

MISSOURI BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
June 5, 2000

Present:

David Bedan, Audubon Society	davebedan@sockets.net
Cindy Cartwright, Dept. of Health	cartwc@mail.health.state.mo.us
Jeff Elson, Attorney at Law, Brookfield	cyclist@shighway.com
Michael R. Herron, KCMO Parks & Recs.	michael_herron@kcmo.org
Lisa Holliday, GCPFH	hollil@mail.oa.state.mo.us
Bob Kirkman, Jackson County Wheelman	kirkmanrobert@netscape.net
Kyle Kittrell, MoDOT	kittrk@mail.modot.state.mo.us
Mike Murray, USCF	bikemike@midwest.net
Martin Pion, LAB Effective Cycling	mpion@stlnet.com
Debbie Schnack, DNR	nrschnd@mail.dnr.state.mo.us
Dennis Scott, MoDOT	scottd@mail.modot.state.mo.us
Terry Whaley, Springfield MPO	terry_whaley@ci.springfield.mo.us
Willard Worts, DESE	wworts@mail.dese.state.mo.us

Absent:

Kari Blaeuer, Highway Safety	kblaeuer@mdhs.state.mo.
Joan Bray, Legislature	jbray@services.state.mo.us
Andrew Clements, City of St. Joseph	andyc@ci.st-joseph.mo.us
Arnold Meysenburg, Conservation Federation	ajmeysnbrg@kcnet.com
Marlene Nagel, MARC	mnagel@marc.org
Tom Netzer, Ozark Greenways	tnetzer@concoccompanies.com
Chris Ricks, Highway Patrol	ricksc@mshp.state.mo.us
Michael J. Right, AAA	aaapub@ibm.net
Bob Smith, Division of Tourism	jwohlt@mail.state.mo.us

Others:

Dave Edwards, FHWA
Diana Hawkins, Mo. Dept. of Health
Angela Herman, Mo. Dept. of Health
Anne Locke, Mo. Dept. of Health
Al Walls, EWGCC
Bob Watts, Missouri Bicycle Federation
James Joerke, MARC

I. Introductions and Approval of Minutes

Mike Murray chaired this meeting of the MOBAC; and Donna Ridenhour recorded the proceedings.

Mr. Murray requested the members introduce themselves and give their affiliations.

Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.

II. USDOT Bicycle/Pedestrian Policy Memorandum

The committee reviewed the recommended Bicycle/Pedestrian Policy changes. After discussion, Mike Murray made a motion, seconded by Martin Pion, and carried, to ask MoDOT to review and consider adopting these changes.

III. Bridge Access

Handed out an article by the League of Illinois Bicyclists titled *Bridges and Bicycles*. This article did a good job of defining the issues and making observations about very particular and special circumstances. Mike Murray called the committee's attention to the first article regarding the new Interstate 72 Bridge between Illinois and Hannibal, Missouri. Apparently this was an exception developed between MoDOT and Illinois DOT to allow bicycle access on an interstate.

Mike Murray also brought to the attention of the committee the article titled *More From TEA-21* which states: "Bicyclists and pedestrians shall be given due consideration in the comprehensive transportation plans developed by each metropolitan planning organization and State" (Section 1202(a) of TEA-21).

"Bicycle transportation facilities and pedestrian walkways shall be considered, where appropriate, in conjunction with all new construction and reconstruction of transportation facilities, except where bicycle and pedestrian use are not permitted" (Section 1202(a) of TEA-21).

"Transportation plans and projects shall provide due consideration for safety and continuous routes for bicyclists and pedestrians" (Section 1202(a) of TEA-21).

Motion was made to ask MoDOT to review their bridge policy to see how they can accommodate bicycle/pedestrians particularly where access has been denied and where access is not currently possible. Recommendation that MoDOT, one year from now, give an assessment of the bridge situation in Missouri as to bicycle/pedestrian accessibility. We need to

know what the conditions of the bridges are regarding bicycle/pedestrian accessibility and what can be done, if anything, to make the bridges accessible. This motion carried.

IV. Speakers From Department of Health

Anne Locke, Chief Bureau of Chronic Disease Control and Diana Hawkins, CVH Program, of the Missouri Department of Health gave a presentation to the committee.

The Division of Chronic Disease Control and Health Promotion directs statewide programs that are designed to combat the major causes of premature death, illness, disability, and medical costs in Missouri such as heart disease, cancer, stroke, diabetes, and arthritis.

