



Pedestrian and Bicycle Commission Meeting Agenda Item

Meeting Date:	September 3, 2026
Agenda Item:	Discussion on creating an ordered list of streets for adding bike lanes.
Staff Contact (name, email, phone):	Kevin Boehm, kboehm@whitewater-wi.gov , 262-473-0122

BACKGROUND

(Enter the who, what when, where, why)

Commission member Steven Sahyun has requested discussion regarding the development of an ordered list of streets for potential future bicycle lane implementation based on connectivity, desirability, and the feasibility of accommodating bike lanes where parking restrictions may be required.

Mr. Sahyun proposed the following corridors for consideration:

1. N. Tratt Street from Main Street to Foxglove Road (or Starin Road)
2. Fremont Street from Center Street to Lakefront
3. Elizabeth Street from Main Street (or Highland Street) to Whitewater High School
4. E. Bluff Road from Elkhorn Road to Howard Road
5. E. Main Street from Newcomb Street to Bluff Road
6. Walworth Avenue from Indian Mound Parkway to Janesville Street
7. Indian Mound Parkway from Main Street to Walworth Avenue
8. W. Main Street from Prairie Street to US Highway 12 (or Pearson Lane)

Existing Plan Guidance

The City's adopted Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan already identifies recommended bicycle lane corridors, project prioritization criteria, and implementation procedures for future bicycle and pedestrian improvements.

Several corridors identified by Mr. Sahyun are already included within the recommended bicycle network, including E. Bluff Road, E. Main Street, Walworth Avenue, Indian Mound Parkway, portions of N. Tratt Street, Fremont Street, and Elizabeth Street.

While the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan identifies W. Main Street as a recommended bicycle lane corridor between Indian Mound Parkway and S. Franklin Street, the specific segment identified in Item #8, from Prairie Street to US Highway 12 (or Pearson Lane), does not appear to be specifically identified as a recommended bicycle lane project within the adopted plan.

Project Prioritization

Chapter 7 of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan (pages 55-60) establishes the City's process for evaluating and prioritizing bicycle and pedestrian projects. The plan recommends considering factors such as:

- System connectivity
- Safety and comfort
- Access to community destinations
- Roadway function
- Funding opportunities

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- Community support
 - Coordination with roadway projects

The plan further recommends periodically revisiting project priorities as conditions, funding opportunities, and community needs change.

Whitewater Comprehensive Plan Update

The City is currently working with **RDG Planning & Design** on an update to the Whitewater Comprehensive Plan. As part of that planning process, draft materials have been developed identifying potential priority trail connections, bicycle lanes, and other bicycle and pedestrian improvements for consideration.

These materials may provide additional information for the Commission as it discusses future bicycle facility priorities and potential connections within the community.

It is important to note that these maps and recommendations are preliminary planning materials. They are DRAFT concepts and have not been formally approved or adopted by the City and should not be interpreted as final recommendations or commitments to construct any identified improvement.

The draft mapping materials can be viewed through the project's interactive mapping site:
<https://experience.arcgis.com/template/caf27a7fc32840da91d65b65328536b4>

PREVIOUS ACTIONS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS (Dates, committees, action taken)
N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT (If none, state N/A)
N/A

STAFF RECOMMENDATION
Staff recommends that the Commission continue to utilize the adopted Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan as the current guiding document for bicycle facility planning and prioritization within the City of Whitewater. The Commission should also consider the preliminary bicycle and trail concepts being developed through the ongoing Comprehensive Plan update as potential future planning considerations, recognizing that these concepts remain in draft form and have not been formally adopted by the City. Should the Commission wish to pursue the addition or prioritization of bicycle lanes or other bicycle infrastructure, staff recommends forwarding those recommendations to the Public Works Board for consideration as part of future roadway planning, engineering evaluation, and capital improvement discussions.

ATTACHMENT(S) INCLUDED (If none, state N/A)
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