



Connecticut Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board

Volunteer board members advising agencies of the state on policies, programs, and facilities for bicycles and pedestrians.

2800 Berlin Turnpike • Newington, CT 06111-4113
ctbikepedboard@gmail.com



REGULAR MEETING NOTES

Friday November 18, 2022 9 AM

This meeting will be held over TEAMS:

Microsoft Teams meeting

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1 Call to Order/Roll Call

Sandy Fry (Chair), Brian Kent (Vice-Chair), Joe Balskus (Secretary), Francis Pickering, Rod Parlee, Mark Moriarty, Neil Pade, Al Sylvestre, Sue Smith, Tom Branchaud

Anna Bergeron, CTDOT
Craig Babowicz, CTDOT
Dimitri Koutoumbas, OSTA
Sara Radasci, CTDOT
Amy Watkins, Watch For Me CT
Charles Harlow, Fuss & O'Neill
Jay Stange, Transport Hartford
Jacob Robison, New Haven Planning
Cindy Jacobs, Wethersfield
Kim Bradley, CTDEEP
Caitlin Palmer, CRCOG
Kevin Tedesco, AECOMM
Doug Hausladen, Park New Haven
Bob Dickinson, Bloomfield

- 1.1 Minutes, October 28 meeting
Accepted by the Board

2.0 Reports/Presentations

DOT Projects, News, Updates:

Vulnerable users guide – FHWA released guidance and DOT engineers have been updated by FHWA

Russell Road Newington – ongoing

NOTE TO PERSONS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:

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Spread sheet sent to CTDOT by board, this will show progress with CS. Anna will work to get this filled out.

ADA presentation follow up – we had asked Katherine to let us know if sidewalk gaps will be identified as part of the curb ramp inventory. Anna will follow up on this.

Eminent domain for trails projects, CTDOT preparing new policy/legislative request for new bill to address issue. This is a complicated issue and the Board will wait to hear how DOT is proceeding before making specific recommendations on this topic.

3.0 Old Business

3.1 Meeting to discuss slide show – November 20

3.2 Annual Report

Suggestions that came into the board were summarized and are attached here

Fee in lieu of sidewalks needs to be included in annual report recommendations

Need to recognize the construction work zone pilot automatic speed enforcement (need more information on the status of that)

Progress with the last five years (table created, and attached to these minutes) to be edited

Annual bike ped count questions – we would like to be able to show changes in numbers of people biking and walking, but that data is hard to come by. CRCOG has been doing regular bike ped counts for several years. Caitlin will check to see if they have data that can be compared over time. The report should note the need for data – perhaps continuous counters in some locations? Kim noted that the Uconn count project found it important to have counts plus surveys of users. We probably want a broad statement about the need for data in the report – Kim says she can provide.

Ebikes should be included

Micromobility be included? action for board to consider in the coming year to review complete streets legislation, does it include all the users we think it should? Can we consider scooter users as vulnerable users?

Subcommittee formed for writing annual report, should include visuals Including Rod, Al, Sue, Joe, Sandy

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Mark to provide information with tables to include and be formatted. He will search for a map of the statewide trail system. Photos and graphics are powerful.

Should address the ebike rebate program

Does the administration want to leave a legacy – moonshot to complete the trails in the state??

Should keep the report to under 10 pages.

Agreed that there can be a communication issue with LTAs which hurts complete streets results. We will include an action item to conduct a survey of LTAs.

4.0 New Business

4.1 Coordinator for LAB summit
Support for Sue Smith to attend. Would be great if other board members could attend.

Board to discuss schedule for 2023 at December 2022 meeting. Will discuss whether any will be in person. Maybe we would like to move the meetings around and have opportunities to see innovative CS infrastructure as part of meetings.

I-95 East PEL Study being conducted by CTDOT. Board to provide comments on Existing Conditions.