The Bureau of Chronic Disease Control addresses the health care needs of high risk populations in the areas of arthritis, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, nutrition, osteoporosis, and stroke. The bureau provides educational components, resources, and improved healthcare access to combat these chronic diseases. Specific activities include, among others:

- ◆ Coordinating health screenings for diabetes, hypertension and cardiovascular diseases.
- ◆ Coordinating and implementing community-based educational programs and interventions and identifying valuable health resources.
- ◆ Coordinating school-based educational programs to provide information and training to elementary school students.

The CVH (Community Voices Heard) is an organization of low-income people, predominantly women on welfare, working together for improvements in the community, and advance the political, economic, and social rights of low-income people on welfare and other low-wage workers.

V. Report to Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission

We did a report about a year ago to the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission (MHTC) regarding committee and program activities. We are tentatively going to put a report on the agenda to the MHTC later this summer. We would recommend the MHTC adopt USDOT's Bicycle/Pedestrian policy.

VI. Access Management

Mac Finley, senior traffic specialist, MoDOT, gave a presentation on Access Management.

Problem Statement -

- impacts traveling public and the adjacent landowners
- causes safety and operational problems

Proper Access Management Balances -

- service to thru traffic
- access to adjacent properties

MoDOT Highway System -

32,396 Total Miles

- extensive system when compared with neighboring states
- 1,178 miles of interstates
- 3,748 miles of primary arterials
- 3,707 miles of minor arterials
- 23,763 miles of collectors

Missouri: A State of Diverse Interests -

- Different regional perspectives
- Urban and rural
- Different levels and rates of economic development
- Strong property rights traditions

Statutory Authority for Access Management of Missouri -

- ◆ Missouri Constitution, Article IV, Section 29, "Highways and Transportation":
"The highways and transportation commission shall have authority over all state transportation programs and facilitiesand shall have authority to limit access to, from and across state highways where the public interest and safety may require."

Access Management Project Initiation -

- Generated interest in the concept of access management
- Identified and involved stakeholders
- Established working committees
- Established project objectives
- Took a comprehensive approach

Generated Interest in Access Management, Both Internally and Externally Identified Stakeholders

- ◆ External Stakeholders
- ◆ Internal Stakeholders

Oversight Committee Roles

- Set program goals
- Direct technical committee
- Provide diverse viewpoints
- Oversee outreach initiatives

Oversight Committee

- Real estate developers
- Economic development official
- City planner
- Regional planner
- Consulting engineer
- Elected city official
- FHWA
- MoDOT senior managers

Technical Committee Roles

- Develop classification system
- Develop standards and guidelines
- Assist in problem identification task

Technical Committee

- ◆ City planner
- ◆ City traffic engineer
- ◆ MoDOT district personnel
- ◆ MoDOT central office personnel
- ◆ FHWA - Missouri Division

Established Project Objectives

- ◆ Develop a comprehensive approach to access management
- ◆ Develop all necessary classifications, standards, guidelines, and administrative processes
- ◆ Identify access management problem areas
- ◆ Provide training

Took A Comprehensive Approach

- ◆ Improve safety and operations
- ◆ Department-wide policy to facilitate consistency within MoDOT
- ◆ Guidance for local municipalities for development of complementary plans
- ◆ Provide predictable standards

Project Components

- ◆ Access management goals
- ◆ Access management classification system
- ◆ Access problem location identification using GIS and crash data
- ◆ Administrative processes
- ◆ Outreach and education program

Access Management Program Goals

- ◆ Improve roadway safety
- ◆ Improve traffic operations
- ◆ Protect taxpayers' investment
- ◆ **Create better conditions for non-automobile modes**

Access Classification Systems

- ◆ Standards must properly fit the present and future functional role of the highway
- ◆ Useful tool to explain the function of the roadway and the related level of access management
- ◆ A necessary first step in the department-wide coordination of the plan

