



Village of Bartlett
Bike and Run Committee Minutes
September 28, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Adam Hopkins called the regular meeting of the Bike and Run Committee to order at 3:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: A. Hopkins, J. Goetz, D. Palmer, B. Krall

Absent: J. Doherty

ALSO PRESENT: K. Stone, T. Isham, K. O'Brien

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2023, meeting.

Motioned by: A. Hopkins

Seconded by: D. Palmer

ROLL CALL

Ayes: A. Hopkins, J. Goetz, D. Palmer

Nays: None

Abstain: B. Krall

Motion carried.



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PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chairman A. Hopkins asked if there were any comments from the public. **Terry Witt** 471 S Western Avenue, Bartlett stated that in Bartlett, we are sitting on a gold mine and it is up to us to mine it. We have connections to the Prairie Path and West Branch now and when Stearns Road is completed, we will be just a hop, skip and a jump to the Fox River Trail. There will be hundreds of thousands of trail travelers passing within our boundaries. In Wheaton, where the 3 branches of the Prairie Path come together just a block away from a Metra Station, there are 190,000 trail visits a year. We did a trail count on the Elgin branch at Army Trail Road where it crosses and there are 40,000 trail visits a year. On the Fox River Trail almost every village trail count comes in at around 100,000. We have not done any trail counts on the North Central DuPage Regional Trail since the bridge was built, but just by visibly looking, we know that people are coming across that bridge. A lot of them are Bartlett people, but there are people from other towns. The West Branch Trail will have a complete off-street side path all the way to Naperville Road almost at the same time that we get Stearns Road. The possibilities of trail travelers who like to stop somewhere and eat and rest, and of course anybody who rides the lake front trail on the weekend could get on the West Milwaukee Branch and in an hour and 5 minutes can be in Bartlett. We have the possibility of a lot of people coming here and we could feed them if we invite them. We could promote the fact that we are going to be a bicycle friendly community shortly. We could put up map boards at all of the trailheads that are coming into Bartlett so they know how to get to where we are if we want to. It is a possibility. For me, I do not need a trail, I ride on all of the streets and roads, but restaurants who like to invite people, if they put in bike parking outside their front door and say, come in, they will sell twice as many hamburger and hot dogs and twice as many tacos. We could double our population just in trail travelers coming to Bartlett. I think this committee, if they wanted to, could really push the Village Board to brand Bartlett as a bicycle friendly community and an oasis to all of the trail travelers. **A. Hopkins** that is a good point. At the next meeting, we are actually talking about branding. Thank you. **Ana Carabajal** 201 W Country Drive, Bartlett stated, I actually live just down the road from here and just wanted to bring to your attention that being so close to downtown, which I love and is why we moved to this part of Bartlett with all of the trails and access to downtown, but we really do not have good access to get downtown by bike. I rode my bike here today and the only way to get here from our community is either the road with cars going very fast on it or the sidewalks, which are very narrow and close to the road so it is not very comfortable. I see a lot of businesses opening up downtown and the focus on being a more vibrant downtown. Having access from the communities south of downtown would be tremendous and would get us to come downtown more often if we could ride more comfortably. I think it is a little different north of downtown Bartlett with the side streets, but all of the communities south of downtown are not connected through side streets. You really can only use Prospect Avenue or Bartlett Road and that is not really bike friendly right now. That is my big issue. I am glad to see the Bartlett Road Trail is being repaved. Thank you for listening. **A. Hopkins** thank you for coming. Did we receive any comments by email? **K. Stone** I have an email comment requesting crosswalk signage on Lambert Lane. There were several crosswalks that they felt were dangerous due to locations of a bus stop for the elementary school as well as Riley's Run Park. Our Public Works Director did look into that and they are going to be putting in signage there. **A. Hopkins** asked, is that near the railroad crossing? **K. Stone** it is north of the railroad crossing. It would be at the south intersection of Edinburgh Drive and Lambert Lane by Riley's Run.



