

ATTENDANCE

Planning Commission

Brian Rater, Chair (in person)
Richard Schmidt, Vice-Chair
William Burnett, Alt. Secretary
Jim Payne
Sharon Collins (in person)
Robert Prosek

Township Staff

Alexandra Castrechini, Acting Township Engineer (in person)
Ken Soder, Zoning Officer (in person)
Nicole Pollock, CRPA
Nicole Harter, Public Works Secretary

Audience

C-NET (in person)
Trish Meek, Centre Regional Planning Agency

*****Meeting was hybrid*****

1. CALL TO ORDER – WORK SESSION MEETING

The September 13, 2021 work session meeting was called to order at 4:33 PM by Chair, Mr. Brian Rater.

2. ITEMS OF CORRECTION

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments at this point in the meeting.

4. STATUS ON PENDING ITEMS

Mr. Nicole Pollock gave an overview of pending items. There were no comments from the Planning Commission on the pending work task items.

5. BICYCLE PARKING

The Planning Commission has been discussing required minimum bicycle parking standards in multi-family residential, commercial, and mixed-use developments in the Township to encourage bicycle use and promote connectivity to the pedestrian and bicycle network in the Township. At the June 7, 2021 meeting, the Planning Commission decided it would like to see bicycle parking regulated by use. The Planning Commission also reviewed the bicycle regulations for the other five Centre Region municipalities.

At the July 12, 2021 meeting, Centre Regional Planning Agency Transportation Planner, Trish Meek, provided an overview of why bike parking is important, how it works, and gave examples of regulations.

5. **BICYCLE PARKING (cont.)**

As the Planning Commission requested, Staff has drafted ordinance language for consideration. Additionally, seven Bicycle Friendly Communities (BFCs) were researched:

Community	Population	BFC Status	University
Burlington, VT	42,452	Silver	University of Vermont
Davis, CA	69,289	Platinum	University of California Davis
Boulder, CO	108,090	Platinum	University of Colorado Boulder
Fort Collins, CO	161,000	Platinum	Colorado State University
Madison, WI	258,054	Platinum	University of Wisconsin Madison
Pittsburgh, PA	306,211	Bronze	University of Pittsburgh
Portland, OR	639,863	Platinum	Portland State University

Staff also heavily reviewed the bicycle parking regulations found in Ferguson Township’s Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance as the Planning Commission preferred looking at parking per use similar to Ferguson’s existing regulations. Ferguson Township used the model Change Lab ordinance and adopted much of the applied language.

The following are some key points the Planning Commission should consider while reviewing the draft language:

- Patton Township Zoning ordinance contains the following definitions:
 - Bicycle Parking Space
 - Bicycle Parking Space, Sheltered – *Recommend removal of this definition and amending Bicycle Parking, Long-Term*
 - Bicycle Parking, Long-Term – *Recommend adding “and is fully protected from the weather” to current definition*
 - Bicycle Parking, Short-Term
 - Bicycle Rack
 - Private Garage
- We recommend adding the following definitions as written in the draft:
 - Bike Locker
 - In-Street Bicycle Parking
 - Major Renovation
 - New Development
 - We need feedback if some words need to be defined such as “parking facility”
- The model Change Lab ordinance calls for formulas to determine short and long-term parking. After reviewing the other BFC bike parking ordinances, some use a single formula to calculate the total number of bicycle parking spaces and then a percentage of the total for short and long-term. We believe this is an easier and clearer way to calculate spaces.
- A per bedroom bike parking calculation was used for multi-family buildings, as opposed to per unit. Using a per bedroom calculation is a more adequate indicator to number of bike parking spaces needed. Current multi-family building development trends points to increase in number of bedrooms per unit.
- A minimum of 4 bike parking spaces per use is proposed. To effectively encourage bicycle use, riders need to be confident there will be a safe and secure place to store their bike when they arrive.

5. **BICYCLE PARKING (cont.)**

- Bike parking spaces are proposed for major renovations. It will allow Patton Township to gain bicycle parking for existing structures.
- Bike parking will be required whenever a land development plan is submitted.

Ms. Trish Meek reviewed the draft ordinance language proposed during a PowerPoint Presentation.

Mr. Jim Payne and Mr. William Burnett asked if UC Davis in California was considered. Ms. Meek noted that they didn't go that detailed.

Mr. Burnett was not opposed to having bicycle parking, but felt that there should be more bicycle paths, safer roads, and infrastructure in place before the Township starts requiring bicycle parking facilities. Mr. Rich Schmidt agreed, but also expressed concern at Gray's Woods Elementary school as there are a lot of bicycles on the ground and lack of security.

Ms. Sharon Collins noted that possibly the Township should recommend an adequate number of bicycle parking spaces, rather than make it a requirement.

Mr. Brian Rater noted that he is pleased with the improvements that have been made for biking to campus and agrees that the Township needs to add a requirement for bicycle parking.

Mr. Burnett asked to have more studies done.

Mr. Payne noted that the Township needs to at least have something minimally for requiring bicycle parking.

Ms. Nicole Pollock and Ms. Meek will research more projects and also get more information on Gray's Woods Elementary School, The Colonnade, and Patton Crossing and will provide that information at a future meeting.

6. **REPORTS**

The Patton Township Housing Task Force met on July 20, 2021. The meeting focused on land trusts. The Directors of the Centre County Housing and Land Trust (CCHLT), Missy Schoonover, and the State College Community Land Trust, Colleen Ritter, spoke about their organizations and how they provide affordable housing in the area. The Task Force also discussed working with C-NET to produce a video for public outreach and awareness. On July 14, 2021, several task force members met at a vacant Habitat and CCHLT home on Woodycrest Street for a tour and to learn more about Habitat, the CCHLT, and their partnership in Patton Township.

At the August 17, 2021 meeting, the Task Force worked in their three subgroups: Housing, Zoning, and Visioning. The groups are working on the draft report that will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on October 27, 2021. Three short videos have been created through C-NET to introduce the work of the task force to the residents and invite them to join the conversation: How, What, and Why.

7. **ADJOURN – WORK SESSION MEETING**

The regular meeting was adjourned at 5:45 PM.