Northwest Municipal Conference
Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee
Agenda
Tuesday, August 27, 2019
10:30 a.m.
NWMC Offices
1600 East Golf Road, Suite 0700
Des Plaines, IL 60016
(map/parking permit attached)

I. Call to Order/Introductions

II. Approval of June 18, 2019 Meeting Minutes (Attachment A)
Action Requested: Approval of Minutes

III. Local Project Updates

IV. NWMC Multimodal Transportation Plan Steering Committee (Attachment B)
Staff from Sam Schwartz Engineering will review the priority corridor map that was sent to municipal staff on August 15. The committee will be asked to provide input on the suggested priority corridors and the format of final map that will be released to the public. Sam Schwartz staff will also review the results of the “What Type of Bicyclist Are You?” quiz, and will lead a discussion on the maintenance of bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

V. Other Business

VI. Next Meeting
The next meeting of the NWMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. at the NWMC Offices. The next Steering Committee meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. at the NWMC Offices.

VII. Adjourn
Northwest Municipal Conference
Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee
Tuesday, June 18, 2019
Draft Meeting Minutes
10:30 a.m.
NWMC Offices

Attendance:
Derek Peebles, City of Des Plaines (co-chair)
A.C. Buehler, Village of Northbrook (co-chair)
Patrick Knapp, Village of Schaumburg
Andrew Binder, Village of Barrington
Matt Lawrie, Village of Mount Prospect
Charlotte Obodzinski, Pace
Debra Kutska, Oakton Community College
Matt Gomez, Active Transportation Alliance
Andrew Binder, Village of Barrington
Benet Haller, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways
Tomohiko Music, Cook County Department of Transportation and Highways
Lara Sanoica, City of Rolling Meadows
Laura Linehan, Village of Fox Lake
Andrew Parker, TranSystems
Alex Hanson, Sam Schwartz Engineering
Kelly Conolly, Sam Schwartz Engineering
Josh Klingenstein, Northwest Municipal Conference
Larry Bury, Northwest Municipal Conference

I. Call to Order/Introductions
Trustee Buehler called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and those present gave introductions.

II. Approval of May 21, 2019 Meeting Minutes
The minutes were approved on a motion by Ms. Linehan, seconded by Mr. Knapp.

III. Local Project Updates
Mr. Buehler noted that he had attended a tour of the proposed Skokie Valley Trail route, and said that some residents in Northfield were opposed to the trail’s construction as proposed. Mr. Gomez encouraged committee members to attend the Northfield Village Board meeting on July 16 to voice support for the trail. Mr. Peebles noted that Des Plaines and Park Ridge were still attempting to implement a road diet on Busse Road, but that IDOT had made the inclusion of road diet improvements contingent upon a jurisdictional transfer of the roadway. Mr. Peebles said that he would keep the committee informed of any updates. Ms. Obodzinski reported that Pace’s Milwaukee Avenue Pulse line would begin operations on August 11.
IV. **NWMC Multimodal Plan Steering Committee**

Mr. Hanson provided updates on the public engagement that had been carried out thus far, including a public survey and a new quiz on the project website. Mr. Gomez asked which communities had provided the most responses to the survey. Mr. Hanson said that he did not have exact statistics, but that a large number of responses had come from Schaumburg and Elk Grove Village. Mr. Gomez asked if the reported rates of biking, walking, and transit usage differed by community. Mr. Hanson said that the project team had not looked into those statistics due to the small sample size of responses. Mr. Buehler asked how long the new quiz would remain up on the website. Mr. Hanson responded that it would be up until the end of June. Mr. Hanson also reminded the committee about upcoming stakeholder focus groups, noting that the project team would be scheduling them for late summer or early fall.

Ms. Linehan said that the Lake County Department of Transportation was conducting a wayfinding signage study, and Mr. Peebles noted that LCDOT could serve as a resource when designing wayfinding solutions for the plan. Ms. Linehan asked if the project team had engaged local bicycling groups regarding the plan. Mr. Hanson said that the team was mostly working with the Active Transportation Alliance and Ride Illinois, and that those groups had many connections to local advocacy groups.

Mr. Hanson then reviewed the vision for the plan’s priority corridors and provided an overview of the new corridor rating criteria. Mr. Haller suggested specifying that data on level of traffic stress was only collected for roads classified as collector or above by IDOT and FHWA. Mr. Hanson then went over corridors that could be candidates for an update, and noted that corridors would be updated to be lower-stress and more feasible.

Mr. Hanson and Ms. Conolly reported on the results of the sidewalk survey and gap prioritization, noting the percentage of complete, partial, and missing sidewalks in each NWMC community. They also reviewed how sidewalk gaps would be prioritized into three tiers. Mr. Haller asked if the project team had looked at what percentage of sidewalks ran parallel to a forest preserve. Mr. Hanson said that they had not, but that many of those sidewalks were likely listed as “partially missing” in the survey. Mr. Parker noted that some communities had policies stating that they only needed to install sidewalk on one side of a road, which led to many “partially missing” designations. Ms. Obodzinski also mentioned that sidewalks are only useful if they connect to residential or commercial developments. Mr. Buehler mentioned that it would be helpful to get a summary of the percentage of sidewalks complete or missing by municipality. Mr. Hanson said that the project team would produce a summary of the results by municipality, and that they were planning to release an interactive map of sidewalks throughout the region. Mr. Peebles also mentioned that he would like a table showing the centerline miles of sidewalks in the region and the total percentage of sidewalks missing.

