

Report  
BPAC Meeting  
October 29, 2015

The Bicycle and Pedestrian on September 3, 2015 at the Clark County Extension Service Office, 1400 Fortune Drive, Winchester, Kentucky at 10:00AM. Those in attendance were:

**Attendees:**

Mr. Stephen M. Berry, GISP, Clark County GIS, Walk-Bike Clark County

Mr. Christopher Chaney, Bluegrass Area Development District, Walk-Bike Advocate

Ms. Olivia Whitman, Clark County Health Department

Ms. Linda Barrett, Citizen

Ms. Clare Sipple, Bluegrass Trails and Greenways

Ms. Bobbi Newell, Citizen

Mr. Don Cartwright, Bluegrass Cycling Club

Ms. Cora Heffner, Clark County Community Education & Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Mark Davidson, Bluegrass Cycling Club

Ms. Cindy Banks, Chamber of Commerce

Ms. Nancy Turner, Tourism

Ms. Whitney Leggett, Winchester Sun, Citizen

Ms. Jennifer Tolson, Citizen

Mr. Robert Milward, Volunteer Mounted Patrol

**SESSION CONTENT:**

Stephen Berry introduced the concept of Community Ecology, where all segments of the natural, social and economic community are interrelated. He stated that a change in one can effect a change in the other. However, a voluntary change in one segment may not have the intended effect in the other. So, a community has to work on all segments, simultaneously to raise the community standard.

Mr. Berry announced the award of the 2015-2016 Health Communities, Level 2 Pedestrian/Bicycle Master Plan Development Grant to the Clark County Health Department. He stated that there will be a mandatory training exercise on Thursday, December 3, 2015 in Frankfort, Kentucky. He also stated that the Kentucky Bike-Ped Coordinator had offered to help Winchester and Clark County with this grant and additional support for Walk-Bike Planning efforts. Mr. Berry also stated that there may be an

opportunity to partner with a Planning Organization from North Carolina, who has offered pro-bono services in support of this grant.

Mr. Berry stated that there will be a National Park Service Training at the Jessamine County Extension Office on Saturday, November 7, 2015. He stated that this training was a visioning session related to recreational opportunities along the Kentucky River. He stated anyone that was interested should RSVP, as soon as possible. Mr. Berry stated that this would be a great opportunity to network and gain more allies in the walk-bike community.

#### **Action Items:**

Mr. Berry stated that there are some action items for the BPAC to complete. He stated that the BPAC needs to present the grant and plan to the Winchester City Commission, Clark County Fiscal Court, Planning Commission, and Clark County School Board. He stated that the BPAC should present to get support for the Master Walk-Bike Plan from these legislative bodies.

Mr. Berry stated that Bobbi Newell and Linda Barrett had volunteered to present an "all users" resolution to the Clark County Fiscal Court and Winchester City Commission. He stated that the Judge Executive had mentioned that this could be placed on the agenda for consideration.

Mr. Berry stated that the Surface Transportation Reauthorization and Reform Act of 2015 is under consideration by the U.S. House of Representatives. He encouraged everyone to contact their Congressmen to request that programs for walking and bicycling be preserved or expanded under this legislation.

Mr. Berry stated that the BPAC should capture the due dates of grant applications, as soon as possible, after the Surface Transportation Act is law. He stated that lead time of more than 2 months is required to respond to grants related to transportation.

Mr. Berry stated that the BPAC should reach out to the horse-riding community to help develop rail-trail projects.

#### **Ideas from Meeting:**

Keep ahead of the curve on railways. Reduction in coal demand may lead to railway abandonment. This is an opportunity for the county\city to acquire right of way, before it reverts to land owners.

Plan "slow rides" for families and novice riders in conjunction with the Bluegrass Cycling Club.

Use the winter to plan for, "Build a Better Rail-Trail". This project would transform a small section of abandoned rail bed to a rail-trail for a weekend. This would be similar to the "Build a Better Block" event, but occur in rural areas. Ideas for volunteers include 4-H and Clark County Detention Center Inmates, to prepare the trail for riding and walking. Two events could be planned; one on the east and one on the west sides of the county.