

Bicycle, Pedestrian and Greenway Advisory Committee (BPGAC)

Tuesday, August 9 – 6 PM

GF City Hall, 255 North 4th Street, room A102

Meeting Notes

Terri Kouba, MPO
Richard O'Connor
Nelson Rosit

Justin Kristan, ND Active Transportation Alliance
(via online)
Kim Greendahl, City of GF

I. Bikeway & Pedestrian Items

- A. Bicycle & Pedestrian portion of the Metropolitan Transportation Plan:** The consultants led a bike audit in June. They are now collecting data about traffic counts, infrastructure inventory, and other factors related to non-motorized transportation. From that, they will develop a list of priorities for building and improving the transportation system.

The next step will be presenting what they heard and saw as a draft to city councils and the public. The Plan will be available for review several times before both Councils adopts it.

B. Greenway Items

- i. Floodwall on DeMers Avenue, GF:** The contract with the consultant should be signed within the next week. The first step will be meeting with a few downtown stakeholders. Next will be a few public input opportunities, followed by a few draft plans being unveiled for more input. The deadline for a completed design plan is November 30, 2022.
- ii. Fish area near Desiree Drive:** There have been problems with vandalism and bullying at this site again this year. Kim is looking for an engineer available to design a more open and public area, which should eliminate some of the hiding spots currently shielding this activity. It would also open it up to the entire public for use. A paved trail would connect this area to the larger greenway system.

II. Other

- A. Justin Kristan:** Justin Kristan is the founder of the North Dakota Active Transportation Alliance (NDATA). He previously worked on bicycle and pedestrian projects for the Fargo Moorhead Metro Council of Governments (COG). NDATA was founded to provide advocacy for non-motorized transportation across ND. It is a non-profit 501 (c) 3. Justin looks forward to participating in future meetings.
- B. Scooter rentals:** Is a scooter rental company coming to Greater Grand Forks? Yes. The ordinances in GF have been updated to enable the company to do business in the community. The scooters will be available on UND campus and eventually throughout the community. Kim is working with the police departments in both communities to

develop a few social media pieces to educate people about the use of these scooters on streets and trails.

- C. Blue Zones:** Altru Health Systems is doing a pilot Blue Zones project in GF, focusing on the neighborhoods north of DeMers Avenue. The Blue Zones Project is a comprehensive initiative that uses an evidence-based approach to transform the environments in which people live, work, learn and play to improve well-being, economic vitality, and resilience. This will be the first Blue Zones Project to launch in North Dakota and is supported by a unique collaboration among Altru Health System, Altru Foundation, and the North Dakota State Department of Health.

Blue Zones Project works with communities to optimize public policies, social connections, and the places and spaces where people spend the most time (streets, parks, schools, workplaces, grocery stores, faith communities, homes) so that healthy choices are easy and accessible to all.

Next Meeting date: Tuesday, September 13, 2022, 6 PM at GF City Hall, 255 North 4th Street, room A102

Supporting documents: None