



Source: Community Development - Planning

Agenda Item No: REP 166-12

To: City Council
From: City Manager and Staff

Council Meeting Date: November 5, 2012

Re: Bicycle & Pedestrian Commission action regarding the Grindstone Trail Project (case # 12-183)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Staff has prepared for Council a report summarizing the discussion and action of the Bicycle & Pedestrian Commission in regard to transferring funding from the Grindstone Trail Phase I project.

DISCUSSION:

At their October 1 meeting, the City Council directed a number of City Commissions, including the Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission to review and consider the option of deferring the Grindstone Trail Phase I project, and transferring \$1.4 million in sales tax revenue to fund the Shepard to Rollins Street trail connection.

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission held discussion on the above issue at their meeting of October 19, 2012. After brief presentations from staff of the Parks and Recreation Department and Get About Columbia, the Commission considered the issue, and allowed comments from the members of the public in attendance.

Four members of the public spoke in favor of the Grindstone Trail Phase I project, including two persons who identified themselves as residents of the East Pointe neighborhood. No one from the public spoke in opposition to the Grindstone Trail project.

In their discussion, members of the Commission expressed opposition to transferring parks sales tax revenue from the Grindstone Trail Phase I project to fund other projects. The Commission noted that since the Grindstone Trail Phase I project was specifically identified on the November 2010 Parks Sales Tax ballot issue as a project to be funded with sale tax revenues, it would be inappropriate to utilize these funds for other projects. The Grindstone Trail was the only individual trail/greenbelt project to be listed for funding on the 2010 Parks Sales Tax ballot issue, showing \$1,570,000 in revenues to be applied for its implementation.

A motion was made and seconded to keep the approximately \$1.4 million in appropriated parks sales tax revenues in the Grindstone Trail Phase I project, and not transfer these funds to other projects. The motion was passed unanimously (8-0) by the Commission.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

VISION IMPACT:

<http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/Council/Meetings/visionimpact.php>

12.4 Goal: An extensive, safe network of trails will accommodate a variety of users ranging from recreational to nonmotorized travelers. This network may include roadway and public transportation infrastructure to connect parks, neighborhoods, schools, and businesses.

13.1 Goal: Columbia will enjoy a safe, interconnected, non motorized transportation network. It will be culturally supported by the citizens as it will encourage social interaction and healthy lifestyles. The roadway, sidewalk, public transit, and trail systems will all tie together into an effective integrated transportation network.

SUGGESTED COUNCIL ACTIONS:

Acceptance of the report.

FISCAL and VISION NOTES:					
City Fiscal Impact Enter all that apply		Program Impact		Mandates	
City's current net FY cost	\$0.00	New Program/ Agency?	No	Federal or State mandated?	No
Amount of funds already appropriated	\$0.00	Duplicates/Epands an existing program?	No	Vision Implementation impact	
Amount of budget amendment needed	\$0.00	Fiscal Impact on any local political subdivision?	No	Enter all that apply: Refer to Web site	
Estimated 2 year net costs:		Resources Required		Vision Impact?	Yes
One Time	\$0.00	Requires add'l FTE Personnel?	No	Primary Vision, Strategy and/or Goal Item #	12.4
Operating/ Ongoing	\$0.00	Requires add'l facilities?	No	Secondary Vision, Strategy and/or Goal Item #	13.1
		Requires add'l capital equipment?	No	Fiscal year implementation Task #	

Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission
***DRAFT* Meeting Minutes**
October 19, 2012

Members Present: David Heise, Greg Ahrens, Sue Davis (P&R), Sarah Anderson, Brant Kassel, Ben Moore, Chris Bailey, Andrew Sommer

Members Absent: Pat McDonald, Mike Burden, Bill Tillotson (P & Z)

Others Present: Tim Teddy (Staff), Mitch Skov (Staff), Rachel Bacon (Staff), Ted Curtis (Staff), Mike Griggs (Staff), Emily Dixon (Staff), Ian Thomas, Barbie Reed, Dan Harter, Ray Harter, Kathleen Weinschenk

1. Call to Order -- 7:02 pm

2. Approval of August 15, 2012 meeting minutes -- Davis moved to approve, seconded by Sommer. The motion passed unanimously. Note: There were no September meeting minutes, due to lack of a quorum for that meeting.

