

# East-West Gateway Council of Governments Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee

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**East-West Gateway Council of Governments**  
One Memorial Drive, Suite 1600 • St. Louis, MO 63102  
Wednesday, March 12, 2014 - - 2 PM

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## Tentative Meeting Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting - - November 13, 2013
3. **Chair, Vice-Chair, TPC nominations** - - Committee
4. **St. Louis County Complete Streets** - - Toby Moriarty, Jesse Jonas, Justin Carney
5. **St. Louis Bike Share** - - Elizabeth Simons
6. **St. Louis City Bicycle Friendly Communities Application Report** - - John Kohler
7. **Transportation Alternatives Program** - - Rachael Pawlak
8. **Other Business**
9. **Events**
  - a. March 19 – APBP Webinar: All In – The Value of Investing in Complete and Green Streets
  - b. April 15 – Illinois Bike Summit
  - c. April 16 – APBP Webinar: Public Health Benefits of Active Transportation
  - d. April 24-26 – Cycling Savvy Course, Ferguson
10. **Future Meetings**
  - a. BPAC Meeting Date: **May 14, 2014**
  - b. Gateway Bike Plan – Working Group Meeting Date: **April 25, 2014**
  - c. BPAC Working Group Meeting Date: **TBD**
11. Adjournment

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**Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee**

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**To:** Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee  
**From:** Rachael Pawlak, East-West Gateway Council of Governments  
**RE:** Draft Minutes from BPAC meeting, November 13, 2013; 2 pm

**In Attendance:**

Todd Antoine (Great Rivers Greenway)  
Marielle Brown (Trailnet)  
Lenora Fisher (CMT)  
Karen Karabell (Citizen)  
John Kohler (St. Louis City)  
Donovan Larson (Regional Citizen)  
Mike Murray (Great Rivers Greenway)  
Larry Welty (MoDOT)  
Jeremy Wolfmeyer (City of O'Fallon, Mo)

**East-West Gateway Staff:**

Larry Grither  
Jason Lange  
Christopher Michael  
Rachael Pawlak  
Sonya Pointer

**Others in Attendance:**

Rita Boyd (Get Up & Go!)  
Steven Gegalis (St. Louis City)  
Sarah Vogt (HeartLands Conservancy)

**1. Introductions**

Marielle Brown called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**2. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting - - July 10, 2013**

The minutes were approved as proposed.

**3. St. Clair County Complete Streets Initiative**

Rita Boyd, Get Up & Go!, and Sarah Vogt, HeartLands Conservancy, presented on the Complete Streets Initiative in St. Clair County, Illinois. The St. Clair County Health Department was awarded a 4-year We Choose Health Grant by the Illinois Department of Public Health. The We Choose Health focus areas include: Complete Streets, school health and safety, and Safe Routes to Schools. The project goal is to increase the capacity of St. Clair County communities to create an active network for 29 incorporated towns and 22 townships. The year 1 objective is to increase the number of communities who actively engage in implementing a progressive Complete Streets Campaign. HeartLands Conservancy has created an Action Plan to help unify the Complete Streets planning process for communities in St. Clair County. To date, Complete Street resolutions have been passed in 6 communities, including: Belleville, Freeburg, Smithton, Mascoutah, Fairview Heights, and Shiloh. For more information on the initiative, please visit <http://getupgo.info/>.

**4. East-West Gateway Long Range Plan – Bike and Pedestrian Priority Projects**

Peter Koeppel, East-West Gateway, presented on Bike/Pedestrian Priority Projects in the Long Range Plan (LRP). The LRP is a 30-year investment blueprint for the region. The LRP will be completed in the Summer of 2015. Peter explained that the current LRP does not feature bike or pedestrian projects, but the new LRP will prioritize bike and pedestrian projects. Peter then asked two questions for discussion: 1) How do we define a regional bike/pedestrian project? 2) How do we

