

City of West Branch

~A Heritage for Success~

110 N. Poplar Street • PO Box 218 • West Branch, Iowa 52358
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WEST BRANCH PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING

Wednesday, June 18, 2014 • 6:30 p.m.

West Branch City Council Chambers, 110 N. Poplar St.

Council Quorum May Be Present

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Discussion on Potential Improvements to Heritage Square
4. Discussion on Potential Improvements to Enlow Parking Lot Area
5. Recommendation to City Council and Staff on purchase of bike racks./Move to action.
6. Adjourn

West Branch Preservation Commission Members: Alan Bohanan, John Fuller, Peggie Jeffries, Mackenzie Krob, Lou Picek

West Branch Preservation Commission Honorary Members: Jerry Fleagle, Lynn Smith, Cary Wiesner

Mayor: Mark Worrell • **Council Members:** Jordan Ellyson, Colton Miller, Brian Pierce, Tim Shields, Mary Beth Stevenson

City Administrator/Clerk: Matt Muckler • **Fire Chief:** Kevin Stoolman • **Library Director:** Nick Shimmin

Parks & Rec Director: Melissa Russell • **Police Chief:** Mike Horihan • **Public Works Director:** Matt Goodale

From: [Ribble, Michelle M](#)
To: [Matt Muckler](#)
Subject: RE: Request for Information - Bike Racks
Date: Tuesday, June 10, 2014 2:42:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi Matt,

Currently, I send a requisition to UI's Landscape Services to pay for racks and installation and they purchase the racks for the project. I'm awaiting feedback from their manager, Scott Gritsch on whether they'll be ordering racks anytime soon. I think the last time I had them do some work the racks were about \$300 - \$350 for a BR4 Linear rack.

Michelle

From: Matt Muckler [mailto:matt@westbranchiowa.org]
Sent: Monday, June 09, 2014 11:55 AM
To: Ribble, Michelle M
Subject: RE: Request for Information - Bike Racks

Hi Michelle,

Two quick follow-up questions:

- 1) Have you purchased any racks recently? I was curious what the latest prices were on the 4' sections.
- 2) Are you planning to purchase more racks anytime soon? I am asking because I wonder if we both might benefit from the purchase of larger quantities.

Thanks, Matt

Matt Muckler

City Administrator
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matt@westbranchiowa.org

From: Ribble, Michelle M [mailto:michelle-ribble@uiowa.edu]
Sent: Thursday, June 5, 2014 11:16 AM
To: matt@westbranchiowa.org
Subject: FW: Request for Information - Bike Racks

Hi Matt,

As a follow-up to my phone message, below are my thoughts on bike parking.

1. University of Iowa's standard bike rack is the Linear rack from Function First Bike Security

<http://bikerack.com/linear-rack>

- a. We use the same rack for consistency in look and ease of use (on occasion we have used a different rack if warranted)
- b. Linear rack generally gets fully utilized (bikes don't take up more space than intended; Ribbon racks usually don't get fully utilized because bike don't lock up properly to them)
- c. Galvanized finish alone is very durable. Majority of our racks have the extra thermo-plastic coating but that does wear out over time. We began installing racks in 1995 and now some are looking weathered. I intended to inventory the condition of all of the bike racks and determine which ones need to be replaced. The racks that were galvanized only and no coating look great. We will not need to replace them.
- d. We stopped buy the 10' linear racks because they tended to get damaged during delivery. We buy two 4' racks instead. You get the same capacity and dimensions but no worries with racks arriving damaged.
- e.



2. My thoughts on the Park It Bike racks recycled plastic racks

- a. This design is difficult for U-locks to use
- b. Bikes are more susceptible to having their wheels bent when using these racks since the wheel is the only part of the bike in the rack.
- c. Depending on which model, this design may not get fully utilized because of the bikes will be too close together.
- d. This design looks confusing for users; they may not know which opening they are supposed to lock their bike to.



3. The City of Iowa City uses the Cora rack <http://cora.com/>
 - a. This is easy to use and provides a lot of stability for the bike when it is parked in the rack.



b.

If this is not the type of input you were seeking or if you have other questions, feel free to contact me.

Thanks, Michelle

Michelle Ribble
Commuter Programs Manager
University of Iowa Parking & Transportation Dept.
T: 319-384-4457
F: 319-335-6649
www.uiowa.edu/parking

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From: Ricketts, David C
Sent: Wednesday, June 04, 2014 2:06 PM
To: Matt Muckler
Cc: Ribble, Michelle M; Brus, Carrie
Subject: Re: Request for Information - Bike Racks

Matt, thank you for the request. I will ask Michelle Ribble, our Commuter Programs Manager and our "bike person" to give you a call.

Dave

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 4, 2014, at 13:50, "Matt Muckler" <matt@westbranchiowa.org> wrote:

Hello David,

The City of West Branch is currently working to locate about a half-dozen bike racks in our city in order to encourage cycling and visitors to our downtown. Our proposed locations include three downtown businesses, the City Office, at the trailhead of the Hoover Nature Trail and in Beranek Park. Locating bike racks in downtown was one of the annual goals adopted by our City Council.

This initiative was discussed at a recent West Branch Preservation Commission Meeting. One of the Commission members, John W. Fulller, Professor at the University of Iowa School of Urban and Regional Planning, suggested that I contact you concerning this project. Our original search led us to [ParkItBikeRacks.com](http://www.parkitbikeracks.com), who offer recycled plastic bike racks that look like they would fit well in our historic downtown area: <http://www.parkitbikeracks.com/recycled-plastic-bike-racks.html>.

John thought that you might have some suggestions for us in terms of purchasing bike racks that are user-friendly and would not result in damage to bicycles. Any suggestions that you might provide would be appreciated.

Thanks, Matt

Matt Muckler
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