VII. Reports

- A. Update on St. Joseph Bicycle/Pedestrian Program - Andy Clements was not present at this meeting and will present a report at the next meeting.
- B. MoDOT Bicycle/Pedestrian Policy Training - In April and May, 2000, Dennis Scott administered training in nine of the districts on the bicycle/pedestrian policy. Other training for MoDOT staff will be scheduled in the future.
- C. Public Health Officials Training on Bicycle/Pedestrian Issues - Dennis Scott and Bill Wilkinson, from the National Center for Bicycling and Walking will give a presentation on June 15, 2000. This will be a four and one half hour presentation to public health professionals and advocates from around the state. There are a number of local public health efforts going on around the state and where, over time, we can tie in with a bike/ped program and with system improvements, and the land use changes necessary. Emphasized will be what individuals can readily take back to their communities. that's
- D. Long-Range Transportation Plan Update - Through the website there is information on the Long-Range Transportation Plan. Comments on the Long-Range Plan, including the bicycle/pedestrian element can be made through the site. A rough draft of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Element was made available to the committee members. This is a rewrite from the last draft. Major changes were made, because over the three months since our last meeting, one of the things intended by the Long-Range Planning staff and the consulting firm was there would be a hard look at statewide bike/ped needs. However, it was determined the financial value of the needs were too difficult to ascertain. On June 1, 2000, the Long-Range Planning staff made a presentation to the Commission on the Long-Range Plan. The basic points the staff made on the bike/ped section were:

1. A comprehensive bike/ped facilities inventory will be developed. This will take place after the plan has been adopted.
2. MoDOT will develop a classifications system for bike/ped facilities.
3. MoDOT will provide and maintain bike/ped accommodations where appropriate.

We might be thinking of how to approach doing an inventory and send these thoughts to Dennis Scott to give the Long-Range Planning staff or you could also do this through the website. If you have thoughts on what the bike/ped classification system from a statewide perspective might look like, give to Dennis.

- E. Process to Make Recommendations to MoDOT - Kyle Kittrell -
 Kyle stated the best approach to presenting recommendations to MoDOT would be to write a letter to Kevin Keith, Director of Planning, and provide specifics. Kyle should be copied on this letter. After Kevin Keith has received the letter, he will give it to Kyle to follow-up.

- F. Communication Between Meetings - With meetings held on a quarterly basis, members would like to communicate between meetings. Because some of the members of this committee are not government employees and should not have to use personal resources to communicate, several solutions were proposed.

1. If a MoDOT employee is involved in the conference call, the employee can initiate the conference call by having the state operator call all the people involved and MoDOT would then be billed for the call.
2. If it's a call between members, without MoDOT staff, simply make a regular call and attach a copy of the telephone bill to your expense account form. In addition to that, members should write down what was accomplished in the conference call.

VIII. Subcommittee Reports

A. Planning/Design/Physical Environment

Bridge Access - This subcommittee feels they need to understand what MoDOT's design standards are for new bridges. Do all new bridge designs incorporate a shoulder? What road widths are required in the design? It was suggested the committee attend the next MHTC meeting and indicate the committee's desire to incorporate into MoDOT's Bicycle/Pedestrian Policy the federal bridge design guidelines, but first, it was decided, the committee needs to know what the current guidelines are. If all new bridges absolutely incorporate a shoulder and a certain road

width conducive to bicycling, then maybe the issue is not new bridges. Wide shoulders do not necessarily accommodate pedestrians. It was suggested someone from Bridge be invited to the next bike\ped meeting to give an overview of design standards. Maybe this person could prepare a summary to be given out before the meeting.

B. Legislation/Funding

(3/6/00 meeting) Reviewed parameters of committee and funding issues. Discussed the need for a statement or legislative platform. Emphasized the need to work closely with MoDOT, local governmental units, and the state legislature in implementation of legislative platform.

Issues for consideration as part of the legislative/funding platform statement:

1. Advocate the dedication of a fund specifically for bicycle and pedestrian uses. This could be accomplished by:
 - ◆ A restoration of "flex funds" for enhancements as authorized under federal guidelines. These funds could be used for bicycle and pedestrian accommodations.
 - ◆ Allocate 10% of Hazard Elimination funds for bicycle and pedestrian safety programs and projects.
 - ◆ Other funding mechanisms as may be identified. Prepare and review a benchmark study on how bicycle and pedestrian projects have been funded in other states.
2. Review the "Rebuilding Communities" state legislation regarding applicability of tax credits for bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
3. Consider a "Safe Routes to School" program similar to legislation recently enacted in California.
4. Develop other legislative and/or funding priorities in response to specific needs.

