SUBJECT: Ordinance establishing Whatcom County Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee

ATTACHMENT: Ordinance

SUMMARY STATEMENT:
This committee will provide input on facilities and programs that will result in increased safety and use of bicycle and pedestrian use as a significant and beneficial mode of transportation and recreation.

COUNCIL ACTION TAKEN:
4/17/2001: Adopted 6-0, Crawford absent, Ord. #2001-013

Related File Numbers:

Ordinance or Resolution Number (this item): Ord. # 2001-013
ORDINANCE NO. 2001-013

Establishing Whatcom County Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee

WHEREAS, it is in the public’s best interests for Whatcom County to plan, fund, develop and implement facilities and programs that will result in the increased safety and use of bicycle and pedestrian travel as a significant and beneficial mode of transportation and recreation; and

WHEREAS, a Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee made up by county residents would bring a cross-section of opinions and view points and provide input for the county on matters relating to bicycle and pedestrian travel as a means of transportation and recreation; and

WHEREAS, this advisory committee would be of assistance in the creation of a system of designated bikeways and their connections with off-street trails; and

WHEREAS, the citizenry of Whatcom County, through this committee, will provide input on priorities for implementing new bikeway and walkway facilities, and standards for the construction and delineating of such bikeways and walkways; and

WHEREAS, this committee will provide assistance to Whatcom County in the development of information programs to promote safe usage of such facilities and establish yearly goals to foster planning and promotion of safe bicycle and pedestrian travel;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, the Whatcom County Council hereby establishes Whatcom County Code 2.140, creating the Whatcom County Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee as outlined in Exhibit A to this ordinance.

ADOPTED this 17th day of April, 2001.

ATTEST:

Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

L. Ward Nelson, Council Chair
APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Randy Watts, Chief Civil Deputy Prosecutor

☑ Approved  ☐ Denied

Pete Kremen, County Executive.
Exhibit A

2.140 | Whatcom County Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee

Sections:
2.140.010 | Established.
2.140.020 | Purpose.
2.140.030 | Function.
2.140.040 | Qualifications
2.140.050 | Membership – Term of Office.
2.140.060 | Ex-Officio Members.
2.140.070 | Organization – Meetings.
2.140.080 | Committee Support.

2.140.010 | Established.
There is hereby established the Whatcom County Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee.

2.140.020 | Purpose.
The committee is created to make recommendations to the Whatcom County Executive, utilizing appropriate existing committees for parks, planning and public works, on matters relating to bicycle and pedestrian travel as a means of transportation and recreation. The focus of this committee will include, but not be limited to: 1) the creation of a system of designated bikeways and their connections with off-street trails; priorities for implementing new bikeway and walkway facilities; 2) standards for the construction and delineating of such bikeways and walkways (including the upgrade of existing roadways); and 3) the development of information programs to promote safe usage of such facilities.

2.140.030 | Function.
Map existing and potential bikeways and walkways in Whatcom County. Maintain and update this map and make it available to county government and the public for planning purposes and for the promotion of safe bicycle and pedestrian travel. Review and make recommendations for a priority ranked list of bikeway and walkway projects. Promote design that is responsive to the requirements of bicycle and pedestrian travel applicable to new construction and the retrofitting of existing roadways. Review and make recommendations regarding the county's maintenance and resurfacing program including signage, striping, marking, drainage, curbing, and other improvements and intersections as they affect bikeways and walkways. Advise county staff and law enforcement on issues, education and enforcement of pertinent existing laws and ordinances that pertain to bicycling and pedestrian issues. Encourage citizen participation in identifying problems, assessing existing facilities, and planning and implementing new projects and programs. Establish and maintain an official BPAC web site for promoting safe bicycling and walking, and communicating current relevant issues.
Qualifications.

To qualify for appointment by the council and/or executive to fill any vacancy on a board, committee or commission, a person shall be a qualified registered voter, resident of the district, agency or group he or she is appointed to represent on a specific board, committee or commission, meeting all of the qualifications of Section 4.20 of the Whatcom County Charter.

Membership – Terms of Office.

The membership shall consist of eleven (11) voting members who are residents of Whatcom County. Applicants must have an interest in promoting the use of bicycle and pedestrian travel for transportation and recreation within the county, be able to work with others, and shall make a commitment to regularly attend scheduled meetings and to participate in the work of the committee. Appointments will be for four years, with the initial appointments staggered with three two-year appointments and four members for two-year terms and four members for four-year terms, to ensure continuity during changeover of membership. Members may be reappointed and may serve two full three-year terms without a break in service. If any member is absent without good cause from three consecutive regular meetings, the Chairperson may declare this position vacant, ratified by a quorum majority vote. All terms will expire on December 31 in their year of completion.

Ex-Officio Members.

Interested citizens may become non-voting members of the subcommittees to assist with the work of the subcommittee.

Organization – Meetings.

Meetings of the committee shall be accessible and open to the public and shall be subject to the Open Meetings Act. The committee shall determine its own meeting schedule, but shall meet at least quarterly. At every meeting, the committee shall schedule an open session to take public comment on bicycle/pedestrian issues. The committee shall adopt its own rules and procedures for the conduct of business. The committee shall elect a chairperson from among its members who shall preside at its meetings.

Committee Support.

The Whatcom County parks and recreation department shall provide assistance to the committee as needed. The committee may request from the executive’s office information from administrative departments as necessary. The committee shall be responsible for developing meeting agendas and keep their own minutes.