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OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

A. Hopkins do we have any movement on Naperville Road with paths or anything that the developer is doing there? **K. Stone** as part of the developer's public improvement agreement, they have until the fall of 2026. They do not anticipate that it will take that long. It is going to be coordinated with the Metra crossing. Metra is currently doing the design work. As soon as we get approved plans for Metra, we will start seeing movement along Naperville Road. **D. Palmer** what is the timeline with Metra? **K. Stone** we sent a check to for them to start the design work and they have been pretty responsive so far. I think we should start seeing something next year. **A. Hopkins** does that include the underpass? **K. Stone** that is a different project. That is related to Grasslands, but Metra is not involved in that project other than we need their approval to allow the bike path to be that close to their right-of-way. **T. Isham** stated, IDOT has sent comments to the developer and the developer is supposed to address those comments. I am not sure how far that has gotten since then, but we keep pushing them on it. **A. Hopkins** we can ask about that at Tuesday's Village Board meeting.

DUPAGE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT UPDATE

K. Stone we do have an email from **Jessica Ortega** stating that there is no update for anything within Bartlett. However, they have gone in for permit to upgrade some of the trails in Pratts Wayne Woods to limestone screenings. She also informed me that the Forest Preserve District has a conflict with meeting on Thursdays. They are requesting that their attendance only be required when they have something in Bartlett or we have a specific item and to contact them in advance. **A. Hopkins** absolutely.

PARK DISTRICT UPDATES

K. O'Brien stated, I am happy to report that the trail that goes down S. Bartlett Road is finished and that will be open tomorrow. They moved quickly on that. **A. Hopkins** it is always good when projects move along.

BIKE PATH MAINTENANCE UPDATE

T. Isham we have been pretty busy this summer and heading into fall with S. Bartlett Road and have a completion date of November 3 depending on the weather. Village Staff finished resurfacing the path along Newport Road and are going to start the path along Stearns Road and Newport Road heading west. Currently, staff is doing another 300 feet off of Struckman Boulevard and Silver Circle in addition to the 1,300 feet that they have already done. The developer in Brewster Creek is still doing the summer resurfacing. We finally got the final approval comments from DuPage County regarding the Munger Road path. That took longer than anticipated, but now that has been given the go ahead and the bike path portion will begin shortly. That also includes the crosswalk improvements at Munger Road and Naperville Road on the Cook County portion where there was never an actual crosswalk, but now there will be. On Spaulding Road, per the Bike Plan, we added the striped bike lanes from Lambert Lane to Naperville Road and those are actual bike lanes. Those are not parking lanes. **J. Goetz** will they be redoing the paths within Brewster Creek because those are pretty bad too? **T. Isham** yes, they will be resurfacing those at the same time. They wanted to wait to get Munger Road approved first so they could do it all at once this year. **A. Hopkins** is that done in-house or contracted out? **T. Isham** that is actually being done by the developer. Because it is in a TIF, we are involved, but the developer is handling it. **J. Goetz** they redid all of the roads through there and I



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thought they would do the bike path at the same time. **K. Stone** it was a different contractor. **J. Goetz** as long as it is still in the works for this year. **B. Krall** are there any projects that we wanted to accomplish this year that are going to be done in 2024? **T. Isham** everything that we planned to get done this year looks like it will be done this year. Ongoing in-house resurfacing is done every year and we will do as much as we can until the plants close. We have actually done close to 4,000 feet of bike path, which is double what we have done in the past. At Route 25 and West Bartlett Road staff recently met with Representative Hirschauer and we have also spoken with the developer to update the plans that they previously submitted to IDOT to get updated cost estimates to see if there are any funding opportunities and to see if we can expedite getting that intersection and bike path constructed. Right now, it just stops. **J. Goetz** that is a dangerous intersection and we have talked about that before. **T. Isham** yes, it is. Hopefully, we have an update on that soon and we will share that update as soon as we get it. **K. Stone** if you recall, DuPage County had gone out for RFPs for the Stearns Road bike path that would go from Munger Road west to the county line. We are still monitoring the status of that project and we will keep you posted on that. That is an exciting one as well. **J. Goetz** asked, is that realistically going to happen next year? **K. Stone** we are a few years out for that. They are going to have to do phase 1 and phase 2 engineering.

