

MEETING MINUTES
Bloomington Common Council
Sidewalk Committee

Clerk/Council Library, Suite 110
Bloomington City Hall, 401 North Morton Street, Bloomington, Indiana
December 11, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m.

Committee Members present: Dorothy Granger, Dave Rollo, Jim Sims (left at 12:58pm),
Chris Sturbaum

Members Absent: None

Staff present: Roy Aten (Senior Project Manager), Neil Kopper (Interim Transportation and Traffic Engineer), Brad Schroeder (Assistant Director-Engineering), Beth Rosenbarger (Planning Services Manager), Bob Woolford (Program Manager), Dan Sherman (Council Attorney/Administrator), Stephen Lucas (Chief Deputy Clerk), Stacy Jane Rhoads (Deputy Administrator/Deputy Attorney)

1. Attendance and Agenda Summation

Sherman summarized the agenda.

2. Continued Discussion of Sidewalk Priorities and Allocations

Sherman and Woolford disclosed they lived on streets that were on the project list.

Sherman reviewed a new request added to the prioritization list. He said the request was for a sidewalk on Palmer Street from Grimes Lane to 1st Street. Rollo asked if a pathway extended north from Palmer Street. Kopper said there might be a beaten path but there was no constructed path. Rollo asked if the city owned the right-of-way for that area. Sherman said yes. Granger asked whether the evaluating criteria information was available for the project. Sherman said the request was ranked #29 on the prioritization list. Rollo said he would like to get traffic and speed counts for the area. He thought the area might be a low priority if there was not much traffic. Rosenbarger asked where along Palmer Street the traffic and speed counts should be conducted. Granger suggested the north end of the street. Kopper estimated that the street probably had 100 to 500 cars per day, which meant it was a quiet street. Rollo suggested that staff use discretion to decide the best location for the counts.

Sherman reminded the committee of items discussed at the previous meeting that needed a formal motion. He suggested the committee address those items.

Granger moved and it was seconded to change the location of the Pete Ellis Drive project to instead address the north-south portion of Range Road. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Rollo asked if a side path would be appropriate for Range Road. Aten said that the amount of available right-of-way would impact the type of sidewalk possible. Rollo asked if a path might eventually connect the area with Griffy Lake. Rosenbarger said that was a long-term goal. Sturbaum said the area seemed to be low traffic. Granger pointed out that the hospital would likely bring more traffic and more people to the area.

Rollo moved and it was seconded to remove the S. Rogers Street project from the project list. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Sherman provided information about alternative transportation funding and explained the source of those funds. Rollo asked how much of the alternative transportation funding came from the cumulative capital development fund. Sherman said \$300,000.

Kopper informed the committee that the bids received for constructing the S. Walnut Street sidewalk, the Mitchell Street sidewalk, and the Moores Pike pedestrian crossing were all higher than expected. Despite the bids coming in high, he said the bids were appropriate and staff did not want to reject them. He said the projects would cost approximately \$188,000 more than originally planned. He said the Planning and Transportation Department had originally only planned on contributing \$12,000 to those projects. He asked if the committee would be willing to spend some of its 2019 funding to help make up some of the shortfall. He suggested splitting the shortfall in half, with the committee helping cover \$94,000.

Granger suggested using \$94,000 as a starting figure to see what other projects could be funded with the remaining amount.

Sherman said funding the Moores Pike sidewalk project and providing \$94,000 to cover 2018 shortfalls would leave the committee with \$29,000.

Rollo suggested funding the Mitchell Street/Maxwell Lane traffic calming and Allen Street traffic calming projects.

Sturbaum asked whether there was an update on the traffic calming installations on Graham Drive or Countryside Lane. Kopper said there were no new developments. He said the temporary traffic calming devices would remain in place until there had been a discussion with the neighborhood.

Rollo asked if the Allen Street traffic calming project was a high priority for staff. Kopper explained the need for traffic calming on Allen Street. He said there were high speeds and poor visibility in certain areas. He said slower speeds would also serve pedestrians, as there were transit stops in the area that required people to cross the street. Rollo asked what kind of traffic calming devices would be installed. Kopper said the provided estimate was for speed humps. Rollo asked if there would be trial devices installed first. Kopper said trial devices would likely cost just as much as permanent devices. He anticipated doing community outreach before devices were installed. Sturbaum asked what type of devices would be installed. Kopper said the most likely device was speed humps, which would avoid impacting drainage in the area. He said the devices would be installed between Adams Street and Patterson Drive.

Sturbaum asked to view the site of the Moores Pike sidewalk project. Sherman displayed the location. Sturbaum asked if the construction estimate of \$195,000 for the project was accurate. Kopper said the design was approximately 90-95% completed, so the estimate should be close. Aten provided details of the design that would be more cost-effective.

Rosenbarger asked if the committee would also like to fund the design of a new project so there would be a project to construct the following year. Rollo asked if the Maxwell Street design had been completed. Kopper said that design had been funded already, so that project would be available for construction.

Sturbaum suggested looking at the 14th Street sidewalk project. Sherman displayed the area in question. Aten explained that he had looked into the location previously. He said installation of sidewalks on the north side of the street would impact storm water. He said installing sidewalks on the south side would impact property owners and parking.

Woolford said the 14th Street sidewalk project might be a good fit for community development block grant (CDBG) funding. Sturbaum said he would love to see the project completed using CDBG funding. Granger asked if the committee would need to contribute funding. Aten said that design could be completed, but if the design did not lead to construction, then the city would need to reimburse the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Kopper suggested that the city pay for design and then apply for CDBG funding. Sturbaum asked who would submit the application. Kopper said the planning and transportation department.

Granger pointed out that funding design for the 14th Street sidewalk project would cut into the amount available to help cover the shortfall from 2018 projects. Kopper suggested splitting the cost of the Allen Street traffic calming project.

Rollo moved and it was seconded to recommend funding the following projects at the following amounts:

- Moores Pike sidewalk construction - \$195,000
- Shortfall in 2018 Mitchell Street sidewalk construction - \$73,200
- 14th Street sidewalk design (with the intent of applying for CDBG funds to pay for sidewalk construction at a future date) - \$30,000
- Allen Street traffic calming - \$17,500
- Mitchell Street/Maxwell Lane traffic calming - \$2,300

The motion was approved by voice vote.

Rollo moved and it was seconded to apply any unspent funds from the Moores Pike sidewalk project to, at the discretion of the Planning and Transportation Department, either the Allen Street traffic calming project or the shortfall in the 2018 Mitchell Street sidewalk project. The motion was approved by voice vote.

3. Schedule Future Meetings

The committee scheduled its next meeting for October 29, 2019 at 12 noon.

4. Minutes

Rollo moved and it was seconded to approve the minutes of May 2, 2018, May 14, 2018, and November 13, 2018 as corrected. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Rollo moved to authorize the committee chair to approve minutes after being circulated for review. The motion was approved by voice vote.

5. Adjourn

Rollo moved and it was seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:17 p.m.