

REGULAR MEETING / WORK SESSION

1. CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR MEETING

The November 2, 2015 Regular meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Mr. John O'Neill. Members Sharon Bressler, Brian Rater, and Robert Prosek also attended. Staff members present were Doug Erickson, Township Manager. The audience included Jim May, Centre Regional Planning Agency.

2. ITEMS OF CORRECTION

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Meeting minutes from the October 12, 2015 combined Regular Meeting and Work Session Meeting were brought before the Planning Commission for approval.

Ms. Sharon Bressler made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Robert Prosek. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments at this point in the meeting.

5. CENTRE REGION BICYCLE PLAN

Mr. Jim May, Centre Regional Planning Agency, noted that in May 2012, the League of American Bicyclists (LAB) designated the Centre Region as a Bronze-level Bicycle Friendly Community. As part of the application review and designation, the LAB provided the Centre Region Council of Governments (COG) with a feedback report that listed short- and long-term recommendations to promote bicycling in the Region.

In 2014, the Transportation and Land Use (TLU) Committee directed the Centre Regional Planning Agency (CRPA) to prepare a Regional Bike Plan on behalf of the Centre Region municipalities. The TLU Committee agreed to provide oversight for preparation of the plan, with input from the Centre Region Bicycle Advisory Committee.

CRPA worked with the TLU Committee over the past year to prepare a Draft Centre Region Bike Plan. Public involvement activities included presentations at local planning commission and recreation committees and an on-line survey to gather information about the needs of bicyclists. The Draft Plan and Executive Summary can be found at www.crcog.net/bikes.

Mr. May provided the Planning Commission with a power point presentation for the bike plan.

Mr. John O'Neill requested clarification of the term "Bike Route". It is shown as a bike facility on the "Facility Type Preference – Overall" slide from the power point, but is not defined in the Plan.

Mr. Brian Rater asked about the winter maintenance provided by each municipality. Both Mr. Doug Erickson and Mr. May explained that winter maintenance is at the discretion of the municipality, but a regional approach may be appropriate where shared paths connect.

Mr. John O'Neill asked why only North Atherton Street was proposed for signs. Mr. May explained that signs were to mark a clear bike route along the Atherton Street corridor. Mr. O'Neill wanted to have more about safety signs in the Plan. Mr. May suggested that would be a part of the education and encouragement policy section.

Mr. Brian Rater asked if bike lanes were proposed on the Waddle Road bridge project over I-99. Mr. Erickson confirmed that here will be striped bike lanes on the bridge.

Mr. Brian Rater commented that where there are street crossings, they should be coordinated with traffic signals, not separate if possible. Mr. Rater cited the crossing on Science Park Road near Grace Prep.

6. STATUS ON PENDING ITEMS

There were no comments from the Planning Commission on the pending work task items.

7. REPORTS

No additional reports were given.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business brought before the Planning Commission.

9. ADJOURN – REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.