5.0 Input

5.1 Input from COG's
No report.

5.2 Input from Visitors (5 minutes)
No report.

5.3 Transport Hartford
Transport Hartford Summit on Monday, with 430pm session on regional bike connections
Attended CRCOG MTP public meetings held this week. High speed arterials are an issue for vulnerable users

5.4 CT Rail Council
Annual report being developed
Advocating for additional Community Connectivity Grant applications for

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towns with rail stations

Invited Board to present CTBPAB report to CT Rail Council meeting in future

5.5 CTDEEP Trails and Greenways:

CT Rec Trails Grant applications for 2023 to be released on Nov 30th, due March 2023, with \$9 million available (near doubling of funds from past years)
Webinar in December to be scheduled for review and scoring of applications (DEI and more transparent scoring)

5.6 CT Greenways Council/ECGA

No report.

5.7 BikeWalk CT

No report.

5.8 Watch for Me CT

No report.

5.9 CT Trails Program

Data collection at UConn. No report.

Next Meeting – December 16, 2022, 9 AM

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Input for CTBPAB annual report

Make the report format easy to follow with these clear categories – Progress, Recommendations, Action but employ Title, Subtitle, Body (enumerated and bulleted) for the layout within each category.

PROGRESS

CTDOT

- The CTDOT provides support to communities and agencies doing planning and implementation projects using the new federal grant programs that are so supportive of improving bicycle and pedestrian safety and connectivity. These include the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) and the Reconnecting Communities Grants that came out this year were nice additions funding bicycle and pedestrian safety and connectivity.
- Also, some impactful Build Grants came into the State. (is this a DOT item or region al?)
- List specific state roads where bicycle lanes/sharrows were added (as applicable)
- I feel like a map would be helpful for showing project locations. Especially as it relates to the various multi-use trails around the state

Insert table showing last 5 year's progress

Other state agencies

Regional and local progress

- The Regional Transportation Safety Plans (RTSP) completed through CDOT for each RPO did a nice job identifying high crash locations and corridors including areas for vulnerable users like peds and bicyclists

CTBPAB Activity

- A member of the CTBPAB organized lobby day meetings for CT as part of the League of American Bicyclist's 22nd Annual National Bike Summit. Meetings were held March 30 on Capitol Hill with CT's 2 Senate offices and 5 Representative offices. We asked for support for the Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP) and the Healthy Streets Program. A group of 12 CT bike/ped advocates attended those meetings. All CT congressional offices concurred with providing support for our 'asks'.
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RECOMMENDATIONS

FACILITY RELATED

- We talked at length about the current size of vehicles being a factor in more severe injuries occurring when a bike or ped/vehicle crash occurs. This should make its way into the Annual Report. I think this further justifies the need for separated facilities

PROGRESS, PAST 5 YEARS

PROGRESS WITH COMPLETE STREETS AND BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN FRIENDLY FACILITIES	YEAR				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
STATE ROADWAYS					
Miles of sidewalk constructed			4.9	3.5	
Road Safety Audits conducted					
Number			0	3	
miles of roadway covered			0	7	
ADA Improvement Budget	\$6 million	\$6 million	\$5 million	\$5 million	
Miles of roads with wider shoulders as part of repaving		118	166	198	
Miles of chip sealed roads where shoulder was given bike friendly treatment.			0		
Complete Streets Design Reviews completed	114	119	113		
signals upgraded with pedestrian controls					
Enhanced pedestrian signage and pavement markings at uncontrolled intersections	1200		49		33
LOCAL ROADS					
Community Connectivity Grants awarded					
Community Connectivity projects initiated					
Community Connectivity projects completed					
Enhanced pedestrian signage and pavement markings at uncontrolled intersections		1000			
TRAILS					
Miles of trail completed, Rec Trails Program					
Miles of trail completed, federal funding					
SAFETY OUTREACH					
Annual budget Watch for Me CT	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$350,000	\$885,000	
CRASH DATA					
Percent of Motor Vehicle crashes involving bicyclists	<1%				
Bicyclist fatalities	1				
Bicyclist fatalities as percent of total fatalities	<1%				
Bicyclist injuries	425				
Bicyclist injuries as percent of total injuries	<1%				
Percent of Motor Vehicle crashes involving pedestrians	<1%				
Pedestrian Fatalities	60				
Pedestrian fatalities as percent of total fatalities	20%				
Pedestrian Injuries	1526				
Pedestrian injuries as percent of total injuries	0.06%				