

Fairhope Pedestrian and Bicycle Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 4/4/2023

Committee Member Attendees: Gary Gover; Rosalie Stromme; Bill Hall; Jack Graves; Mike Walker; Morgan Russell; Chris Riley

Committee Member Absentees: Katie Bolton; Chris Knight

Guests in Attendance: Hunter Simmons; Chris Ambron; Bryan Flowers;
Heidi Heusell

Meeting called to order at 4:01pm.

Motion carried to approve 3/7/2023 minutes.

Administrative Items:

On 4/3/2023, Bill Hall sent a request to City Councilman Martin to be this committee's liaison replacing City Councilman Jay Robinson. No response to this request as of the date of April meeting.

Fels and Pier Congestion: Rosalie Stromme met with Richard Johnson and George Ladd (Asst Director) on 3/24/2023 to discuss resolution to congestion associated with this section of Fairhope on South Mobile Street. Thermoplastic appliques of "Share The Road" are more durable than painting the roadway asphalt. Richard Johnson recommended putting 3 appliques on the southbound lane of South Mobile Street and 3 appliques on the northbound lane of South Mobile Street. Appliques must include the double chevron, bike symbol and the word "SHARE". Richard Johnson has a vendor that will supply these 6 appliques and cost is within Public Works budget. Final approval for placement of these appliques must come from Mayor Sullivan; Richard Johnson will request approval at his next opportunity. No other approvals are needed to implement this sharrow improvement. Richard Johnson also indicated that one sign on the southbound bike path and one sign on the northbound side of the street should be sufficient to direct cyclists off of the sidewalk for these 4 blocks to alleviate bike versus pedestrian confrontations. These signs only cost \$30 each so the \$60 expenditure is well within Public Works department budget and are available from approved city vendors.

*****Action Item:** Rosalie Stromme will request a Traffic Study from the Chief of Police regarding this Fels-to-Pier connection.

Sidewalk Inventory Mapping: Sidewalk inventory mapping is complete as of April 4, 2023. Morgan Russell will correct on Field Mapping software one small sidewalk area that needs to be leveled in the Central Business District. Chris Ambron will review final Field Mapping details now that corrections have been uploaded by responsible committee members.

Bike Repair Station and Additional Bike Racks: Rosalie Stromme met with Richard Johnson on 3/24/2023 to discuss the status of the procurement and delivery dates of these items into City of Fairhope warehouse in anticipation of installation in the near future.

- a) Two Bike Repair Stations have already been ordered and receipt of both is anticipated during Spring 2023; the first one will be installed within 2 weeks of receipt on the Eastern Shore Trail near Pier Street. The second bike repair station is slated to be installed near the Arts Alley project when it is completed in fall 2023.
- b) Bike Racks: They had not been reordered as of 3/24/2023 but Richard Johnson directed Clint in Public Works as of 3/24/2023 to order 6 more bike racks at approx. \$265 each. These racks will be the standard black bike racks without the Fairhope emblem and this order will be placed with an already-approved vendor to the city. Once they arrive, this committee will direct Public Works on appropriate placement to benefit the most number of citizens. City of Fairhope has 34 suggested locations for proposed bike racks.

Rambo Sidewalk Striping: Rosalie Stromme met with Richard Johnson on 3/24/2023 to discuss the possibility of painting sidewalk striping on this section of concrete adjoining Section Street. Business Owner complained to the mayor that any sidewalk striping will negatively impact his ability to park overflow cars during business hours because he or his customers could be fined for parking illegally. Mayor supports this business owner's concern therefore this subject is hereby tabled with no further action by this committee.

Twin Beech & Summer Lakes intersection: Rosalie Stromme met with Richard Johnson on 3/24/2023 to determine if any traffic suggestions could alleviate the concerns regarding this section of Twin Beech Street. Speed limit reduction is not considered viable because Twin Beech is an east/west connector and has already recently been lowered from 45mph to 35mph. Mid-block crossing had to happen because grant money had run out and current configuration was the only way to complete safe crossing within the budget allotted. Traffic Safety Control Committee and Public Works almost had a solution a few months ago but could not agree on which brand/style/model of solar-powered flashing light/sign to purchase (approx. \$2,500) so the idea died in committee. Richard Johnson suggested that Pedestrian & Bicycle Committee write an official memo to Traffic Safety Control Committee to approve the purchase a solar-powered flashing light to alert drivers to this pedestrian crossing issue.

****Action Item:** Bill Hall will write Pedestrian & Bicycle Committee memo to Traffic Safety Control Committee requesting that a flashing sign be selected, purchased and installed for this intersection.

Arts and Crafts Festival Bike Valet Volunteers: Feedback from 2023 volunteers include suggestions such as: 1. Take photos of checked-in cyclists for posting on Social Media to get the word out; 2. Consider implementing a cyclist survey at check-in for input including how they knew about the Bike Valet in order to determine which marketing techniques work.

311 Efficacy: Rosalie Stromme met with Richard Johnson to discuss 311 statistics. Richard Johnson stated that the 311 repair system is 100% effective when requests are within the city

limits of Fairhope. Public safety requests take top priority; other repair requests of less urgency take approximately 2 weeks maximum to resolve.

New Business:

Earth Day Bike Valet Volunteers: Date is set for April 22nd and Trailblazers may request bike valet volunteers. Chalk The Trail event runs from 1-4pm.

Next scheduled meeting: May 2, 2023 at 4pm in the Library's Second Floor Boardroom.

Meeting adjourned at 5:03pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosalie Stromme, Secretary