

State of Wisconsin Governor's Bicycle Coordinating Council

Governor's Bicycle Coordinating Council

Wednesday, September 17th, 2025

9:30 am to 12:00 pm

Hybrid Meeting: In-Person at the Wisconsin Capitol and Online via Teams

Council Members Present

Andrew Potts, Committee Chair
Chris Squires, Dept. of Transportation
Representative Lee Snodgrass
David Spiegelberg, Dept. of Tourism
Lexi Davis, Dept. of Health Services

Sara Rigelman, Dept. of Natural Resources
Christine Anderson, Dept. of Public Instruction
Scott Peterson, Public Member
Jessica Wineberg, Public Member

Justin Sargent, Senator Larson's Office
Sara Husen, Dept. of Transportation
Kate Sand, Dept. of Transportation
Colleen Hoesly, Dept. of Transportation
Sean Debels, Dept. of Transportation

Kirsten Finn, Wisconsin Bike Fed
Mike Ridgeman, Wisconsin Bike Fed
Gary Goyke, former State Senator
Yang Li, PhD, University of Milwaukee
Xiao Qin, PhD, University of Milwaukee

Others in Attendance

Meeting was called to order by Andrew Potts at 9:34am.

June Minutes Approved

- David Spiegelberg moved to approve the June minutes, and the motion was seconded by Chairman Potts.

Legislative Initiatives

- Senator Larson's Office: Senator Larson Office Chief of Staff Justin Sargent
 - Distributed documents to the committee outlining the differences between the two opposing Knowles-Nelson bills.
- Representative Snodgrass:
 - Democratic bill package is put forward, but not too much movement is expected given the political climate.
 - Legislative news: The three bike/ped bills that were introduced with Sen. Larson are delayed; expected to be out in October.
 - Would love a broader discussion about the safety of e-bikes and recommends this topic as a future agenda item, which was concurred by Chairman Potts, Kirsten Finn and Scott Peterson.
 - Kirsten Finn recommends distinguishing the class of e-bike – as well as e-motos that may be marketed as e-bikes – in any safety analysis.



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DNR Updates: Sarah Rigelman:

- Sarah Rigelman has a scheduling conflict and will leave the meeting after providing updates.
- Budget update: A portion of enumerated projects were approved; 1 fully approved and 6 others for the design. The other requests were either deferred or recommended for the all-agency program. The budget fell short of expectations. Reminder that the DOA website has the Governor's budget.
- Aside from the budget updates, DNR Program updates are provided to the council members, and written updates will be sent out to the council members following this meeting, linked [here](#).

Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Counting Pilot Program: Yang Li, PhD and Xiao Qin, PhD

- Yang Li and Xiao Qin presented data from the Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Counting Pilot Program.
- The presentation to the GBCC is linked [here](#).
- The pilot webpage is linked [here](#).

Week without Driving: Kayla Haas

- Week Without Driving event is from Sept. 29 to Oct. 5, 2025. The event challenges elected officials, planners, and community leaders to go one week without driving. The goal is to experience the transportation system from the perspective of people who cannot drive or choose not to drive. To join the challenge, members can go to the website, linked [here](#).

DOT Updates: Chris Squires and Sara Husen

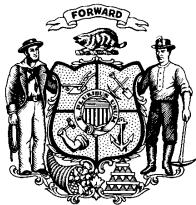
- Sara Husen joined to update on the Active Transportation Plan (ATP): No major updates. Finishing the internal review process, and next it will go to the internal focus groups. The public comment period is in 2026. Updates can be found on the webpage, linked [here](#).
- Chris Squires:
 - Multimodal Design Guide update: We are halfway through second drafts. Still aiming for early 2026 publication date into FDM.
 - WisDOT has been working with partners to submit an application to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) requesting the designation of the Mississippi River Trail in Wisconsin as a US Bike Route. AASHTO's Special Committee on U.S. Route Numbering will meet to review applications in November.

Council Business Items:

- Bike Event Toolkit update: Chris Squires expects that Sarah Rigelman we will have a final version at the December Meeting.
- Membership update: Chris Squires will coordinate with the WisDOT Bureau of Transportation Safety to identify a new representative for the position previously held by Michael Schwendau.

Agency Partner Updates

- Dept. of Tourism: David Spiegelberg
 - Travel Wisconsin updates are provided to the council members, and written updates will be sent out to the council members following this meeting, linked [here](#).



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- Dept. of Health Services: Lexi Davis
 - Updates on the Physical Activity and Nutrition program:
 - Not too much has changed from previous updates; still waiting on Notice of Award from CDC for funding on the upcoming year. Current funding ends at the end of this month.
 - Some positive developments on the federal situation: House and Senate appropriation subcommittees have passed bills to maintain level funding for CDC Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity.
 - Provided DHS receives a Notice of Award from CDC for the coming year, DHS will be releasing grant opportunities for local communities later this fall.
- Bike Fed: Mike Ridgeman
 - Bike Fed will be lobbying this afternoon with former Senator Gary Goyke to discuss their legislative agenda, including the Knowles-Nelson bill, Rep. Snodgrass's bills, and Safe Streets Saves Lives Act.
 - This spring, Bike Fed will do a Trail Caucus Ride on a state trail that goes through several legislative districts to gain bipartisan participation and support.
 - Bike Fed is hosting the Healthy Community Summit April 23-24 in Wausau. Information can be found [here](#).

Wrap-up and Upcoming agenda items:

- Robert Schneider, PhD from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee will share a presentation on a research study covering Shifts in Pedestrian and Bicyclist Injuries at the December Council meeting
- Additional discussion on E-bikes safety and policy will be scheduled for a future Council meeting
- Toolkit update
- Safe Streets Saves Lives bill update

Motion to Adjourn: David Spiegelberg moved to adjourn the meeting, and the motion was seconded by Chairman Potts. Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:26 am.