

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



2800 Berlin Turnpike • Newington, CT 06111-4113 <a href="mailto:ctbikepedboard@gmail.com">ctbikepedboard@gmail.com</a>

## **REGULAR MEETING NOTES**

Tuesday August 23, 2016, 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM DOT Headquarters, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT 06111, Room B

## 1.0 Preliminaries

#### 1.1 Call to Order/Roll Call

#### **Board Members**

Sandy Fry (Vice Chair), Joe Balskus (Secretary), Rod Parlee, Emily Provonsha, Francis Pickering, Deb Dauphinais, Ray Rauth, Tom Branchaud (via phone)

#### Absent

Neil Pade (Chair), Al Sylvestre

#### DOT

Colleen Kissane

#### Guests

**Bob Dickinson** 

## 1.2 Introduction of New Member

Tom Branchaud

## 1.3 Minutes, May 24, 2016

Corrected May notes for Leading Pedestrian Indicator at Summer at Hoyt intersection

WCCOG - corrected to WestCOG

Jon Petersen name corrected Minutes approved by Board

July meeting notes not reviewed

## 1.4 Input from Visitors (5 minutes)

Bob Dickinson recommendations on lane widths for State DOT to consider based upon speeds (ie, 10 ft for 30mph or less, and so on). Bob also suggested that we consider the Dutch advisory lanes – single center lane with opposing 5' bike lanes on either side. When cars approach from each direction, they have to yield, because there is only a single travel lane. The group decided that CT may not be ready for this at this time.



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# 2.0 Reports

# 2.1 DOT Projects and News

- State Bike-Ped Plan

October 5 next steering committee meeting of state bike ped plan. Public meetings around CT will follow. The project consultant will present to the board next month.

- Community Connectivity Program and Vendor In Place Program Community connectivity going strong RSA, terrific experience, short, medium and long term recommendations. Half of the RSA's have been completed (40 of 80), reports for 11 are posted on line. Mark Carlino is running program (Colleen works for Mark) and it has not been decided yet how construction funds for the Community Connectivity program will be distributed. DOT would like to keep it simple and it may be run through the regions. Not clear that an RSA is required to receive funding, but it is useful in laying out recommendations, that are already endorsed by DOT.
- Highway Safety Plan

HSIP – first draft submitted and commented on, 2nd draft coming out in September and will be distributed for comment.

- Posting of 2015 Annual Report (removed from agenda – already posted on DOT website per last month discussion)
- Project tracking/ process example DOT October presentation on details of sample RSA project – bike ped assessment form, Wallingford, covers the policy and planning, highway design
- Other

Highway Design manual – moving slowly, annual report recommendation should include consideration for getting consultant get on board Complete streets committee hasn't convened since 2009

Joe Cristalli – Colleen to discuss with him Tom Maziarz's comments on NPR regarding the need for a share the road campaign. She will report back.

Ray inquired about CTDOT eradicating pavement markings – is this ever done, without a repaving job, to allow for bike lanes, or wider shoulders? Stamford – applying for new eradication method on High Ridge Road, this uses water blasting. DOT to report on eradication of pavement markings at next meeting.

Safe Routes to School program – done end of September. No more dedicated funding - VN – consultant tasks/deliverables – workshop with details for a school/municipality on how to do an assessment as a package. Municipalities can do on their own, VN's work will provide guidance for how to do the



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assessment. DOT is considering providing a Safe Routes project solicitation, possibly designating TAP funding for this program. If such a program does go forward, in all likelihood, a town would need a safe routes plan to access infrastructure funding. Colleen also noted that some of the recommendations of the RSA's address some items related Safe Routes to Schools

State-wide busing study suggestion? – the Board (Francis specifically) will look into whether we can do an analysis of school bus transportation that might make a convincing argument for the importance of safe routes programs. He thinks UCONN tried to get this type study funded. He will report on this.

Next month, can DOT give us updates on various trail projects, specifically, Manchester/Bolton – project status ongoing; Farmington canal; Putnam Bridge.

The board can find the Plainville/Southington gap closure project status online www.gapclosurestudy.com

# 2.2 Bike Walk CT Update

Discover bike rides in Glastonbury Aug 21 and scheduled for New Britain on September 25

Executive director expected to be hired next month, BWCT would like their ED to serve on the CT Bike Ped Board, if an appointment can be made.

