

## **WARRENVILLE BICYCLISTS AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY COMMISSION (BPAC) ANNUAL REPORT-2011**

As 2011 comes to a close, the Bicyclists and Pedestrian Advisory Commission completes its fifth year in existence. The Commission is made up of a Chair, and four Commissioners, and a Council and staff liaison. They meet once a month on the first Tuesday of the month.

### **2011 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

#### Bicycle Friendly Designation

For a second time, the Commission submitted an application for Bicycle Friendly designation by the League of American Bicyclists. For the second time Warrenville was awarded only an honorable mention. Feedback from the League mirrored the past feedback asking the City to designate specific staff to address cycling issues, recommending infrastructure improvements on streets now owned by the City, and increasing bicycle encouragement programming and police enforcement. The Commission has found the process for this designation unfavorable to smaller communities with limited resources.

#### Route 56 Workgroup

In order for the City to make informed decisions on what enhanced streetscape improvements it would work with IDOT to implement in conjunction with the construction of the proposed Route 56 expansion project, the City Council established the Route 56 Streetscape Work Group in July of 2009. The Route 56 Streetscape Work Group Basic Priority (Phase I) Recommendations to the City Council were presented to and unanimously approved by the City Council at their March 15, 2010, meeting. BPAC Representative Tom Jones, continued to work with this group during 2011.

#### Continental Drive Shared Use Path

EEI engineering has begun Phase I engineering for this pathway. They continue to work with IDOT to get necessary approvals to move on to Phase II.

#### Bike Corral at 4<sup>th</sup> of July

The Commission sent two members to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July to man the first Bike corral. There was difficulty in identifying a good area to host this amenity, but the Commission will continue to work with the Friends of the 4<sup>th</sup> to improve this feature.

#### Bike Rodeo

The Commission worked with the Park District to execute the sixth annual Bike Rodeo. Though the weather was overcast, the turnout was still strong with about 200 people. The Commission has asked the Park District to spearhead this effort in the future.

#### 2012 Calendar

This year, the Commission took the lead on developing the Warrenville calendar. The theme was, "The Great Outdoors of Warrenville" and featured great places to visit in Warrenville, with a slight emphasis on cycling. Commission members took all the photos and identified quotes to work with each photo.

### Community Assistance – Winfield

The Commission welcomed Winfield trustees and members of their counterpart commission to a meeting to discuss the work BPAC was doing and opportunities to partner with Winfield.

### BPAC Educational Symposium

BPAC was invited to participate in a panel discussion for communities interested in forming Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Commissions. ACA McMahon was asked to discuss how Warrenville's BPAC developed their Bikeway Implementation Plan, their execution of the annual Bike Rodeo, and the difficulties with attaining the Bicycle Friendly Designation. Other panelists included Ed Barsott, League of Illinois Bicyclists, Tom Armstrong, Active Transportation Alliance, Richard Bascomb, Village of Schaumburg, Nathan Roseberry, Village of Hoffman Estates, Jennifer Loudon, City of Naperville and Paul Bednar, City of Elgin. The event was organized and hosted by the City of Elgin as part of their Bike Month events.

### Sidewalk Priority Map

BPAC began reviewing the Sidewalk Priority map and developing recommendations to improve the criteria used to identify priority areas. The map needs significant updates by the GIS Technician and BPAC is working with staff to get that accomplished.

### CMRP

BPAC also provided feedback and recommendations on the development of the new Capital Maintenance and Replacement Plan (CMRP), noting that BPAC would be happy to work with staff on indentifying and securing grants.

## **2012 GOALS**

### Improve Position for Bicycle Friendly Application

The Commission is continuing to review the Bicycle Friendly Application and deficiencies in Warrenville. Each member of the Commission has taken on category (encouragement, education, engineering or enforcement) to see where Warrenville can improve. In addition, they are reviewing other towns similar in size to Warrenville and how they obtained the designation.

### Continue Work on Pedestrian Plan

BPAC will maintain their 2011 goal of addressing pedestrian needs by examining current infrastructure and existing plans.

### Co-host Seventh Annual Bike Rodeo

With the success of each Bike Rodeo, the Commission intends to co-host the seventh annual Bike Rodeo with the Park District.

### Continental Drive Shared-use Path

In 2010, the City was awarded \$435,000 Surface Transportation Program funds to install a shared use path and bike lane on Continental Drive from Summerlakes in front of Johnson School, across Route 59 to Meadow Avenue through the Timber Ridge/Warrenville Lakes neighborhood to Batavia Road. The Commission has been monitoring the progress of the Phase I engineering and will be recommending to Council to approve Phase II engineering.

### Event Participation

Part of working towards the goal of enhancing encouragement efforts, BPAC is developing a Standard Operating Procedure for Annual Event Participation. BPAC intends on having a presence at local community events that will encourage cycling and educate residents. One goal is to expand the use of bike corrals. The work on this issue has proved to me more complicated due to limited availability to staff the corral. However, the Commission is developing ideas on how to address this issue by possibly working with community groups. In addition, the Commission is actively seeking volunteers to help with its efforts.

### Continue to Address Citizen Concerns

As residents provide the Commission concerns about bicycle and pedestrian issues in Warrenville, the Commission will review their concerns and work towards resolution.

The Bicyclists and Pedestrian Commission is made up of a dedicated and enthusiastic group of Warrenville residents who look forward to the upcoming year and how they can help develop programs and initiatives to enhance the City's bicycle and pedestrian amenities. The Commission is grateful for the support of the City Council and looks forward to making recommendations that will continue to help Warrenville provide for the City's cyclists and pedestrians.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Alan Gard