

Richfield Bicycle Master Plan Task Force

Wednesday October 20, 2010
7:00 pm – Richfield Community Center

Draft Minutes

Task Force Members and Staff Attending: David Gepner, Robyn Wiesman, Gail Lund, Erica Tobola, Tom Birkelo, Bob Hall, Chris Olson, Sara Nutter, Thomas Scherber, Jim Topitzhofer, Jeff Pearson

1. Call To Order
 - *D. Gepner called the meeting to order at 7:33pm.*
2. Approval Of Agenda
 - *Motion to approve agenda. Motion carried.*
3. Approval Of Minutes
 - *Motion to approve September 8, 2010 minutes made and carried.*
4. Impromptu Minneapolis Plans Discussion
 - *Gepner introduced Shaun Murphy, Non-Motorized Pilot Project Coordinator for Minneapolis, and asked him to briefly explain what that city has been doing to improve bicycle infrastructure. Mr. Murphy went over the recent Bicycle Master Plan updates, the facilities currently under construction, and ideas and ways to better connect Richfield with Minneapolis via bike infrastructure. Specific projects mentioned were:*
 - *40th Street*
 - *Green Lanes*
 - *Southern Bike Connection*
 - *Bryant Ave Bike Boulevard**Gepner stressed the need to coordinate the connections into Minneapolis in future planning efforts.*
5. Consultant Discussion
 - *Jim Topitzhofer gave an update on the SHIP board discussions and the desire to continue to support the efforts of the Richfield Bike Task Force. He explained that the board would like to match the previous grant to allow for a consultant to assist the task force and master planning.*
 - *Topitzhofer asked the Task Force what would be desired of a consultant. He asked if this is something the group wanted. Overall consensus was positive.*
 - *The role of the consultant was outlined. That for the amount of the grant, the consultant would not lead and create the master plan. Rather, assist the task force and staff in their efforts and help to keep the process on track and meet benchmarks.*
 - *HR Green will prepare a proposal for the Task Force to review at the November meeting.*
6. Open House Discussion
 - *Review of the open house included some disappointment in attendance. Ideas for future meetings were brought up. Staff later learned that both Sun Current and Star Tribune were aware of the open house but chose not to cover it. Staff will gauge interest from these outlets on covering the task force efforts as a whole and not specific meetings.*

- *Reaction regarding conversation amongst those attending was positive. The 'make your own route' board generally drew the most attention and discussion.*
- *Gepner stressed getting the Schools and Public Safety involved on a more regular basis. Staff could explore a 'Technical Advisory Committee' consisting of City and School staff to review progress on a designated schedule. This has commonly been done on other planning efforts.*
- *Pearson will summarize the comments received for review at the November meeting.*

7. Updates

- *Pearson reviewed the new Portland Avenue Pilot Project that involved striping Portland in a three-lane configuration between 69th and 75th Streets. It is now complete and included 6-foot general use shoulders.*
- *Pearson updated the Task Force on the status of the Metro Sewer Project including the completed bike lanes and path along Diagonal Boulevard.*

8. Meeting Adjourned

- *Meeting adjourned at 8:32.*
- *Next meeting Wednesday, November 10th at the Richfield Public Works Building.*