

MARATHON COUNTY METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION
Bicycle and Pedestrian Sub-Committee
Minutes – February 25, 2021

Members: John Beatty, Dennis Helke, Thomas Mullaly, Gerald Klein, Todd Treu, Mark Thuot
Staff: Andrew Lynch

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by LYNCH at 5:33pm

2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

3. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 28, 2021 MEETING

Motion/second by HELKE/MULLALY to approve the meeting minutes from the January 28, 2021 meeting. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.

4. TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) GRANT PREPARATION

LYNCH announced that TAP grant application should be available in October of this year. Following a typical timeline, the applications would be due in Jan/Feb of 2022 and awards announced in August of 2022. Funds would be available starting in 2024. The MPO and regional DOT would like to work with the community ahead of the submission date to build a stronger application.

5. ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION IN PROPOSED STATE BUDGET

LYNCH presented several items from the recent Governor's budget that involved active transportation. In addition to the Bike Fed items included in the packet, there was also a budget item allocating \$75 million for another Multimodal Local Supplement (MLS) program.

6. COUNTY HIGHWAY SAFETY UPGRADES

This item was discussed first with approval of committee members. LYNCH presented the preliminary safety upgrades for County Highway roads proposed by SRF Consulting as part of a safety audit. The committee discussed the use of edge line rumble strips and their effect on bicyclists. Committee members voiced their displeasure for edge rumble strips and view them as a hazard to bicyclists. This is due to the reduced width to ride in, the inability to avoid debris in the shoulder, and the sound of a car on the strips to the rear that could startle a bicyclist. It was the committee members wish that the County Highway only use this treatment in targeted areas and with the following conditions:

Paved shoulder expanded to 5'

Commitment to clear the shoulders (sweep/blow) on a monthly (non-winter) basis.

Committee members have no issue with the use of centerline rumble strips.

TREU will solicit feedback from Wausau Wheelers members for the next County Infrastructure meeting.

7. COMMUNITY UPDATES AND FUTURE EVENTS

8. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

9. NEXT MEETING DATE – MARCH 25, 2021

10. ADJOURN

Motion/second by BEATTY/HELKE to adjourn the meeting. Motion **carried** by voice vote, no dissent.
Meeting Adjourned at 6:41 pm.

Submitted by:
David Mack
Program Manager/MPO Director
Marathon County
Conservation, Planning and Zoning/Wausau MPO