

MEETING SUMMARY

Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

February 16, 2022

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) met virtually at 2:00 pm on February 16, 2022, via Microsoft Teams.

See Pages 5 and 6 for meeting attendance.

1. Welcome and Introductions – Robert Caskey, Chair, City of Frisco

Robert Caskey welcomed attendees and introduced himself as the 2022 Chair of BPAC, and Chad Marbut as the Vice-Chair. The November 2021 meeting summary was accepted as submitted.

2. Local Community Updates

a. E-Scooter Policy Update – Jessica Scott, City of Dallas

After the arrival of dockless scooters in Dallas in 2018, downtown area business districts and Dallas Police Department requested that permits be suspended due to concerns regarding dangerous conditions and riding practices, scooters being misused, and blocking sidewalk access. For dockless e-scooters to return, these issues needed to be addressed by creating new policies such as a permit program, rider/device operator standards, and general program management. The goal of the new policies is to relaunch the Dockless Vehicle Program in a way that is safe, equitable, orderly, and promotes broader city goals.

City of Dallas Dockless Vehicle Program Webpage:

<https://dallascityhall.com/departments/transportation/Pages/dockless-vehicle-program.aspx>

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC

b. Northaven Trail Crosswalks – Jared White, City of Dallas

The Northaven Trail is an 8-mile shared-use path that runs along an Oncor transmission corridor through several north Dallas neighborhoods. A recent improvement to the Northaven Trail is a red and white “candy cane” striped crosswalk implemented on St. Michaels Drive and Edgemere Road. These vibrant crosswalks visually communicate to drivers to slow down for pedestrians and bicyclists at the busy trail crossing. City staff received positive feedback after implementing the improved crossings and are currently looking into replicating this design at more locations along the Northaven Trail.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

c. Bike Lane Transitioning to Off-Street Trails – James Fish, City of Mansfield

The City of Mansfield was awarded Transportation Alternatives Program funding to implement improvements connecting North Main Street to historic Downtown Mansfield in an effort to become more bicycle friendly. This was accomplished by narrowing driving lanes and striping bike lanes on each side of the road that transition from on-street to off-street 12-foot wide shared-use paths. These facilities were implemented on an on-system roadway (US 287 Business) and required coordination with TxDOT Fort Worth. The total length of the project completed in 2019 was just over a half-mile at a total cost of \$2.6 million.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

d. Bicycles and Pedestrian Accommodation on Bridges – Amelia Hayes, FHWA

As part of the new Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill, funding is subjected to new provisions for bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. Under this provision (23 U.S.C 217e), all projects with federal funding that replace or rehabilitate a highway bridge deck are required to provide safe accommodation for pedestrians and bicyclists on the bridge when both of the following conditions are met: 1) The bridge is located on a highway on which pedestrians or bicyclists are allowed to operate at each end of the bridge, and 2) FHWA determines that safe accommodation can be provided at a reasonable cost. Reasonable cost is defined as 20% of the greater bridge project cost.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

e. Signing and Pavement markings – Tim Wright, TxDOT

In response to Senate Bill 1055 (the Lisa Tory Smith Act), the TxDOT Traffic Safety Division issued guidance on pedestrian-related traffic control devices. The updated TMUTCD changes signage at pedestrian crossings that was once labeled “Yield” to “Stop” to instruct drivers they must stop for pedestrians.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

f. Upcoming Events – Chad Marbut, Vice-Chair, City of Weatherford

Chad Marbut presented upcoming regional events and trainings, and national conferences.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

3. Proven Safety Countermeasures – Amelia Hayes, FHWA

Amelia provided an overview on Proven Safety Countermeasures (PSC), an initiative launched in 2008 by the FHWA. The program consists of 20 countermeasures that were identified to be effective in improving safety for all modes, with several specifically addressing non-motorized travel. FHWA encourages state DOTs and local agencies to implement PSCs in projects and publishes technical guidance documents and other resources online. New countermeasures that pertain to bicyclists and pedestrians include rectangular rapid flashing beacons, intersection and segment lighting, crosswalk visibility enhancements, and bicycle lanes. An updated webpage was also launched so that organizations may view the countermeasures easier.

The webpage can be seen at: <https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/provencountermeasures/>

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

4. Sidewalk Workplan and Pedestrian Scrambles – Nathan George, City of Denton

Nathan presented on the City of Denton’s planned pedestrian scrambles and the recently updated Sidewalk Workplan. Pedestrian scrambles, which are protected all-way crossings, are designed (currently 60%) and planned to be implemented at the four intersections surrounding Denton County Courthouse. In addition, the City of Denton has been developing workplans to strategically deliver Capital Improvement Programs, in this case constructing new sidewalks. The Sidewalk Workplan has planned sidewalk construction citywide for 2021-2024. To aid this workplan, the city also recently developed an ADA Transition Plan that assessed the condition of the existing sidewalk network and helped identify missing sidewalks throughout the city. It was determined that 450 miles of new sidewalks were needed. An annual improvement program was established after prioritizing sidewalks based on a Pedestrian Potential Index score.

