

Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group (GTUAG)
Meeting Notes
Tuesday, February 11, 2014 – 7:00 PM
GF Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South, Grand Forks, ND

Nikki Seabloom
Art Young
Jane Croeker
Dave Sears
Aaron Kennedy
Dick O'Connor

Wes Rogers
Stephanie Erickson, MPO
Bret Weber, GF City Council
David Kuharenko, GF engineering
Kim Greendahl, City of GF

I. Brief history of the evolution of the group: The Greenway User Group was started in June 2008 as a way to connect with Greenway users. The Trail Advisory Committee part was added by Council that October. That was done to satisfy the conditions of an ordinance that was in place. Council minutes from that meeting define the reason for adding the committee and its role in bikeway projects.

II. Old Business

A. Bike project update

- i. **Green Lanes:** a meeting will be scheduled for early March.
- ii. **League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly Community Application:** Staff from the City of GF met to discuss the application. Research is being done regarding ordinances and policies.

III. New Business

- A. 2013 Annual Report:** The report is complete but Kim forgot to bring copies. Copies will be available at the March meeting and posted on website.
- B. University Avenue project:** This item was on the Service Safety Committee meeting agenda at 5:30 today. The engineering department has recommended the addition of sharrows along University Avenue from Columbia Road to North 3rd Street.

Recommendation: The group was divided on bike lanes or sharrows but agreed that any type of pavement marking was better than nothing and we need to start somewhere. **The group recommends and supports bike lanes when space permits. Sharrows are preferred when less room is available.**

Process and public input: This item was brought forward by the engineering department as a follow-up to an inquiry from Councilman Weber on January 21. The engineering department wrote a staff report to add sharrows to University Avenue. This was in conflict with the recently adopted Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).

The Bicycle and Pedestrian portion of the LRTP was adopted by both city councils after going through a long vetting process that included input from the Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group (GWTUAG). Sharrows on University Avenue are a change to that plan. Any changes to the plan should go through the same process that was used to develop the plan. The Service Safety Committee agreed today to delay a decision until this group had an opportunity to comment on the change.

Because membership to the Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group is open to the public, it is important to get the information out to the public for input. Staff will post information on the www.bikingtheforks.com website and develop an online feedback form for those who cannot attend public meetings.

IV. Greenway Updates

- A. Road in Lincoln Drive Park:** David gave an update on the replacement of a section of Lincoln Drive. Motorized and non-motorized traffic will be rerouted onto temporary gravel roads and trails during construction. Work on the project should take about six weeks. The group suggested that extra signs be installed before the entrance into the park to warn of the trail crossing because the speed bumps will not be in place.

- V. Other**
 - A. Bikeway design at new elementary school:** The group would like to be included in the discussion and design of the bikeway at the new elementary school. This would be in line with the role of this group as an advisory committee.
 - B. South Columbia Road (south of 32nd Avenue South) reconstruction:** Are bike lanes or a shared use path included in this project? The project hasn't been designed yet but projects funded with federal money are required to consider all methods of transportation in their design.

- VI. Next meeting date: 7PM, Tuesday, March 11, 2014, GF Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South**

Submitted by: Kim Greendahl, Greenway Specialist, City of Grand Forks

Supplemental materials: Lincoln Drive reconstruction project aerial view 2/11/14
Lincoln Drive reconstruction project Engineering drawing undated