3. Review of the agenda -- No changes

4. Staff/Commission/Council Reports

A. Skov/Bacon

Skov introduced Emily Dixon, who is the new Planning Aide in the Planning Division of the Community Development Department. He noted that the rest of the staff discussion would be deferred to the Old and New Business sections of the agenda.

5. Old Business

A. Sidewalk Master Plan Update

Skov discussed two potential project additions which were tentatively added after the public meetings and public comment period was completed. These two projects are:

1. Sinclair Road (east side) – Nifong Boulevard south to the existing sidewalk
2. Burnam Road – Clarkson to Providence Road

Staff noted that the Sinclair Road project was included in the 2007 Sidewalk Plan in the Appendices as a sidewalk project that would be done in conjunction with a future street reconstruction project, but was not included in the specific sidewalk project list. The reconstruction of Sinclair is currently shown in the draft CIP as an unfunded future project. Staff requested a Commission recommendation on including the two projects in the Draft Plan list. The vote was as follows:

1. Sinclair Road – 6 votes in favor, 2 opposed, for including on project list
2. Burnam Road – Unanimous (8-0) vote in favor of including on the project list

Staff asked if there were any other projects that should be added, deleted or modified from the project list after reviewing the public input. The Commission was satisfied with the proposed project list.

Staff presented the project ratings matrix which was utilized for the 2007 Sidewalk Plan, and has been used to rate projects in the Draft 2012 Plan as well. Staff asked for any suggestions on potential revisions or additions to the seven ratings criteria in the matrix. After some discussion on possibly adding a rating criteria based on project costs, the Commission came to a consensus to keep the existing matrix. Staff will send out a draft of the Sidewalk Plan in digital format to Commission members.

6. New Business

A. Grindstone Trail Project Overview and Discussion – Mike Griggs, Parks & Recreation Department

The City Council has directed the Commission to review the possibility of deferring its construction and utilizing the \$1.4 million in sales tax funds appropriated for that project to another project, which would make available GetAbout funds for other capital projects. Mr. Griggs summarized and discussed the Grindstone Trail Phase I project, with Ted Curtis providing background on other projects to be potentially funded as a result of a funds transfer away from the Grindstone Trail project.

Chair Heise provided an opportunity for members of the public in attendance to speak. Dan Harter spoke in favor of the Grindstone Trail project, as did Ray Harter. Both identified themselves as residents of the East Pointe neighborhood adjacent to the potential trail route. Also speaking in favor of the Grindstone Trail project were Ian Thomas, who stated that there is support for the project in the East Pointe neighborhood. Barbie Reed also spoke in favor of the Grindstone Trail project.

The Commission discussion emphasized that the Grindstone Trail Phase I project was specifically identified in the 2010 ballot as a trails/greenbelt project to be funded with sales tax revenues from the ballot issue. Given this, the Commission reached a consensus that this project should be implemented as stated in the ballot issue.

Chair Heise called for a motion to provide the City Council with a recommendation on the issue of transferring sales tax funds from the Grindstone Trail project. Commissioner Ahrens made a motion to keep the existing \$1.4 million in sales tax funding in the Grindstone Trail Phase I project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bailey. After further discussion, the motion passed 8-0.

B. Get About Columbia – Potential Projects for funding in Phase 2

Ted Curtis of the GetAbout project staff spoke on possible projects to be funded with Phase 2 of the GetAbout funding. This was done in conjunction with the discussion about item 6 A.

7. Public Comment - No further public comment

8. Announcements/Commissioner Comments

The next meeting is Wednesday, November 21. It was mentioned that the City Council is considering an ordinance revision to remove the Planning and Zoning Commission liaison requirement for the Bicycle & Pedestrian Commission.

10. Adjournment – 8:54 pm

Motion made by Sommer, seconded by Ahrens, and passed.

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