K. Stone the upcoming bike path projects as shown on the map are Munger Road, the future Stearns Road, improvements on Brewster Creek Boulevard, and the Grasslands. **A. Hopkins** what is the current state of W. Bartlett Road and Naperville Road for a crossing? **K. Stone** right now, there is just a crosswalk going north/south on the east leg. **T. Isham** the bike paths do not actually connect currently as you can see on the map. With the crosswalk, there will be curb cuts added and you will be able to cross from the southern portion of W. Bartlett Road. **K. Stone** you will have the east/west connection as well. **A. Hopkins** eventually, will the path go through the new development, go under the railroad tracks on Route 59 and go back over W. Bartlett Road? **K. Stone** yes. **D. Palmer** the path along Lake Street that goes to Streamwood, does that start in Bartlett? **K. Stone** because we were working on the Bartlett/Streamwood plan and we tried to incorporate paths in Streamwood, that is an on-street route and we are trying to let people know about the connections especially since it is near a library. **J. Goetz** regarding the Stearns Road path, going from Munger Road to the State Park, will there be a Public Meeting for input on the path? Is that path going to be off streets? **K. Stone** yes and when we asked if we could do something on-street temporarily, DuPage County gave us a hard no on that. I cannot imagine that they would decide now to do on-street. There are wetlands there that they will have to try to avoid or minimize impact. The railroad crossing would be part of that as well. **A. Hopkins** how is the construction going on Prospect Avenue and is that taking up any of the sidewalks doing the force main project? **T. Isham** no, because that is all in the road. People still have access on either side and that will probably be done in November for the season. They will get as far as they can so that over the winter it is not as congested and they do not have to deal with snow. **A. Hopkins** will it be gravel until spring? **T. Isham** no, they actually started the temp patch on Amherst. There will be a temp patch down for wherever they get up to. **J. Goetz** DuPage County has jurisdiction for Stearns Road and W. Bartlett Road is Cook County and that is the only other connection to connect every subdivision on Bartlett at W. Bartlett Road from Munger Road to the Westridge subdivision. **K. Stone** correct and if you look at the map you will see the part that is incomplete is in the City of Elgin and the railroad tracks and ComEd easement are unincorporated. **J. Goetz** from the fire station west, it is Elgin. **K. Stone** correct. Elgin cannot provide water to those properties. If those properties were developed and they wanted to disconnect from Elgin and annex into Bartlett so that they could have water service, we would require that they put in bike path. When Elgin previously received a submittal for that area, they provided a copy to us and at that point they were going to put in bike path, but



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that was about 15 years ago. **A. Hopkins** can we reach out to Kevin Morrison, the Cook County Commission's office since that is not in our jurisdiction, but it would benefit Bartlett. I think if Cook County provided funding for that maybe Elgin would agree. **K. Stone** we can look into that.

BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY DISCUSSION

K. Stone our application was submitted and received. We hope to have an announcement for you at the next meeting.

ACTIVE TRANSPORTION ALLIANCE MEMO

K. Stone we received the ATA memo on Friday. It was a late addition to the packet. The Active Transportation Alliance has reviewed the IDOT Active Transportation Plan and made recommendations that they would like included and are asking other communities, advisory committees and other agencies to see if they would also support these recommendations as well. We have to give them an answer today to be added. We do not have time to take this to the Village Board, but we can put this committee down as an advisory committee and send the email as soon as this meeting is over. **J. Goetz** it is pretty comprehensive what they are asking for. **A. Hopkins** what does staff think of the memo? **K. Stone** staff thinks that it is great to include; however, funding is always an issue. A lot of times, projects will have these types of recommendations added and mandated, but there is not necessarily a funding source. **A. Hopkins** is there an idea of the general cost? **K. Stone** each project is different, but it will increase costs. IDOT does reach out to every community to ask if it is something they want when the project comes through and the villages can negotiate point-by-point if there is something they feel is unnecessary at a location. **J. Goetz** the only takeaway I got from it was that the Complete Streets Policy from 2007 is not a mandatory process and they want to reevaluate the effectiveness of that program. Other than that, these are all great suggestions, but it is a money thing. I personally think that the Village of Bartlett should sign it and become more engaged with Active Transportation. **A. Hopkins** I also think it comes down to cost. Can we stipulate a time frame for when to enact what or if there is money available to do certain projects? **K. Stone** I think putting our support behind this letter is just saying that we support the overall concept and it is not committing the Village to doing any of the set recommendations. It is not binding. **J. Goetz** it puts us in good company. There is a big list of other communities that have already signed this. It would put our name out there in case these other communities want to do projects and that would expand the network to work with the Village of Bartlett. **A. Hopkins** I agree.

A. Hopkins asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motioned by: **J. Goetz**
Seconded by: **D. Palmer**

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 3:31 p.m.

Next meeting date: January 18, 2024 at 3 pm