rank or prioritize the projects? Todd Antoine said that historically, it's always been a struggle, in terms of off-street projects, whether those facilities are providing transportation for commuters. Peter stated that trails will be considered as priorities. Todd asked if one of the goals is to figure out the gaps, or areas in the region that don't have bike facilities, like the collar counties that don't have any bike plans. Peter stated that he doesn't have an answer on that yet. Marielle mentioned that the Mississippi River Trail (MRT) is regional in nature, and it connects Minnesota to Louisiana and there are people traveling the trail. John Kohler stated that EWG's current LRP identifies alternative modes of transportation as a priority, however, one of the problems with implementing bike and pedestrian projects is that there isn't a dedicated funding source specifically for those types of projects. Bike and pedestrian projects compete with all of the other STP-S and CMAQ projects. John said EWG should consider setting aside some funding for bike and pedestrian projects. Jason Lange said there are certain funding categories, like the Transportation Alternatives Program, that provides funding specifically for bike and pedestrian type projects. Jason also said that EWG encourages project sponsors that when they are submitting STP-S applications, to consider bike and pedestrian improvements as well. Marielle mentioned that the Chicago MPO's BPAC evaluates the bike or pedestrian STP applications and they use criteria that are established in the Long Range Plan. Peter ended by saying they are not looking for recommendations at the moment, but wanted to introduce the topic, and the BPAC will be engaged in 2014 on the LRP development.

**5. Trailnet Bike Counts**

Trailnet worked with Great Rivers Greenway to do regional bike counts. There were over 3,000 instances of people biking and walking over two days in September. A report will be produced in January. John asked if Trailnet calculated the mode share percentage of bicyclists. Marielle stated that the mode share cannot be captured with the data they collected. They can use the counts to extrapolate how many people might walk or bike throughout the year, but can't move from counts to mode share. Marielle did mention that the latest round of ACS data showed that the City of St. Louis had a 260% increase in cycling from 2012 to 2013. Todd stated that the counts were primarily on Gateway Bike Plan routes. The counts were performed in September 2013, and will be performed yearly. The first counts took place September 2012.

**6. League of American Bicyclists – Bicycle Friendly Community Designation**

John Kohler updated the BPAC on the Bicycle Friendly Community designation status. The City of St. Louis received the Bronze designation, similar to what it has been since 2009. John said that the City is not too happy with the results, and might reapply when Bike St. Louis Phase 3 is implemented. The City is waiting to receive the League's recommendations on how to improve and move up to a higher designation. Ferguson and Clayton also received Bronze designations.

**7. Gateway Bike Plan – Working Group**

Rachael Pawlak updated the BPAC on the Gateway Bike Plan Working Group. The Working Group has met twice in 2013 (August and September) and will be meeting again November 22, 2013. To date, the Working Group has identified intersection and corridor improvement locations. For more information, contact Rachael Pawlak.

**8. Bike St. Louis Phase 3**

Todd Antoine updated the BPAC on Bike St. Louis Phase 3. There have been several meetings with stakeholders, including City aldermen, the City Streets Department, and the Board of Public Service to identify routes. A public meeting was held in early October, where GRG educated the public on the project and requested feedback. There was also an online survey, where 500 comments were received. Todd then explained the Bike St. Louis Phase 3 will update the existing network, upgrading 60 miles of on-street facilities and add 40 new miles, based on the findings in the Gateway Bike Plan. Todd provided a map showing the routes. For more information, please contact Great Rivers Greenway.

**9. BPAC Working Group**

The BPAC Working Group is planning to meet in the beginning of 2014. The goal of the Working Group is to examine the structure of the BPAC, and look at possible improvements.

**10. Other Business**

Marielle discussed the FHWA Memo on Bicycle and Pedestrian Facility Design. In August, FHWA sent out a memo encouraging local agencies to use the NACTO Design Guidelines and the ITE Designing Walkable Urban Thoroughfares Guide. A copy of the memo can be viewed at:

[http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle\\_pedestrian/guidance/design\\_guidance/design\\_flexibility.pdf](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/guidance/design_guidance/design_flexibility.pdf).

**11. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.