Mr. Hanson and Ms. Conolly next reviewed the access to transit analysis portion of the plan. They reviewed the minimum criteria for high-priority transit stops and reviewed crash statistics at each. Mr. Buehler asked if crashes were double-counted. Mr. Hanson said that if high-priority stops were close to each other, they were
combined when tabulating the crash statistics so that crashes would not be over-reported. Mr. Gomez noted that CTA stations generally appeared to have higher crash rates, and Mr. Hanson noted that this could be due to increased foot traffic around those stations compared to Metra and Pace stations. Mr. Hanson also said that if the number of crashes at each station were normalized by ridership, the results could look significantly different. Ms. Obodzinski noted that uncontrolled crossings near Pace stations are a significant safety issue. Finally, Mr. Hanson reviewed the average block length in the NWMC region and noted other key issues that influence pedestrian and bicycle access to transit.

Mr. Hanson asked the group if there were any other key issues related to access to transit that the plan should address. Mr. Peebles said that it would be interesting to see data on sidewalk quality, as well as the width of sidewalks in the area. Ms. Linehan asked if there would be any consideration of funding availability when making recommendations. Mr. Hanson said that planning-level cost estimates would be provided. Mr. Bury mentioned that reducing interactions with traffic at driveways would be an interesting topic. Mr. Haller noted that specifically looking at bicycle and pedestrian treatments for large intersections would be helpful. Ms. Obodzinski said that maintenance, especially in the winter, was a topic that the committee was interested in.

The committee then engaged in a breakout activity, during which they discussed different key issues in the region and how the plan could help address them. Finally, Mr. Hanson and Ms. Conolly reviewed the next steps for the plan and provided the committee with a timeline of upcoming events.

V. NWMC Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Field Trip

Mr. Klingenstein thanked committee members for submitting field trip ideas and reviewed which trip ideas had been submitted by committee members thus far. Ms. Obodzinski also mentioned that a bus tour of the Dempster corridor or a walking tour of the Northwest Transportation Center would be good options. He discussed the potential options with the committee and announced that he would put up a survey to help make the final decision.

VI. Other Business

VII. Adjourn

The committee voted to adjourn on a motion by Ms. Linehan, seconded by Ms. Obodzinski.
Today’s Agenda

Engagement updates
Priority corridors updates
Maintenance Discussion
Final Plan structure and contents
Engagement Updates
What Type of Bicyclist Are You?

- **No Way, No How**: 5% (288 responses)
- **Interested but Concerned**: 13%
- **Enthusiastic and Confident**: 68%
- **Strong and Fearless**: 14%
What Type of Bicyclist Are You?

If roadways were safer and more comfortable, 74% would ride more.

Comfort sharing the road:
- 59% comfortable but would prefer bike facilities
- 24% not comfortable but interested in biking
What Type of Bicyclist Are You?

**HIGHEST LEVEL OF COMFORT**

- SEPARATED TWO WAY CYCLE TRACK
- SIDE PATH
- RESIDENTIAL, NO PARKING
- RESIDENTIAL, PARKING

**LOWEST LEVEL OF COMFORT**

- SHARED LANE
- BIKE LANE, 4 LANES
- 2 LANES, NO FACILITY
- 5 LANES, NO BIKE FACILITY
Priority Corridors
Priority Corridors Feedback
Priority Corridors Summary

Final plan will include summary of each corridor

What kind of information would be most useful for you when applying for funding, etc.?

- Population within ½ mile
- Jobs within ½ mile
- Connections with transit
- Crash history
- % Complete
Maintenance
Maintenance Discussion

Inspection & repair/replacement

Winter maintenance (snow & ice removal)
Inspection & Repair

What kind of information would be most useful regarding routine inspection and maintenance?

- Inspection procedures
- Condition considerations
- Request/complaint intake
- Funding
- Enforcement/compliance
Winter Maintenance

What kind of information would be most useful to increase safety around snow and ice removal?

• “Orphan” segments with no clear responsibility
• Equipment
• Coordination/communication between agencies
• Framework for prioritization
• Education
Final Plan
Structure +
Content
Structure

Modal Layers
- Biking + Priority Corridors
- Walking + Sidewalk Assessment
- Walking + Biking To Transit

Toolbox
Design solutions, programs, and policies

Strategies

Implementation
- Prioritization (priority corridors + sidewalk gaps)
- Cost Estimates + Funding Strategies
- Maintenance
Toolbox

Design solutions, programs, and policies

Strategies

Facility types

Other Issues

• Intersections
• Trail crossings
• Freeway/ramp crossings
• Wayfinding
• Signalization
Next steps
Engagement Roadmap

- **April**: Steering Committee
- **June**: Steering Committee
- **August**: Steering Committee
- **October**: Steering Committee
- **November**: NWMC member open house
- **December**: Public open house

- Ongoing web-based outreach/activities
- Stakeholder focus groups
- Staff + community surveys
NWMCMultiModalPlan.org

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