

Minutes

Pedestrian & Bikeways Committee

April 19, 2016

8:00 a.m.

TMACOG Boardroom



Toledo Metropolitan Area
Council of Governments
300 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
Toledo, OH 43697
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1. Welcome & Introductions

Chair Ed O'Reilly called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of January Minutes [\[minutes\]](#)

Terry Waltzer moved that the minutes be approved, Pat Squire seconded the motion. All approved.

3. New Business

a. Extension of University/Parks Trail

A westward extension of the UPT has long been discussed by stakeholders in the region. A preferred option for a 2.5 mile extension was presented. The proposed route would begin at the UPT's current terminus at King Road. The proposed extension proceeds west across the former King Road landfill, crossing Silica Road and Ten Mile Creek and then following the creek, then following the east and north edges of Central Ave Truck Parts property, and along the edges of a quarry property, to a paper street that leads into Sylvan Prairie Park. Sylvan Prairie Park is 220-acre facility owned by The Olander Park System, and houses a 5.5-mile trail known as the Quarry Ridge Bike Trail.

It appears that abatement issues regarding the former King Road landfill have been resolved to the point where crossing it with a bike path is becoming feasible. A notable condition for developing this portion is the requirement to install fencing on both sides of the trail in order to prevent trail users from venturing off the trail and onto the grounds of the former landfill. Also, the Lucas County Engineer's office is developing a drainage improvement project along Ten Mile Creek that can potentially incorporate a bike facility in a relatively cost efficient manner. A timeline for phased development and strategies for funding the development are next steps.

b. Bike Month 2016

Lance Dasher thanked the bike month subcommittee members for their work on organizing events and developing marketing for Bike Month 2016. New t-shirts are available to those who participate in events during the month. Check the TMACOG Bike Month [webpage](#) for updates.

4. Old Business

a. Chessie Circle Trail Development Update

The Chessie Circle Coordinating Committee met on March 11. They discussed two items that have emerged after a review of AREIS information. This first deals with a parcel between Hill and South that has some recording errors that will need to be sorted out. The second deals with what was thought to be the northern terminus. According to AREIS the CCT property starts directly north of Amesbury, rather than at the Temperance Junction as mapped.

Another item of discussion was putting the concepts for trail signage and kiosks into actual production now that the Metroparks section of the trail is being built.

Members of the TMACOG ped-bike committee then discussed the Maumee River bridge removal project, with some members stating a preference for the bridge to be preserved, or at least its piers and other members noting the unsafe/unsalvageable condition of the bridge and the need for its removal. TMACOG staff offered to share a report on the condition of the bridge that was conducted in 2002. More recent analyses of the bridge have been done by its owner, the Wood County Port Authority. TMACOG staff also noted that removal and replacement of the bridge is a project in TMACOG's 2015-2045 On The Move Long Range Transportation Plan.

b. Proposed U.S. Bicycle Routes in the Region

The deadline for this initiative has been moved back to at least September by ODOT.

c. University/Parks Trail Maintenance Plan Development

A draft plan is nearing completion. The trail owners are finalizing budget information and reviewing options for forming a coordinating committee. The goal is to complete the draft by June.

d. Regional Bike Users Map Development

The Regional Bicycle User Map is intended to be a guide for bicycle users of all skill levels to assist them in selecting safe routes on the roadway system appropriate for their use. It is to be a resource to commuters as well as recreational riders that will serve to facilitate trip planning, and support combining bicycling mode with other modes. To be useful the map must communicate to bicyclists and would-be bicyclists as to the conditions they might typically encounter on the TMACOG region network of roadways, and to help bicyclists make choices about how to get from point A to B. A related objective is to communicate with bicyclists about safe riding techniques, local and state laws, and equipment tips. To reach this goal a Classification System (i.e. Red, Yellow, Green, and Blue) will be developed. There is no one standard way to do this and several regions and cities such as Columbus, Dayton, and Cincinnati have each developed their own frameworks for understanding how bikeable their streets are.

5. Member Initiatives Roundtable

- Steve Atkinson encouraged all members to get out and enjoy the events of Mike Month.
- Steve Day announced that the City of Toledo applied for a Clean Ohio Trails grant for the Overland Trail. The goal is to connect several parks including Ottawa, Jermaine, Joe E. Brown, and Beatty. It will provide connection to the historic Woodlawn Cemetery and the Chessie Circle Trail. This project will also reconnect several neighborhoods that are separated by I-475. The trail is proposed as a mixture of side paths and on road facility types. Steve also reported that the city is currently doing a construction project on Arlington.
- Mike Young noted that the Overland Trail projects mirrors the City of Toledo's Greenways Trail Plan that is included in the city's 20/20 Comprehensive Plan.
- Dick Currie updated members on the recent revisions to plans for Riverside Park and Hood Park in Perrysburg.
- Dick Kudner commended the Ohio Bicycle Federation for its calendar of events. He supports efforts by the committee members to get the calendars distributed.
- Howard Abts encourages people to ride their bikes more, noting the more you ride the more likely you are to become a better, more skilled rider.
- Emily Ziegler updated the group on several initiatives now underway at Toledo Metroparks. In partnership with NORTA and Maumee Valley Planning Organization a TAP application is being prepared to extend the paved portion of the north fork of the Wabash Cannonball Trail by approximately 10 miles. Comments are being accepted. Metroparks, with several partners, is making a Land and Water Conservation Fund application for Manhattan Marsh. Metroparks is starting a process to designate the Maumee River as an official water trail. The focus is currently on locating access sites, documenting hazards, points of interest, etc. Emily reminded members of the Outdoor Adventure Expo that will be held on May 21 at Side Cut Park beginning at 10 a.m.
- Pat Squire shared the new fliers for the 2016 one day rides organized by the Maumee Valley Adventurers. She applauds the greater access to Woodlawn Cemetery that the Overland Trail project will create. She also praised the city of Toledo for maintaining non-motorized traffic with replacing the bridge in Ottawa Park.
- Terry Waltzer announced that Maumee Valley Adventurers has purchased 8 portable bike racks that hold 8 bikes each. These racks can be rented for \$10 per rack per event. They are especially useful to facilitate bike valet at events.

2016 Schedule:

Full Committee: Quarterly on 3rd Tuesdays:

January 19, April 19, July 19, October 18

Steering Committee: Quarterly on 3rd Tuesdays:

February 16, May 17, August 16, Nov. 15