Active Living Advisory Committee (ALAC)
Thursday, November 14, 2019
3:00 pm to 4:30 pm
Planning South Conference Room, 11th Floor
1819 Farnam Street

Attendees: Mark Stursma, Andy Wessel, Tom Everson, Tameshia Harris, Ben Turner

City Reps: Carrie Murphy (Mayor’s office), Kevin Carder (Planning), Derek Miller (Planning), Ken Smith (Park Omaha), Capt. Cathy Belcastro-Gonzales

Agenda:

1. Approval of October minutes (Voting Item)
   a. Motion by Tom; second by Andy; approved unanimously

2. OPD Response to Cycling Harrassment / Non-Injury Incidents
   a. Issue brought up by Ben following personal experience with motorist throwing a bottle at him while biking home
      i. 2nd time physically harassed as a cyclist
      ii. Both times forwarded to telephone response unit
      iii. Concern that non-injury incidents aren’t responded to
   b. Capt. Cathy Gonzales: 911 dispatchers trained to prioritize calls
      i. 911 is part of County and not OPD
      ii. Telephone response unit is supposed to call back in a timely manner
   c. Ben: Main concern is that they did not call back in timely manner (until prompted by contact from Mayor’s office)
      i. Capt. Cathy Gonzales: That is concerning, as the last thing they want people to feel is that they can’t get a response when they call 911
   d. Ben: Based on experiences, the concern is that this could be area of impunity for motorists to harass vulnerable road users
   e. Carrie: If officer responded to incident, would there have been penalty for driver?
      i. Capt. Cathy Gonzales: Possibly – range of potential charges depending on the circumstances
   f. Mark: Interesting to think about from a law enforcement standpoint. Probably almost every cyclist has experience with being assaulted by motorist
   g. Capt. Cathy Gonzales: Maybe educational efforts in the Spring could help with issue.

3. Dockless Scooter Pilot – Ken Smith, Kevin Carder, Derek Miller
   a. Approached by dockless bikeshare companies couple of years ago
   b. Heard from more and more companies requesting to enter
   c. In some cities, companies would just drop without permission
d. Reps from different City departments got together and eventually recommended a pilot program similar to other cities to manage and control how scooters launch in Omaha and test if they could be viable on a long-term basis.

e. RFP process; released Jan. 16, pilot launch May 15
   i. Evaluated five applications and selected two — Lime and Spin
   ii. Then drafted operating agreements with the companies and setting out rules for them and where/how scooters should be ridden/parked.

f. Pilot conclusion – Nov. 15

g. Evaluation report to be released January 2020 with recommendation on whether and how to continue allowing dockless scooters in Omaha.

h. Andy: who makes decision on whether to continue allowing dockless scooters?
   i. Derek: Staff will provide recommendation report to Mayor; Mayor and City Council to make decisions

j. Scooters unavailable after 10pm (later changed to 10:30 by request from one of the universities to accommodate night class students)

k. Has scooter pilot impacted Bike share ridership?
   i. Hard to say because of confounding factors (e-bikes added to system at almost exactly the same time as pilot launch, and the number of B-cycle stations had doubled over the previous winter, both (but primarily the e-bikes) causing bike share ridership to increase significantly)
   ii. However, trips among longer term (monthly and annual) pass holders are up almost 500%, while trips among day-pass holders (generally tourists, recreational, and “casual” riders) are only up about 25%, suggesting scooters might have some impact on that subset of bike share ridership.

l. Ken: Park Omaha is working with three different mobility data dashboard providers
   i. Evaluating which are best for administration, management, and data visualization capabilities for scooters and curbside management

m. Accident data
   i. Would have had to have health providers create code for scooters incidents to get that data easily/reliably
   ii. However, will call hospitals and review OPD accident data

n. Evaluation Data Summary (not complete list)
   i. User survey
   ii. Overall public opinion (Mayor’s poll, hotline calls/emails, and the survey)
   iii. Safety - OPD citations and accident reports
   iv. Ridership stats
   v. Education and outreach

o. Ben: putting financial incentives/penalties on the companies for parking issues would be best way to change behaviors

p. Relationship with on-street bike infrastructure
   i. Ken: Main concern that comes up again and again is lack of infrastructure for scooters/bikes
ii. Data from the pilot highlighted areas with high demand for micromobility options and lack of corresponding bike infrastructure to support that
iii. KC pilot had similar ridership as Omaha; They did a pilot bikeway (short-term)
iv. Metro Smart Cities planning mobility lane pilots for next Spring – more details to come
q. Will bring issue back to ALAC for discussion following completion of draft evaluation report.
   i. ALAC can choose to make recommendation to Mayor if they feel it would be helpful

4. ALAC Member Recruitment and Member/Staff Representatives Attendance
   a. Members leaving/left:
      i. Chris’s position still open but have received applications
      ii. Alan’s term expired (Nov. 2019)
      iii. Tom: Planning on cycling off the committee at the end of my term (Feb. 2020). Other commitments and projects are taking up more and more time
   b. Andy: Planning to stay on
   c. Ben: Planning to stay on
   d. Tameshia: Planning to stay on
   e. So will have 3 vacancies total (including current vacancies) in near future
   f. Kevin: What about Fiona at Heartland Bike Share?
   g. Ben: Fiona with Heartland with Bike Share would be great candidate
      i. Running equity programs at Heartland bike share and worked with the Undesign the Redline exhibit at Union for Contemporary Art
   h. Tom: How about Travis with Children’s Hospital / YMCA
      i. Does safety presentations with Children’s
      ii. Andy: Prior to, was with lead program with Health Dept I think
   i. Kevin will follow-up with Carrie and Todd about status of member recruitment of transportation/engineering interested candidates to fill Chris’s spot
   j. Ben: Will send email with Fiona’s contact info

   a. Tabled to next meeting

6. City Master Plan Goals on Active Living and ALAC’s Role in Supporting
   a. Tabled to next meeting

7. Agenda for December
   a. ALAC Member Recruitment
c. City Master Plan Goals on Active Living and ALAC’s Role in Supporting

8. Adjourn
   a. Motion by Ben; 2nd Tameshia; unanimously approved