dakota Avenues. The City applied for a grant to fund the project and results will be announced in July.

Goellner updated the Task Force on the sidewalk construction and other ADA improvements in the area adjacent to the intersection of Xenia Avenue and Golden Hills Drive.

Goellner noted that Three Rivers Park District unsuccessfully pursued 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 this trail design as well as the implementation of a multi-use trail on Golden Valley Rd from Douglas Dr to Regent Ave. The Task Force members encouraged staff to continue to explore ideas for immediate improvements to the crossing under Hwy 100 along Duluth Street/Golden Valley Road.

Goellner confirmed that the trail near Talo apartments is complete.

Goellner shared information about the Downtown Study that will begin this summer. Binder requested that a work group be formed for this work similar to the work group formed by

Hennepin County for the repaving project on Glenwood Avenue. Goellner noted that there will be several opportunities to provide input for the study.

Nevinski stated that the City entered into an agreement with Lime for a bike and scooter sharing program after a pilot program. The Task Force had several questions safety conflicts between scooters and pedestrians on sidewalks Nevinski noted that Three Rivers Park District is allowing scooters on their trails and that scooters are used at a speed more similar to bicycles than pedestrians. Some Task Force members noted that scooters should ride in the street instead of the sidewalk, but Oliver noted that this could also create unsafe conditions for safety between scooters and cars. It was suggested that there be a clause in the agreement that texting on a cell phone is not allowed while operating a scooter .

Goellner noted that the 2040 Comprehensive Plan is still under final review of a few minor changes by the Metropolitan Council and is expected to be approved by them in the coming months. Many cities are in the same place with their Comp Plans.

Goellner added that the 2018 Bike Rodeo will take place on May 2nd at Sonnesyn Elementary.

Staff also provided updates from the neighboring cities of Plymouth, New Hope, Crystal, Robbinsdale, and St. Louis Park. Binder noted that Robbinsdale recently did a \$2-3 million trail connecting to downtown. He suggested that the design they used on Noble Avenue be replicated as it heads south into Golden Valley. Goellner confirmed that an off-street trail is included in the Bike Ped Plan on Noble Avenue. Rubyini suggested that Golden Valley partner with City of Plymouth for future improvements to crossings of Highway 55. She also noted that there could be more grant opportunities when working in partnership. Goellner agreed. Klaas asked how St. Louis is able to fund such large bike infrastructure projects and asked whether Golden Valley invests a similar amount of money in bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure as nearby cities. Goellner noted that a comparative analysis like that has not been conducted. Nevinski noted that Golden Valley made a large investment recently in reconstructing Douglas Drive with bike and pedestrian facilities.

Rubinyi added that there must continue to be a focus on improving the crossings of Highway 55.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.