The subcommittee had three recommendations:

1. A copy of "Joint Resolution of the Missouri Legislature" was handed out to the committee members. This subcommittee is asking this resolution be directed to the legislature at their next legislative session. The resolution is, as follows:

JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE MISSOURI LEGISLATURE

Whereas nationally recognized medical and health authorities recommend that Americans need to pay more attention to diet and exercise in order to improve their health and to combat a current epidemic of obesity and its related illnesses.

Whereas it is well known to the scientific and planning communities that excessive motor vehicle travel pollutes the environment, uses up valuable urban space, and inhibits non-motor vehicle transit because public fears of excessive and dangerous traffic congestion.

Whereas the American Medical Association and the Center for Disease Control continue to warn us of a childhood epidemic of obesity and encourage children to get more exercise.

Whereas our transportation system, in order to serve in a satisfactory manner all members of the public should be as diverse as possible and should encourage walking, bicycling, mass transit and safe motor vehicle use.

Whereas it is well known that bicycling promotes efficient travel, is pollution free and provides excellent cardiovascular exercise.

The Missouri Senate and Missouri House of Representatives jointly resolve that all state agencies, including the Departments of Health, Transportation and Education should in all ways possible encourage walking and bicycling as viable choices of individual transportation, recreation and health maintenance.

Furthermore, these agencies should promote programs and facilities which will ensure that state roadways are "bicycling and walking friendly" by adhering to nationally recognized standards for pedestrian and bicycle friendly designs.

The committee intended it to be their effort to raise a flag and encourage discussion at the legislature that these issues exist. People have no idea about bicycle/pedestrian issues and how they relate to health issues.

The committee would ask Representative Joan Bray to introduce this in the House of Representatives and Senator Wayne Goode to introduce this in the Senate. Hopefully, hearings would be held and we would have an opportunity to testify.

2. Pedestrians - In reviewing some state codes, we realized in the State of Missouri, the code relating to pedestrians is confusing and decentralized and may be in conflict with other state codes. It's time to ask for a review and overhaul of the state code in relationship to pedestrians. The committee needs to review what existing state code there is and assess it.

A uniform code should be recommended that would basically be an update to the Missouri Vehicle code. That update would be specific to pedestrian needs. We might take a look at legislation in other states to get some suggestions and guidelines. We request MoDOT to take the lead.

3. Appoint an ADHOC subcommittee to look at the "Safe Routes to School" legislation passed in California. A meeting should be called to discuss in depth.

C. Promotion/Public Information

Discussed the Walk Your Child to School Day. We need to try and bring other agencies in and get them involved. We discussed this year's event. It is important to get the information out to the schools by the beginning of the school year in August. The national materials are on a website. If the same agencies would associate their name with the program every year this would increase the general awareness. It was decided a meeting of those interested would be held in the near future.

D. Safety/Education/Enforcement

1. Missouri Bicycle Drivers Guide

a. The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PADOT) developed a "Bicycle Drivers Guide" based on Street Smarts written by John Allen. All PADOT did was add a forward and they went through the statutes and picked out everything that was bicycle related. We have the ability to get this publication for free.

b. Consider distribution list for Street Smarts:

(1) Drivers Education Instructors. Letter with brochure to principals.

(2) School Resource Officers

(A local police officer that is assigned part-time or full-time to the school district. Their duties include providing information to students on all legal issues including drugs, alcohol, bicycle safety, walking, safe practices to and from school, etc.

(3) Judges - Distribute to the third party entities instead of judges.

(4) Highway Patrol

2. Missouri Drivers Guide (very important for new learners)
 - (1) Upcoming guide contains some revisions suggested by the committee
 - (2) Next edition of guide offers opportunity for further improvement
 - (3) Possible linkage in future with Missouri Bicycle Driver's Guide

3. School-Based Bicycle Education Pilot Project
 - (1) Funding Sources? Possible Missouri state.
 - (2) Assess level of interest
 - (3) Organizational/resource limitations

4. Local Bicycle Proficiency Licensing
Reference: James Jourke (sic) MARC-survey

IX. Recommended Changes to General Pedestrian and Bicycle Guide

Motion was made by Martin Pion, seconded by Debbie Schnack, and carried to approve the recommended changes.

The next meeting will be Monday, September 18, 2000, at the Truman Building in Conference Room 400.

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Distribution:

Joan Bray, Legislature

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Terry Whaley, Springfield MPO

Michael Murray, USCF

Chris Ricks, MSHP

Bob Smith, Division of Tourism

Non-Members:

Dave Edwards, FHWA

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