

Ped, Pedal & Paddle Committee Meeting (3PC)
Lake Michigan Room
August 31, 2023
Minutes

Chairman Andrew Kyres called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

In attendance were Andrew Kyres (Crown Point), Shannon Eason (Michigan City Parks), Dean Button (Hammond), Craig Zandstra, George Topoll (Union Township), Dustin Anderson, and Jan Dick.

Also in attendance were Dave Keaton and Laura Hannon.

NIRPC staff present were Mitch Barloga, Tom Vander Woude, Kevin Polette, and Flor Baum.

There were no public comments.

The minutes of the April 27, 2023 were approved on motion by Shannon Eason, Dean Button.

Ped

Mitch presented on the *NWI 2050+* Active Transportation chapter, Next Steps. 26 corridors were identified within the Region. Various examples of bike lanes were presented. Among them was the standard bike lane that has a moderate volume street with a painted white line and bike lane pavement markings. A side path that has a medium volume street with adjacent off-street shared use path and minimum driveway conflicts. A side path that has high volume in a commercial street with adjacent off-street shared use path and pedestrian crossing refuge. Network Road Opportunities Typologies were identified: Country Land, Rural Road, Principle Counties/Interurban Roads, Assembled Local Street Routes, Urban Collectors, Arterials with Excess Capacity, Major Arterials, and Trails. There will be a proposed active network with 48 routes. This includes the Dyer-Chester corridor that runs along Main St and connects through trails, and the Valparaiso to La Porte corridor via SR 2. NIRPC staff is promoting the plan via social media and email expediting firm. Presentations have been given at municipal boards, civic groups, and chambers of commerce. NIRPC staff have also be collecting performance measuring data that is available on the NIRPC website. The NWI 2050+ AT will be implemented in the 2024 NOFA rankings. To view the full plan, please visit www.nirpc.org or contact Mitch at mbarloga@nirpc.org with any questions.

Mitch gave an update on the Old Plank Road Trail Study will cover 22 mi. from Joliet, IL and extending into Dyer, IN. NIRPC will have a public comment period and is slated to have various open house dates in the fall. For more information, visit www.oprtstudy.org, or contact Mitch.

Pedal

Dustin Anderson presented on Munster Ridge Road Complete Streets. The project was awarded the RAISE grant. The walkable downtown core is slated to have flexible parking plaza opportunities at Meadow Ln and Highland Pl. A pedestrian crosswalk and landscaped refuge island will be implemented as well as landscaped medians and parkways. Water practices will cut 25% of water going into residential homes. Right-of-way funding will have to be local because it is not covered in the grant. The funding needs to be obligated by 2027 and the project is slated to be completed by 2030.

Mitch spoke on the trail counters. Many trail counters have been delivered and NIRPC staff is working on activating them. With 30 counters having been installed, the installation process is ongoing. There will be another round of trail counters later in the year. For more information, contact Mitch.

Paddle

Nothing to report.

Announcements

Announcements were made.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 1:30 p.m. in the NIRPC building.

Hearing no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.