City of Denton Draft Sidewalk Workplan webpage:

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/bc652d6cbedf46a491c653b8ec2043af>

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

5. NCTCOG Updates

a. Regional Sidewalk Data – Travis Liska

Travis provided an overview on NCTCOG’s purchase of a regional sidewalk GIS data layer that aims to be a data resource for planning and analysis of sidewalk needs and impact. The Research and Information Services Spatial Data Cooperative Program (SDCP) can develop a regional sidewalk layer digitized from aerial imagery. NCTCOG recently surveyed if cities have sidewalk data or would use the data if it were purchased. The responses can be seen here: <https://publish.smartsheet.com/9b642de2db0246a38f8250bc7f1a7b03>. The project spans 159 cities in the 12-county region that have a population over 1,000 people.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

b. Monthly Trail Counts – Daniel Snyder

Daniel provided a brief update on the Bicycle and Pedestrian Trail Counts spanning from March 2020 to December 2021. Trail counts in December 2021 were 32% higher compared to trail counts in December 2019. Trail counts continue to be consistently higher since the outbreak of COVID-19.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

c. Adopted Targets for Crash Performance Measure Update – Daniel Snyder

Daniel provided an update on adopted targets for the federal Non-Motorized Safety Performance Measure that aims to reduce fatal and serious injuries. The new adopted statewide safety target is to reduce fatalities by 50% by 2035. So far, the NCTCOG region has met their adopted short-term targets from 2018-2020 based on a 2% reduction by 2022. NCTCOG staff continue to look for opportunities to improve safety for vulnerable road users

as guided by the Regional Transportation Council's position affirming that even one death on the transportation system is unacceptable.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

d. 2022 Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects – Kevin Kokes

Kevin provided an overview on the Transportation Alternatives Call for Projects in the North Central Texas Region anticipated to open in the summer. Before the call for projects opens, agencies are encouraged to consider the 2020 TA program rules as they identify and develop a project application. Considerations include, but are not limited to, funding only being available for construction, securing all right-of-way/easements before applying, developing a well-defined project scope of work, and developing schematics and opinions of probable construction cost. Applicants will also need to coordinate with stakeholders such as TxDOT, railroads, neighborhoods, and adjacent property owners in advance of submitting an application.

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

e. Competitive Infrastructure Funding Opportunities – Kevin Kokes

Kevin provided an overview on the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act which aims to increase funding to improve safety for people walking, bicycling, and safe routes to school. Three main components related to bicyclist and pedestrians are the Transportation Alternatives Program (funding increased by 60%), Safe Routes to School (recodifies into current law), and Complete Streets (requires that states and MPOs adopt plans to consider the needs of multimodal road user of all ages, abilities, and travel modes).

This presentation can be found on the BPAC website at www.nctcog.org/BPAC.

f. Fort Worth to Dallas Regional Trail Update – Kevin Kokes

Kevin provided an update on the Fort Worth to Dallas Regional Trail Branding and Wayfinding project and highlighted an upcoming public input/virtual open house in mid- to late April. This meeting will discuss preliminary naming and branding concepts.

For more information, please visit: www.FortWorthtoDallasTrail.com

6. Other Business/ Open Discussion

Robert announced the date of BPAC's next scheduled meeting, to be held on May 18, 2022.

Members in Attendance at the February 16, 2022, BPAC meeting

Lauren Williams (for Janna Tidwell)	Town of Addison
Krishan Patel	City of Allen
Mark Heinicke (for Anthony Cisneros)	City of Arlington
Heather Houseman	City of Burleson
Marcos Fernandez	City of Carrollton
Shawn Ray	City of Cedar Hill
Laura Melton	City of Cleburne
Luis Gatica	City of Colleyville
John Elias	City of Coppell
Jessica Scott	City of Dallas
Nathaniel George	City of Denton
Elizabeth Quilici	City of DeSoto
Bart Stevenson	City of Duncanville
Renee Esses	City of Farmers Branch
Quenell Johnson	City of Fort Worth
Robert Caskey	City of Frisco
Josue De La Vega	City of Garland
Brett Huntsman	City of Grand Prairie
Lorna Gibson (for Kathy Nelson)	City of Grapevine
Eric Starnes (for Kyle Gordon)	City of Hurst
Cody Owen	City of Irving
Cody Maberry	City of Keller
Michael Kim	City of Lewisville
Chris Ray	City of Mansfield
Robyn Root	City of McKinney
Wes McClure	City of Mesquite
Heather Dowell	City of Midlothian
Joe Pack	City of North Richland Hills
Drew Brawner	City of Plano
Jessica Shutt	City of Richardson
Tara Bradley (for Carlos Monsalve)	City of Rowlett
Eve Morgan	City of The Colony
Jennifer Pruitt	City of Waxahachie
Chad Marbut	City of Weatherford
Brent Stowers (for Robert Diaz)	City of Wylie
Minesha Reese	Dallas County
Tim Palermo	DCTA
Alyssa Searcy	Ellis County
Joe Atwood	Hood County
Brian Crooks (for Kevin St. Jacques)	Hunt County
Joel James	NTTA

Lee Gilbert	Rockwall County
Akar Pokhrel	Tarrant County
Jennifer Grissom	Trinity Metro
Tim Wright	TxDOT Dallas District
Anthony White	TxDOT Fort Worth District
Chad Davis	Wise County

NCTCOG Staff in Attendance at the February 16, 2022, BPAC meeting:

Julie Anderson
Stuart Burzette
Kevin Kokes
Travis Liska
Cauner McDonald
Catherine Osborn
Daniel Snyder
Karla Windsor