

Whatcom County Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee
May 19, 2021

Sonja Max called the meeting to order at 5:49 pm

Members present: Kelly Kendall, Stephen Zylstra, Sonja Max, Robin Thomas, Gary Malick, Patrick Alesse, Brian Johnson

Staff Present: Jason Ardt (Public Works)

Member(s) of the Public: none

Approval of minutes from April 21, 2021 meeting

- Gary moved approval; Kelly seconded. Approved unanimously

Two new BPAC positions are to be filled

WDF Trails (Sonja)

Sonja and Stephen spoke with Richard at WDF. They learned that neither of the trails will be improved. They will be removed from the map. Additionally, the berm trail will show up as an existing unimproved trail.

Rural bike facility recommendations (Robin)

Robin shared the update to the Rural Bike Facility element, and recommendations to this. Robin shared an image of bicyclist design user profiles. Included on the lower end was "interested but concerned," on the higher end was the "highly confident group." Robin also discussed the section on bike infrastructure, and discussed the goal of separated bike paths on high-speed roads. She also shared pictures of more optimal bicycle route facilities, including advisory bike lanes and intersection/crossing treatments.

Bicycle route map update (Sonja)

Sonja added school locations (safe routes to school feature), green diamonds for challenging intersections, aqua colored for recommended changes, yellow is low traffic, purple are places where advisory bike lanes exist. Jason suggested we review the Semiahmoo area, which had no information (Sonja said we will look into this). Jason also suggested we look at the designation around Lake Whatcom Blvd. Sonja discussed the idea of bringing in a consultant to help with a bike plan.

BPAC webpage development (Stephen)

Stephen mentioned he communicated with the Executive's office, and they wouldn't pay the money to support a webpage but could add content to the existing BPAC page site. Brian suggested we look at other websites to see if we can put a high level outline together to see what we would do to enhance the existing site.

BPAC organized ride (Stephen)

Stephen discussed the idea of creating a group ride this summer. He suggested coming up with ideas on how we would do something like this (such as what we need to do to make this happen). Sonja suggested we consider how long the bike ride should be. Stephen asked for volunteers to lead the effort.

Inspiration (Sonja)

Gary mentioned an Oregon newspaper column on bike maintenance. He will share with the group.

Adjourn

Sonja adjourned the meeting at 7:12pm