

Minutes

Friday, 19 June 2020

8:15 a.m.

City Commission Room, City Hall, 1101 Poyntz Avenue

1. MEETING OPENING

- 1.1. Sevin called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m.
- 1.2. Roll Call
 - Present: Joseph Edmunds, Carol Sevin, Brian Hardeman, David Colburn, Nancy Baker, Ed Kalas, Annie Cook
 - Absent: Kevin Fateley, Seth Scobee, Chris Spooner
 - Staff: Brian Johnson, City Engineer; Alfonso Leyva, Parks Planner; Wyatt Thompson, Assistant Director of Parks and Rec; Ben Chmiel, Planner III; Tyler Tripp, Bike/Ped Coordinator
 - Public: 1
- 1.3. **Minutes of 2/21/2020 meeting.** Edmunds moved to approve the minutes; Hardeman seconded. Motion passed 6–0–0.
- 1.4. **Public Comments:** none.

2. REPORTS & UPDATES

- 2.1. **Public Works:** There is continued construction on the intersection of Kimball Avenue and College Avenue, as well as on North Manhattan Avenue. Construction will be starting shortly at the intersection of Kimball Avenue and College Avenue. The bridge on Fort Riley Boulevard is currently under construction and will likely be around an 18-month project.

Construction will shortly begin on a trail on the north side of Kimball Avenue from Hillcrest Drive to around Bill Snyder Stadium. More trails on the north side of Kimball Avenue are expected. Some trails have been added on North Manhattan Avenue as part of the North Manhattan project.

A sidewalk project on Claflin Road from North Manhattan Avenue to McCain Lane is currently out to bid. This is planned to be funded with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, but there is an issue with prevailing wages. An appeal has been sent to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to allow for the use of these funds, but other funding sources are being evaluated in the event that CDBG funds are unable to be

used.

Design has begun for the pedestrian crossing portion of the North Manhattan Corridor Project. This will include signalized crossings at Vattier, Lovers Lane, and Petticoat Lane.

Conceptual design of a cycle track (two-direction bike lane) on the west side of North Manhattan will begin shortly.

- 2.2. **Parks & Recreation:** Since the last meeting of BPAC, the Clarenburg Trail Project has been put on hold because of CDBG funds being shifted for use on response to the pandemic. Two other trail projects have also been placed on hold because of to the shift of CDBG funds. These are an ADA ramp project on Pecan Circle & Rosencutter Road, and a trail connector project on South Manhattan Avenue.

Three new recreation centers are being constructed. The Douglas Community Recreation Center is anticipated to be completed in December. The site work is nearly complete, and the parking is complete for the Susan B. Anthony Recreation Center. Work on the walls will begin in July. The trail south of recreation center will be opening before school starts in August. A new pedestrian crossing will be built on Browning Avenue as access to the middle school. This project is expected to be completed in February. Utilities are in progress and walls should begin going up in August for Eisenhower Recreation Center. This project has a May 2021 completion date.

- 2.3. **Community Development:** The South Manhattan Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Project has been postponed to be included in a later stormwater project. The funds for this project will instead be shifted to a project on Hanly Street to fill a sidewalk gap on the south side of the road.

Manhattan has recently been recertified as a Bicycle Friendly Community at the bronze level by the League of American Bicyclists. A [report card](#) has been made available outlining key steps to increase Manhattan's rating.

3. OLD BUSINESS

- 3.1. **BPAC goal setting:** Sevin and Hardeman brought up that the existing [goals](#) are still very broad. Tripp offered that the new report card from the League of American Bicyclists could be used to solidify the goals BPAC sets for itself. It was determined that voting on goals should be tabled until the next meeting and that a small meeting should occur prior to the next BPAC meeting to solidify the goals prior to voting.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- 4.1. **Hayes Trail CIP Recommendation:** A Capital Improvement Program request has been made for a 2021 project that would include a trail on the west side of Hayes Drive from Old Blue River Trail to McCall Road. The project stems from community requests from the Northview neighborhood, as well as a need to

sequence projects to accommodate for trail closures during the levee project. The desire is to complete this project prior to the beginning of the levee project. This should allow for trail access while large portions of Linear Park Trail and Old Blue River Trail are closed. This would be funded by the rec-and-trails sales tax and stormwater funds. Baker was concerned about how the public might perceive an additional trail being located near the Old Blue River trail. Johnson and Thompson said that the trails serve different purposes and will attract different users. Sevin asked whether counts would be taken as part of this project. Thompson said that counts would likely be taken after the project's completion.

Edmunds moved to endorse the selection of the Hayes Trail project, Hardeman seconded. Motion passed 5–0–1.

- 4.2. **Update on Stonehaven Park Master Plan:** The Stonehaven Park is a new 15-acre park area that was donated to the city in 2018. The current plan for the park includes a paved perimeter trail, natural surface hiking trails, picnic shelter(s), a restroom, fishing dock(s), and parking. This park would serve the new neighborhood subdivision in that area.
- 4.3. **Bike Boulevards Discussion:** Tremblay presented potential for improvement of existing bike boulevards in Manhattan to include traffic calming measures and conversion to “open streets”. This would be more in line with the guidelines set in the Bicycle and Pedestrian Systems Plan and would increase comfort and safety for cyclists. Temporary projects can be used to adapt existing boulevards to test the concept of these improvements. Edmunds and Hardeman suggested trying this in areas where there is not heavy construction. Cook offered that now might be a good time to do these temporary projects because bicycle traffic is higher now. Tremblay suggested putting projects on Houston Street, Humboldt Street, and in City Park.

5. ADJOURNMENT

- 5.1. **Updates and comments from members.** Baker inquired about the status of maintaining the west side of Linear Park Trail which is relatively worn down. Thompson said that he would look into the issue and see if it can be corrected in the near future but also that the Parks and Recreation Department only has about half of its staff active at the moment so it may take slightly longer to fix the issue than it normally would.
- 5.2. Meeting adjourned at 9:53 a.m.