
***Minutes of the Arlington Heights Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission
Thursday, September 11, 2025 in the Community Room at Village Hall***

COMMISSION MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Richard Lenski
Paul Danko
Dr. Jay Virchow
Juergen Juffa
Lyn Sakata

MEMBERS ABSENT:

David Easley
Charlotte Obodzinski

STAFF PRESENT:

Daniel Hoscilo, Public Works & Engineering Liaison, VAH

OTHERS PRESENT:

Pete Schmelzer, Arlington Heights Bike Club
Ford Sakata, Arlington Heights Bike Club

RESIDENTS IN ATTENDANCE:

Brian Larson
Rob Granecki
Brian Bennett
Keith Moens

CALL TO ORDER:

A quorum being present, R. Lenski called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

BPAC Meeting Minutes from April 17, 2025 and August 5, 2025 meetings: L. Sakata made motion to approve both meeting's minutes, seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Minutes signed and dated.

REPORTS:

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

STAFF REPORT:

D. Hoscilo brought a request from Assistant Village Engineer, Nanci Julius regarding the redevelopment of International Plaza, 120 E. Golf Road. Per N. Julius, the Village is reviewing a redevelopment proposal for International Plaza at 120 E Golf Road. Staff requested a 10-ft sidewalk with a parkway along Golf Road and a path connection from Golf Road to Prairie Park. The developer is resisting the path, citing setback concerns and limited park use. Village staff disagree, noting nearby complexes already connect to the park and that the south side of town lacks bike and pedestrian facilities. The Village is requesting the committee's feedback on supporting a path connection.

Discussion followed. J. Virchow made a motion to support the development of a bicycle path connecting Golf Road to part of this new development and to do so in a letter to the Village Board. L. Sakata seconded motion; motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Electric Bike Activity (E-Bikes):

R. Lenski asked if everyone received a copy of his report that he created based on the E-Bike discussion from the last BPAC meeting. Discussion/comments followed.

-J. Juffa wanted the matrix to be made compliant with the IL Code of Statutes. 1) define low speed E-Scooters to 10 mph 2) Class 3 E-Bike cannot be ridden by children under 16 y/o.

-D. Hoscilo reminded the committee that BPAC recommendations will be presented to the VAH Village Board as BPAC's advice/recommendation in this matter.

-Discussion followed on other municipalities new ordinances.

-Remark by J. Virchow. Topic brought up on age requirements and that it comes down to enforcement. He stated he felt adults should be excluded because they are licensed drivers. R. Lenski agreed. J. Juffa discussed enforcement and the need to "keep it simple".

-Based on discussion, R. Lenski struck "helmets required" from the list.

-R. Lenski went over his report item by item:

1. Under 16 y/o permitted to ride E-Toy, Bicycle, Class 1,2,3 E-Bikes, Low Speed E-Scooters (No pocket bikes). J. Juffa was concerned about the Class 3 speeds/throttles. Discussion on description of classes. B. Larson read definitions and Class 3 is pedal assist only. Discussion on throttles, was proposed there be an age limit of 16 y/o on all throttle bikes.

2. Under 16 y/o BPAC is ok with Class 1,3 and Class 2 with no throttle. Discussion followed on how it would be enforced by Police.

3. Riders must have a valid driver license to drive any throttle E-Bike.

4. Under 16 y/o riding high speed scooters prohibited.

5. Discussion on over 16 y/o, all allowed with a driver's license.

6. Sidewalks, discussion followed. All agreed on only low speed E-Scooter and Class 1 E-Bikes allowed on sidewalks.

7. Bike lanes discussed.

8. Shared use paths discussed. D. Hoscilo clarified and said that anything larger than 5 feet is considered shared use path. BPAC ok with Class 1 E-Bikes and low speed E-Scooters riding on shared use paths.

9. Streets, all ok on roads. J. Juffa brought up the inconsistencies with Police proposed changes.

-J. Juffa asked D. Hoscilo what roads were considered "State Highways" in VAH. D. Hoscilo said Northwest Hwy, Arlington Heights Rd, Palatine Rd, Golf Rd and more.

-R. Lenski read off other caveats that he wanted to include in the recommendations.

1. E-Motos are devices with more than 750 watts. Discussion on terminology discussed. F. Sakata said the definition, as per Ride Illinois, is "Motor is greater than 750 watts, capable of exceeding 20 mph, has throttle." Agreed to adopt the Ride IL definition.

2. Encourage environmentally friendly transportation with E-Devices.

3. Low E-Speed Scooters are 10 mph and promote responsible transportation options for youth.

4. Follow existing rules for downtown pedestrian areas.

5. Requirements for brakes.

6. Riders must comply with all rules of the road.

J. Juffa suggested changes be made to this overview rough draft and then BPAC will revisit before the beginning of November. R. Lenski went over the changes he will make on the overview. Discussion followed. R. Lenski will update and get the report out to members before the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

E-Bikes:

-F. Sakata, agree with all proposed, but wanted to stress that parent and child education is necessary.

-D. Hoscilo explained all ways that once rules are adopted VAH will work with the Social Media

Engagement Officer to get all the information out there and work with Schools and Park District for ways

to educate.

-B. Larsen, thanked BPAC. Asked for reconsideration on restrictions to allow Class 2 on a shared use path. He explained that the Class 2 maxes out on speed at 20 mph.

-R. Granecki, spoke regarding education, would like to organize bike safety classes. Wants language to encourage and support VAH to continue to build out shared path network. D. Hoscilo spoke on topic.

-B. Bennett, expressed how proud he was of his 7th grade son for his willingness to learn about government, as he spoke at the Village Board meeting. He said they are owners of a Class 2 E-Bike. He wants BPAC to keep encourage inclusion for children and to keep in mind that there are children with physical limitations, such as asthma, and the use of an E-bike is beneficial. He also brought up Huber boards and one wheel skate boards and would like regulations put on those too.

-K. Moens, questioned what the BPAC's role in these discussions were. BPAC explained that they are drafting recommendations for the Village Board.

- P. Schmelzer, commented and said the VAH Bike Club has over 200 members, are not an entity of VAH and can write their own club rules. They do not allow anyone under the age of 18 y/o ride in their club unless accompanied by a guardian. They do not allow any type of throttle assist bikes of any kind on their rides. They are grateful to the BPAC for their emphasis on safety for all.

Miscellaneous Public Discussion:

-K. Moens, wanted to follow up on email he sent the BPAC regarding current threshold for speed calming within VAH and a summary of Mount Prospect's Friendly Neighborhood Streets Program. D. Hoscilo said he forwarded email to BPAC. R. Lenski along with others said they did not review.

- R. Granecki, lives in Westgate and they participate in the National Walk Roll to School Initiative. Explained about next event. Will forward info to BPAC.

PROJECT UPDATES:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

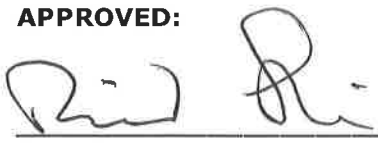
OTHER BUSINESS:

Proposed date for next meeting is October 9, 2025, 7:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

P Danko moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded and the motion carried unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

APPROVED:



Secretary

10/9/2025

Date