

Active Living Advisory Committee

Wednesday, July 19th, 2017

3:00 pm to 4:30 pm

Planning Central Conference Room, 11th Floor

1819 Farnam Street

Present:

Voting Members: Mark Stursma, Ben Turner, Andy Wessel, Pell Duvall

City Reps: Mayor Stothert, Cassie Paben, Todd Pfitzer, Dennis Bryers, Brandi Preston, Derek Miller, Stephen Osberg

Guests: Katie McFarland

Notes:

1. Vision Zero discussion with Mayor Stothert

- a. ALAC should be the Vision Zero Task Force and develop a recommendation as to how to develop a policy for the City of Omaha.
- b. Is it even a realistic/reasonable goal? Zero deaths is likely impossible.
 - i. Good to set a high standard to guide city action. Measurement tool. Acknowledgement that we can do better. Avoid complacency.
- c. What are the steps?
 - i. Set goal.
 - ii. Mayoral support.
 - iii. Make a plan.
 - iv. Make sure all departments on board.
- d. How to address behaviors like drunk driving or seat belt use?
 - i. Additional enforcement.
 - ii. Awareness.
- e. Equitable enforcement is a critical issue. This cannot become an excuse to pull people over indiscriminately.
- f. The Vision Zero Action Plan will be a strategic plan. Set goals, steps, timeframe. Every city is unique, so actions will be specific to Omaha conditions. It will include incremental goals.
- g. Vision Zero is a followup to Complete Streets; it might be part of the Complete Streets performance measures.
 - i. There are metrics we could track beyond deaths, not strictly deaths.
 - ii. MoDOT has some background on framing the near impossibility of hitting zero.
- h. Begins with a safety assessment that takes an examination of what exactly is going on.

- i. We appear to have the needed data.
 - j. The 63rd and Shirley intervention is a perfect example of a VZ approach.
 - k. Important to pull into a public announcement to the press.
 - l. Identify other Vision Zero cities and potential cities.
 - m. Timeline? ALAC will produce a timeline with various components a road map with a goal of getting back to the Mayor in two months.
 - n. Chair Stursma: Excited to move forward with this charge. Opportunity to build upon and highlight the work that PW is already doing. Subcommittee system created. Keep group to three or less at any moment in compliance with Open Meetings Act.
 - o. Group will start via email and meet in person when necessary.
 - p. Goal is to walk out of the next meeting with a draft.
- 2. **Review of bike park support letter**
 - a. In advance of meeting with Director Bench of the Parks Department.
 - b. Opportunity for ALAC to focus on recreational activities instead of only transportation issues.
 - c. Need to coordinate with completing ideas for Tranquility Park.
 - d. THOR would maintain the park.
 - e. The Mayor received and appreciated the letter or recommendation.
- 3. **Approval of May Notes**
 - a. Add Todd Saylor to attendees list.
 - b. Remove Derek Miller from attendee list.
 - c. Wessel Motion, Turner Second, Approved Unanimously
- 4. **Bicycle Detours**
 - a. Recurring issue of lack of notification for closings of bike facilities or road closures along bike routes/ the Bike Omaha network.
 - b. There are often no marked bicycle detours when bike routes close.
 - c. Typically a lack of detours is not a problem with trails.
 - d. Recently, Burt Street was closed without notice near 24th Street. The proposed unmarked detour was to direct people to ride in the lane on Cuming Street. Problematic since this stretch of Burt is the busiest part of the on-street Bike Omaha network.
 - e. Sometimes road closures are inevitable and take place with extremely short notice. And, contractors often don't follow rules.
 - f. Omaha Bikes didn't feel comfortable posting detour for low-confidence riders. The question was posed about whether/how the City should consider different skill levels of bicyclists.
 - g. The City of Omaha doesn't typically suggest specific detours for autos. Likewise, it is unlikely the city could post bike detour signs for every closure.
 - h. There might be opportunities to look at what development is coming down the road, particularly along Burt Street.

5. Review of action items

- a. Wessel passed out notes of action items to the group – basically items to stay on the group's radar. [See attached.]
- b. Use as an ongoing checklist of things to do.
- c. Add list of past progress and submitted recommendations.

6. Set August Agenda

- a. Work through Vision Zero timeline
- b. Action Items, if time permits.
- c. September: Review projects that are along the bike routes in advance of construction to consider detours proactively, along Burt Street primarily.

Motion to Adjourn: Turner, Second: Wessel, Unanimous approval.

Adjourned at 4:30 PM.

Mayor's Active Living Advisory Committee Potential Policy Recommendations

Active Transportation

- Submit a City-led Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality (CMAQ) Application
 - Transportation Demand Management (Community-wide, Corporate, & Neighborhood)
 - Anti-Idling Campaign
- Add a Designated Transit Representative to ALAC
- Support Increased Per Capita Funding for Transit
- Increase the Budget for Crosswalk/Bike Lane Painting & Bike Parking
- Develop a Written Request Process for 1) Crosswalks and 2) Bike Parking including Bike Corrals
- Identified the Proper Role for ALAC in Complete Streets Process
- Incorporate Active Living Projects into Mayor's Grants
- Hire Public Engagement Staff

Tourism and Park Utilization

- Support a Land-use Agreement to Create a Mountain Bike Park
- Build Recreational Cycling & Economic Development Connection into Riverfront/Downtown Development
- Pursue Increased Per Capita Funding for Parks
- Promote Public Awareness of Parking Benefit Districts

Traffic Calming

- Become a Vision Zero City
- Pursue Local Discretion on Lane Widths
- Add a Designated Police Department Representative to ALAC
- Create an Updated and More Public-friendly Traffic Calming Manual

Performance Measures

- Safety and Crashes (Vision Zero)
- Mode Share
 - Set 10% Active Commuting Goal (Walk/Bike/Transit)
 - Set 20% non-SOV Commuting Goal (Walk/Bike/Transit/Carpool+Rideshare)
 - Track and Report on Transportation Mode Share for Children to School
- Active Living
 - % Meeting Physical Activity Recommendations (Adult & Children)
 - % Completely Sedentary
- Develop Progress Report for Active Living Performance Measures