Minutes for Kitsap County Non-Motorized Facilities Community Advisory Committee Meeting

March 19, 2024

Members present:

Deborah Weinmann

Members absent:

Jana Waldroup

Laura Westervelt (Chair)
Nathan Menefee (Vice-Chair)
Jess Chandler
Rick Feeney
Janet Kidd
Scott Satter
Brian Watson

Public Works staff present: Melissa Mohr, David Forte

Guests:

Lynn Schorn

Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM.

Public Comment:

Rick Feeney informed the committee about a recent car accident occurring near Jackson Avenue near Frontage Road.

Approval of Minutes:

Jess Chandler moved to approve the February 20, 2024 minutes. Janet Kidd seconded. Motion Passed.

Bike Routes presentation:

Lynn Schorn gave a presentation titled "Share the Road in North Kitsap." The presentation started with the question, "How does a road become a bike route in Kitsap County?" David Forte first noted official bike routes require a road to have a 4-foot shoulder and a minimum distance. Furthermore, bike routes are established through a Comprehensive Plan amendment. The Non-Motorized Facilities Community Advisory Committee could make a recommendation to the Department of Community Development (DCD) Community Planning Team, once a year, outside the Comprehensive Plan cycle. Ultimately, a new bike route designation would need approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

Lynn Schorn's presentation focused on improving safety on rural North Kitsap roads by reducing vehicle speed or posting *Share the Road* signage. The specific road corridors identified included Lincoln Road, Stottlemeyer Road, Gunderson Road, and Port Gamble-Suquamish Road. Together, these roads form a quadrangle and would establish bike corridors to link rural communities. Brian Watson commented on the potential preferred use of regulatory signage namely, "Bikes May Use Full Lane", as it educates drivers that the road can legally be used by cyclists. Also mentioned was the use of sharrow markings down the middle of the lane which makes cycling safer on the roads where no shoulders exist.

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Non-Motorized Projects

David Forte reviewed a document titled "2024-2029 TIP – Non-Motorized Project Elements." The document showed the breakdown of non-motorized elements for each TIP project. The committee was given an opportunity to ask questions. The TIP document is updated annually; however, changes may occur due to a multitude of factors such as the following: delays when acquiring permits, inability to use grant money within limited timelines, personnel capacity, redirection of funding by commissioners, safe routes to school (SRTS) projects are not shown on TIP until funding is granted (due to SRTS grant limit \approx 25%), and other reasons as needs within the county arise.

<u>Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Scoring Process</u>

David Forte and Melissa Mohr gave a presentation titled "Kitsap County Transportation Project Evaluation System 2017." Along with their commentary, a document was provided explaining the detailed evaluation process. Primary Scoring Categories are aligned with the Comprehensive Plan priorities. The Board of County Commissioners have an opportunity to change the TIP evaluation system scoring annually, which is currently in process.

Comprehensive Plan Subcommittee:

The subcommittee met on Wednesday, February 28 to implement changes and additions to the list of NMFCAC comments for the Comprehensive Plan Update-Transportation Element. The NMFCAC comments have been transmitted to the DCD Community Planning Team currently working on the Comprehensive Plan update.

Member & Staff Updates:

Laura Westervelt shared an inspiring article about Rwanda Car Free Days.

Nathan Menefee prompted further discussion about potential actions the NMFCAC could take to support the proposal put forth in Lynn Schorn's *Share the Road in North Kitsap* presentation. The proposed cycling corridors will be considered at a future date when the Non-Motorized Plan is reviewed and updated.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.