

MINUTES

CITY OF FORT COLLINS • BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS



Land Conservation & Stewardship Board

Regular Meeting

October 24, 2018

1. CALL TO ORDER

5:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Edward Reifsnnyder, Vicky McLane, Joseph Piesman, Andrea Elson, Kelly Ohlson, Marcia Patton-Mallory, Raymond Watts

Excused: David Tweedale, Mike Weber

3. AGENDA REVIEW

Marcia will provide an update on the BAC at the end of the meeting. Daylan will provide an update on Meadow Springs and Mark will report on land acquisitions during executive session.

Daylan shared details on the Annual Regional Boards and Commissions meeting scheduled for November. The meeting will be held at the Larimer County Courthouse on November 14th. He will send the agenda out to board members over the next week.

4. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Public Attendees: Cole Kramer, Jackie Labelle, CSU Student

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Members had one date change in the agenda review paragraph of the September minutes. Second sentence should reflect the date of November 27th and not October 27th.

Raymond Watts made a motion to approve the amended September LCSB meeting minutes.

Marcia Patton-Mallory seconded the motion

The Motion was approved 7-0

6. COMMUNICATION AND BOARD MATTERS

Kelly announced he would like the opportunity to further discuss the northeast Montava Development with individual board members or NAD staff. He is strongly opposed to the project and would like the Board to take a closer look at the project. He feels it's an inappropriate way of spending NAD funds and reported that the Montava Development is receiving an additional \$150 to \$250 million dollars of property tax through the Metro

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District. He is opposed to using any NAD funds for the project and would like the same support from the Board. He asked if further discussion, information or status could happen to further flush out his concerns.

The Montava project will be added as a discussion item in 2019.

7. NEW BUSINESS ACTION ITEM

Proposed E-bike Pilot Program, Tessa Greeger, Manager, FC Moves reviewed the current Fort Collins code regulating e-bikes in the city. The current code reads that all persons are prohibited from riding electrical assisted bicycles while the motor is engaged on a bike or pedestrian path or on a recreation trail unless otherwise authorized by the City Code (ADA regulations). State Legislation in 2017 established Class I and Class II E-bikes can be on trails in most Colorado jurisdictions. Fort Collins has typically not allowed Class I or Class II on paved trails unless ADA approved. Tessa explained some of the trends and research that has taken place over the last few years describing motivators for purchasing e-bikes, trends throughout the U.S. and local context. As follow up to the 2017 Legislation, the Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) is proposing a one-year pilot program allowing Class I and Class II e-bikes on paved trails to determine whether to continue the pilot, let the pilot expire or permanently allow e-bikes on paved trails. Tessa and other FC Moves staff are presenting information to city boards seeking formal support. The BAC is asking staff to help determine the appropriate trails and duration for this pilot study, assist in the implementation of a comprehensive evaluation, develop an education plan that includes public outreach and review City guidelines to determine if current rules need changes. The Transportation Board has endorsed the pilot but has yet to send a recommendation to City Council. Tessa described the specifics of the pilot, potential partners and estimated cost for the pilot.

Tessa requested a motion to support the pilot study.

DISCUSSION:

Joe inquired about other boards and where they stand on the issue. Tessa reported that the Transportation Board, as well as the Natural Resource Advisory Board are in support of the pilot. Those memos will then be sent to Tessa to send on to City Council with her report.

Daylan clarified that current the natural areas only allows motorized e-bikes on paved trails in compliance with ADA.

Vicky is very much against this pilot. She feels that any motorized vehicle should be subject to all Colorado Motor Vehicle rules and regulations, for example registration and license.

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Differentiating between Class II e-bike and other motorized vehicles would be hard to enforce and determine.

Marcia felt that there could be a few trails that might be appropriate for the pilot, that could facilitate commuting, like the South Mason Trail, or the Power Trail. The Spring Creek Trail has limited site lines and could potentially be dangerous. Marcia feels enforcement will be a top issue.

Kelly thought it would be a good idea to not get hung up on enforcement and focus on good policy. Kelly will support Class I but not Class II and feels we should be very specific on which trails will be used for the pilot.

Ray recommended a strong signage/education campaign as part of the pilot program.

Joe asked why Tessa decided to include all paved trails in the pilot versus specific trails. She indicated the decision was made by the internal staff team. Regulatory issues were taken into consideration and that limiting trails might limit the study design and how the public views e-bikes on all types of paved trails.

Andrea was concerned about enforcement and how motorized vehicles might be confused with other vehicles, such as golf carts, or electric long boards, etc. Enforcing Class I and II might be difficult.

Marcia felt motorized e-bikes might limit the overall natural area user experience.

Kelly suggested including the language “the pilot will determine which trails it would work for and which trails it wouldn’t”. He also will not include Class II in his recommendation for the pilot.

Joe suggested sending the LCSB’s white paper along with a memo supporting the pilot program.

Ray made a motion that the LCSB send a memo through Tessa expressing support for a pilot program study of Class I e-bike use on Fort Collins paved trails, and expressing opposition to study of class 2 use, giving reasons for our distinction between treatment of the two classes. Our memo should also express the need for thoughtfully prohibiting all e-bikes on certain trail segments if pilot study data suggest that there are conflict, safety, or other issues on those segments.

Marcia seconded the motion

The motion was approved 6-1

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Vicky McLane Opposed

The Board was overall supportive of the pilot program but felt that including Class II e-bikes would open the door for other motorized vehicles such as golf carts, motorized long boards, etc. The Board also agreed that some criteria be established so that when results are available that some trails be limited.

One Board member was against the pilot. She felt that allowing Class II e-bikes would send the message that other motorized vehicles would eventually be allowed on paved trails and that any type of motorized vehicle should be licensed and registered.

DISCUSSION ITEM

NISP MEMORANDUM

Ray reported that he had sent out his memorandum to all the Board members addressing NISP. He thought the memorandum did a good job of addressing issues that were not addressed in the Environmental Impact Statement. The City of Fort Collins has a Sustainability Policy that addresses social, environmental and economic results. Ray feels the memo to City Council is in line with the Policy. In September the Board voted on sending the memo. Joe asked if there were any comments, concerns or anything that may have been left out. Ideally the Board would have liked to get the memo out before October 2nd but feels the importance of the memo outweighs the deadline. Marcia would like to amend the memo to reflect and highlight natural areas that fall under the river corridor. Marcia and Ray will work together to review the memorandum and make the necessary changes.

FOOTHILLS MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

- Daylan shared preliminary trail data gathered by Todd and staff. The goal of the survey is to have a baseline study concerning the number and type of trail users, and user perceptions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board went into executive session at approximately 7:45 p.m. to discuss potential land acquisitions.

8. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Marcia Patton-Mallory reported on the Bicycle Advisory Committee. There was some discussion about scooter rental companies coming into Fort Collins, to open business. City Council will address the issue during upcoming meetings. Secondly this summer, the City

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completed a redesign of the W. Mulberry Street corridor, which included adding a center turn lane, adding protected bike lanes and reducing travel lanes from two lanes in each direction to one lane in each direction. The protected bike lanes were completed as part of a pilot project, which includes testing different types of bike lane protection to determine the best approach for future projects. Marcia reported that comments were still being taken at <https://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/5495090/post-mulb-2>

9. OTHER BUSINESS

The Board inquired about a field trip to soapstone. Daylan indicated it would have to be a weekend. The Board agreed to send out some options for dates

10. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Approved:

 _____, Chair 11/9/19 Date

_____, Secretary

Michelle Vattano

