Healthy Franklin County - Physical Activity Task Force
Built Environment Work Group
Tuesday, December 11, 2018 – 10:00 – 11:30 AM

Minutes

Present: Elizabeth Grant, Noel Purdy, Heather Myers, Hugh Graham, Elizabeth George, Sam Thrush (By phone)

Absent: Katie Hess, Elena Kehoe, Maria Misner, Melanie Furlong, Guy Shaul, Ann Spotswood

Bike Share/Library – Project Feasibility Update
Noel reported that she, Sam and Hugh attended the bike-share break out session at the trails conference at Shippensburg University and learned about how different communities in PA are utilizing a turn-key bike-share program, Zagster. Communities in Schools, a non-profit model, operates the Harrisburg Bikeshare and the York Bureau of Health, a department of the City of York, (a municipal model), operates a bike-share program. The price range was anywhere from $9000 to $11000 per bike rack/station every two years. However, it was clear that the business model is rapidly changing and there may be some efforts to create regional models. Lancaster, York and Harrisburg bike share programs (which all utilize Zagster) will be talking to Zagster soon to discuss some opportunities to partner and the Harrisburg group is looking at expanding to Cumberland County. Clearly, a turn-key-model which collects data (via GPS) and takes on the liability and maintenance is very appealing. **Noel will contact Zagster direct to learn more about their produces and services and to ask them to call into the next built environment committee meeting on February 12.**

Biking Infrastructure

The committee expressed some concern about existing bicycle infrastructure located in the downtown, which has been cited as a potential location for a bike-share due to its proximity to vulnerable populations. Sam, who co-chairs the Borough's bike and pedestrian advisory committee, reported that "sharrows" were discussed at the last meeting which was held on November 29. The committee inquired about the Borough's Multi-Modal Transportation Grant which was used for various bike and pedestrian improvements in the downtown and had at one point included "sharrows" in its scope of work; the committee was interested in understanding how and why "sharrows" had been omitted from the scope of work and what the Borough's plans are for integrating more bicycle safety and education infrastructure in the community. Dr. George, who attended the last bike and pedestrian advisory committee meeting, also noted that the idea of creating a bike lane in the downtown had been discussed too. **The group requested to see the minutes from the last bicycle and pedestrian advisory committee meeting**. Noel offered to contact the President of Council to learn more about the Borough's Plans.

Sam reported that the Borough is exploring connecting the rail trail to Stevens Elementary School in 2019.

Elizabeth reported that the Cumberland Valley Rail Trail is conducting a feasibility study for a one-mile extension.

Hugh shared that communities are using "temporary bike lanes" to experiment with improved biking infrastructure. https://www.fastcompany.com/40459179/these-temporary-bike-lane-barriers-let-cities-experiment-with-better-biking-infrastructure

Hugh asked about the Zagster models in operation in PA and who the users were? Noel said she didn't know if Zagster was able to track the type of user, but they did have GPS and you could track the trips

made from various start to destination points and with some detailed analysis it might be possible to infer user types (i.e. commuter, recreational, etc). Noel said that a planner from Hagerstown had inquired at the trails conference if Zagster has a way for users to pay cash to use the service, because many low-income users may not have access to debit or credits or even a cell phone. Zagster does not offer that currently. The committee thought that was Steve Thomas, who is a member of the Maryland MPO and they asked Noel to contact him to learn more about what is going on in Hagerstown about bike-share models (and any strategies that they have used to better serve low-income populations).

Other Public Transportation Infrastructure
Elizabeth will be meeting with representatives from Commuter Services PA in January to learn more about their services and incentives to increased multi-modes of transportation. She said they have an app that provides an incentive to increase multi-modal usage. Elizabeth will also be meeting with Linda Worthy from the Franklin County Housing Authority and Rabbit Transit in January.

LRTP
Elizabeth clarified that the October minutes should reflect public comment for the LRTP was accepted through November 5th (not October 12). The final LRTP was adopted on November 14, 2018.

CHIP Year 3 Physical Activity Planning/ Built Environment Work Plan
The group reviewed the status of the following strategies that were included in the physical activity action plan/built environment plan:

2.4.3.1
Under *Make recommendations for healthy community design policies in Franklin County*
- Review existing healthy community design ordinances: **Elizabeth said she though this was doable before the end of the program year and would contact Katie Hess to gauge her interest in helping with this project.**
- Create a draft model ordinance: *This task may not be feasible before the end of the FY.*

Dr. George asked if communities do adopt healthy design ordinances; the committee said yes. Here is an example:
- http://planning.lacounty.gov/hdo
- See attached Smart Growth Checklist/Assessment for Rural Communities to Improve Active Living (many examples of how municipalities can make policy-level changes to encourage health living)

Under *Assess feasibility of a youth bike club targeting vulnerable population*
- Implement interest/needs survey at Stevens Elementary: Noel suggested that we need to assess the existing capacity of a local organization to run a youth bike program first. Hugh and Sam said that the Franklin County Cycling Club discussed the idea of a bike club; Noel and Heather will reach out to Karen Keefer to better understand their vision and goals. It was also suggested that we reach out to Chad Zimmerman at CASHs to learn about the Mountain Club model.
- Identify model after school bike club program: Noel shared a "how to" guide as to who to start a youth biking club. She will send a link out to the group.

MEETING SCHEDULEs*
The next regular meeting is on Tuesday, February 12, 2018. The built environment committee meets every other month. *