



**CITY OF URBANA
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY
COMMISSION MEETING**

DATE: Tuesday, March 18, 2025
TIME: 7:00 PM
PLACE: 400 South Vine Street, Urbana, IL 61801

MINUTES

Members Present: Annie Adams, Susan Jones, Qiushi Huang, Audrey Ishii, Nancy Westcott, Carmen Franks

Others Present: none

Members Absent: Tommy Griscom, Bruce Michelson, Keenan Portis, Sarthak Prasad

A. Call to Order and Roll Call

Audrey Ishii called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll was taken. A quorum of members was present.

B. Changes to the Agenda

none

C. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

1. February 2025 Meeting Minutes

Susan Jones motioned to approve the minutes, Nancy Westcott seconded. Motion approved with a unanimous voice vote.

D. Public Input & Commissioner Communications

Qiushi Huang stated that starting in August, MTD is moving out of Marketplace Mall, which will affect the yellow & red routes.

Annie Adams mentioned a few things:

- 1) King Park is being redeveloped and Keenan Portis is looking to put together a committee of people to help redevelop the park.
- 2) an email about federal funding that stated federal funding may be received or may not be
- 3) witness slips for Ride Illinois – you can sign witness slips, but not sure how to get them. It was determined that if you sign up for Ride Illinois emails, you can ask them directly.

Audrey announced that she will be stepping down from BPAC and that this will be her last meeting.

E. Unfinished Business

1. Snow Shoveling Announcements (Public Works)

Carmen asked 3 questions of the committee on what they are wanting:

- Should we still request updates to the existing announcement for the last paragraph changes?
- Do we want a new announcement to go out before the snow event that targets everyone in the City or those outside of the snow district?
- Are there ways we want to discuss to increase visibility?

After some discussion, it was determined that the committee would like a separate announcement which Nancy will work on and Annie will help with.

Carmen will continue to push for the last paragraph to be edited to add why it's important for property owners to shovel the sidewalks in their area.

2. **Vision Zero Network (VZN) – Apply for City recognition (Audrey)**

Audrey presented on applying for Vision Zero Network recognition. She said that applying for VZN recognition would publicize that Urbana has a traffic safety culture for all. In doing so, this would put Urbana on the map & have an incentive to move to Urbana; as well as showing a declaration of our safety commitment that can be highlighted for every priority decision. Below are several links that Audrey shared for more information on being a Vision Zero Community:

<https://visionzeronetwork.org/resources/vision-zero-communities/>
<https://visionzeronetwork.org/resources/demystifying-the-safe-system-approach/>
<https://visionzeronetwork.org/preventing-unsafe-speeds/#simplest-choice>
<https://visionzeronetwork.org/preventing-unsafe-speeds/>
<https://highways.dot.gov/safety/zero-deaths/resources>
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UfYGFw4_mjI
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wzdm798MoI8>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ws8wOmq4uaE>

The tasks left are to create a Vision Zero task force and complete the action plan.

3. **Lowering Speed Limits (Audrey)**

This was not discussed as a separate point, but was mixed in with Audrey's presentation of the point above (Vision Zero Network). Audrey did mention separately about adding more signage or putting in roundabouts as a way to decrease speed in certain areas & intersections.

F. Reports of City Officials and Staff and Reports of Committees

Carmen Franks gave the following updates on City projects and committees.

1. Florida Avenue Shared Use Path – Plans are 90% complete and on hold with reviewing work outside of the President's house because of it being a historical property. UI supports the City doing work in this area.
2. Bakers Lane Shared Use Path – Working towards 90% design plans. Construction anticipated for early Fall and completed in 2026.
3. CDBG Sidewalk Improvements – Primarily in the Dr. Ellis neighborhood along Beardsley Avenue. This is in process & to be by the end of the month.
4. EQL Streetlights FY22 – Construction is underway, to be completed by mid-2025. These are a mix of 6 roadway lights & 71 pedestrian lights.
5. EQL FY25 Program – This is approved by City Council and Engineering is proceeding with the design which includes sidewalks, ramps, & streetlights; as well as some traffic calming devices. This area is Broadway Avenue, Kerr Avenue, and/or Cottage Grove.
6. Lincoln Avenue Corridor Study – Concept plans are not finalized yet.
7. Traffic Signal Improvements – Planning to update outdated audio devices for pedestrian signals.
8. Grants
 - (1) The SS4A grant's future is unknown right now.
 - (2) The current grant for North Lincoln Avenue is believed to be safe.
 - (3) The future is unknown for a lot of other grants.

9. Marcus [Ricci – Community Development] has reached out to the newest sub-committee for E-Bikes to start meeting regularly.

G. New Business

none

H. Announcements

Qiushi Huang that MTD will be moving out of Marketplace Mall as of August, which will affect the yellow & red routes. MTD will start hosting public hearings starting in April for comments & suggestions.

Annie Adams announced the following:

- The KRT [Kickapoo Rail Tril] was given money to complete it.
- Illinois Bike & Walk Summit is on 5/7/25 & 5/8/25 in Springfield.

Carmen Franks announced that the Boneyard Clean-up Day is 4/12/25.

I. Future Topics

This point was skipped and the meeting was adjourned without asking about any future topics.

I. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.