



Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee
of the Transportation Safety & Advisory Commission
City of Harrisonburg, Virginia

TO: Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee Members

FROM: Jakob zumFelde, Public Works Planner

DATE: June 5, 2019

RE: Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee Meeting Summary for Monday, June 3, 2019

The Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee met on Monday, June 3, 2019 at 6:00pm in City Hall, Room 011 (lower level); 409 South Main Street.

Attendees:

Subcommittee members: Matt Hassman, Jenny Toth, Dudley Bonsal; Others: Brian Nixon, Kyle Lawrence;
Staff: Erin Yancey, Dastan Khaleel, Tom Hartman, Jakob zumFelde

Welcome and Introductions

Business

1. Follow up items

- Neff Ave crosswalk enforcement
Public Works staff reported that an officer observed vehicle behavior, during rush hour, at the crosswalk on Neff Ave that connects Sunchase apartments to the Arboretum. The officer found no non-compliance with the crosswalk laws. Staff will ask for additional enforcement when the fall semester begins.

2. Paving Schedule

The paving schedule was reviewed, and no opportunities for new bike lanes or marking were identified. Public Works reported that the process for collecting pavement condition will be changing, which will allow for planning further ahead and coordinating better with the bicycle and pedestrian plan. There was additional discussion about the potential to change existing bicycle lanes when they are repaved in the future, with the discussion focusing on South Main Street, where they are narrow. No conclusions were reached about what to do about narrow bike lanes where there is no space to widen them.

3. School zone marking

Staff asked the group whether increasing use of pavements markings with the word 'School' next to the school zone sign, would be beneficial in school zones. This has been done in the past, but not

consistently. The group suggested that the pavement markings, and additional school zone indications, are important for many reasons including that the police department can write tickets with higher fines in school zones. As having school zones well marked seems important, Public Works will ensure that pavement markings are installed in the future. Creating a more consistent scheme of school zone signage and markings may be a topic of future research and discussion.

4. Harrisonburg High School pedestrian data collection

Staff reported that a Harrisonburg High School Service Learning group completed pedestrian data counts at intersections that are of interest to Public Works. Staff presented the data collected to the group. Using VDOT standards, at some locations the counts warrant new or improved crossings and other places do not warrant new crossings. The students presented the data and findings to City Council on May 28th, and the presentation can be found on the City Council website. The intersection of Chicago Ave and Waterman Rd was one location evaluated, and staff will review previous proposals for pedestrian improvement to the intersection and bring this information as an agenda item at the next meeting.

5. Grant awards & new applications

The Port Republic Road sidewalk and crosswalk project was not funded, but scored highly for HSIP (Highway Safety Improvement Program) funding and will likely be re-submitted in a future round. Two projects are expected to be funded, pending approval by the Virginia Commonwealth Transportation Board (CTB). Creation of a shared use path on Federal Street, between Market St and Water St, was chosen for funding through HSIP. Also, the addition of a shared use path and southbound I-81 off-ramp realignment at Exit 247 were funded through SMART SCALE, adding additional improvements to the previously funded VDOT project to replace multiple East Market Street bridges, as well as improvements to the northbound I-81 off-ramp. The shared use path will stretch from MLK Jr. Way to Linda Lane/Burgess Road, crossing I-81 in the median of East Market Street, thereby eliminating multiple uncontrolled conflict points between motorized and non-motorized travelers at the acceleration and deceleration lanes for the interchange.

6. Bicycle Friendly Community renewal

Staff reported that they will be completing the documentation necessary to renew Harrisonburg's status as a Bicycle Friendly Community. The deadline is August 8, so staff will be reaching out to various stakeholders as needed to gather the information needed. Information from the last renewal (2015) is available on the Public Works website - <https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/biking-and-walking#awards>

7. Project Updates – see attachment to agenda

Announcements / Other Business

Adjourn

Next Meeting: Date to be rescheduled @ 6pm – City Hall, Room 011 (lower level), 409 South Main St