



Built Environment Work Group
Teleconference, 8/12/08

Present: Teresa, Elaine, Dani, Rick, Larry, Brenda, Eric, Lindsay, Brian
Agenda

Built Environment Work Group Next Steps:

1. Review team members and update (do we need to add anyone to our group?)

Team members: Teresa Wiemerslage, Rick Edwards, Scot Michaelson, Lindsay Erdman, Elaine Govern, Brian Rodenberg, Rob Hughes, Ronda Hughes, Eric Nordschow, Tim Engelhardt, Danielle Bucknell and Larry McGee (Brenda Ranum and Ann Mansfield)

Group discussed adding RC&D Deneb Woods. Teresa will ask her. Talked about adding someone to represent schools and conservation boards from each county. At this time, Brian and Tim represent those groups. As we move forward with the Initiative, membership can be addressed again.

Discussed where the SRTS grant needs to fall—with the BE WG or the School WG. More info will be available after meeting with Deneb. Brian commented while schools need to be involved, the city will be key to the implementation, so the BE WG seems to fit better.

2. Consider selecting a Group Leader to lead group meetings and serve as a liaison with the Co-Conveners

The group talked about having co-leaders. Dani Bucknell and Rick Edwards offered to help for the remainder of the planning phase.

3. Review purpose of work group and revise, if needed

Purpose: Review and gather data around the inviting options and spaces for physical activity in the region. The domains that will be reviewed include: Schools, Parks and Recreation, Active Transportation and Community Design/Land Use. This data will help inform the Regional Team on the current reality for our fitness environment and potential strategies to increase access to safe and inviting activity options and spaces for physical activity and play.

Group agreed that our purpose stills stands. We need to start identifying the gaps, look for patterns and determine what the data tells us.

The flooding caused damage to the BE. Trails washed out, playgrounds need repair from flooding, etc. Group discussed the BE Inventory. We need to go over the county lists and mark which places were flooded (Flooded Status). As FEMA funds are received, repairs will be made. The BE WG can help with the assessments and recommendations for priority areas (relocation and endorsement). Some areas will not be repaired. Relocation vs. Repair for some items. The photos we have collected will be useful.

4. Anticipated next steps/timeline for our work group

Discussion turned to the inventory books.

- The books are 80% finished.
- Each county has a list of indoor and outdoor facilities. Teresa will update the lists and share with the group at the Aug 27 Regional Team meeting.
- County reps need to review their lists and mark flooded or damaged places.
- Places on the list need to be marked as complete, incomplete or missing.

- Inventories need to be finished. Some of the indoor facilities will have brochures with hours, costs and equipment. Dani has access to this info.
- Some schools offer their facilities for public use. We need to inventory the non-school use of those facilities. Dani and Rick will work on a survey to send to the schools (superintendents or activity directors)—due Aug 27. Ask if the schools have policies that work for them and if they would share.
- Once this information is collected, we can use it to help schools develop policies or make recommendations for facility use. Help communities set long-range goals.
- Goal to have the books reviewed at the August 27 Regional Team meeting. Information can be taken back to the county teams in Sept. WG meets in Sept to finalize the inventory and start looking at strategies.
- Need to ask, “Are people using the facilities? How do we know?”
- Community Foundations have been funding projects in the counties for 3 years (some longer). We could collect a list of awards related to the BE. This would serve as a baseline to show support. It is anticipated that foundations will receive requests in 2009 to repair flood damaged infrastructure.

5. Anticipate budget needs between April 2009 – August 2009

- May have to pay mileage to someone to have them finish the photos of outdoor facilities
- May have to pay mileage to WG members to attend a working meeting to discuss strategies.
- May need postage to mail some surveys.

6. Review meeting dates and times (face-to-face and/or teleconference)

- Meeting for 30 minutes at the next Regional Team meeting on Aug 27. Teresa will have an updated report on the status of the indoor inventory.
- Dani & Rick will have a school questionnaire ready to review
- Teresa will have the county lists updated for county reps to mark complete, incomplete or missing.
- Teresa will have books for county members to take back to their county teams for feedback.
- Update on SRTS
- Set a next time to meet—need to start looking for gaps and making priorities for strategies.

7. Other items

- Rebuilding efforts in need of TAP Team assistance? Communities that need to rebuild have the opportunity to make the new areas more user friendly and safer. The TAP team can offer recommendations for equipment and planning.
- Hog roast Monday September 8 with TAP Communications team members at Carol Glawes.
- Status of Walkable/Bikeable Mapping Project with Chris Seeger and Kata McCarville (Calmar, Elkader, Cresco and Fayette)
 - Calmar and Fayette maps are virtually done. Still waiting on some photos for the 4 communities.
 - Postville barrier mapping data is collected. Waiting for the final report.
 - Waukon still needs to collect data on the south side.
- Status of Safe Routes to School –Teresa is meeting with Deneb tomorrow and will share a report.