### 3.0 Old Business

#### 3.1 2015-2016 Annual Report Dissemination

Copies to be provided next month, Francis to send 2 copies to every board member (Secretary to send email request addresses)

Submitted to state local traffic authorities

## 3.2 2015-2016 Report Implementation/ Monitoring

Request for DOT Commissioner meeting – resend (Sandy)
BikeWalk CT met with Commissioner separately – he mentioned that DOT is looking at Route 32 pedestrian fatality and how to make this road safer for pedestrians

## 3.3 2016 Work Plan

Department of Education – Emily following up with State Board MPO coordination on Complete Streets, CRCOG received and OPM TOD grant to develop a CS plan for the region State police – no report (Al was to get a contact) Municipal recommendations – LTA outreach completed

Transportation committee – Rod/Deb – recommendations on legislation on crosswalks and OLR (Office of Legislative Research) on electric bikes – tabled for next meeting



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People for bikes has reviewed issues and has model legislation and can customize for CT

Board members should experience ebikes, need to consider how to allow on roadways – CT motor vehicle laws classify ebikes as mopeds, could be considered as motor driven cycle

Class 1 – pedal assist, cut out at 20 mph

Class 2 - throttle assist, cut out at 20mph

Class 3 – cut out at 28mph

The model legislation (see what CA adopted) allows only Class 1 and class 2. Board still wants OLR to review. Deb can provide more information in future. It was noted that People for Bikes reached out to cTDOT to ask if they are have an interest in modifying legislation to better define ebikes. DOT referred the query to CTBPAB, Neil replied back to DOT that the ask was for DOT's opinion. No more on that.

OSTA monitoring - meeting with OSTA this month (Joe)

State police – no report

DMV - hold

Municipalities – tabled

Monitor action on complete streets - ongoing

Examine vulnerable user law protections - Emily

Support bike share – ongoing with New Haven startup. For our next report, lets list every bike share we are aware of operating in the state – there are numerous:

Goodwin College

Yale

BiCi Co

Stamford - Harbor Pointe

Simsbury

Fairfield

Mystic and New London

New apartment building Constitution plaza

UCONN bike library

Monitor legislative session – forthcoming

**SUCCESS:** Emily noted success with a 2015 recommendation: bike racks have been added on every single new Metro North car



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#### **IDEAS FOR 2016 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Red light running cameras – Stamford considering, will talk to New Haven

Right Turn on Red – prohibit at trail crossings? Is it too difficult to get OSTA to approve?

Ray's walk to be noted in annual report – Tom Maziarz on NPR comment on ice cream shop and added crosswalk (did he mean shake shack? We are not sure what he was referring to). We can use the Route 1 walk to help to explain our recommendations, and the need for better bike ped facilities. Emily suggested that we also note that for a proposed Route 1 BRT to be most effective, better bike and ped access is needed. It was also noted that better bike ped access to train stations may remove some traffic from Route 1 and add more train passengers. (Emily and sandy will work on this aspect of the report.)

State should have specific funding for safe routes to schools – through DOT

DOT should hire a consultant to get the Design Manual update done

Perhaps something about the need for enforcement (especially with respect to RTOR)

# 3.4 Distribution of Bicycle Laws Handout for Enforcement Officers Submitted to LTA as part of outreach email

# 4.0 New Business

## 4.1 Review of request for 10' lane policy

Recommendation to be included in the revised design manual and provide supportive research .

# **4.2** Review of possible presentation with CTASLA Tabled.

# 4.3 Review of possible presentation with CT Main Street Tabled.

#### 4.3 Annual Nomination of Officers

Nominations were opened and the following nominations were received: Chair – Neil Pade; Vice Chair – Sandy fry; Secretary – Joe Balskus.

# **4.4 Annual Schedule/ Location of meetings (discussion)**Tabled.



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- **4.5 Bike Tag** Remove from agenda.
- 4.6 Letters of RecognitionOSTA on approval of LPI in Stamford, Emily will draft.

Meeting adjourned. 10:31am

Next Meeting 8:30 AM, DOT HQ, September 27, 2016, Room B

Unable to attend? You can still participate:

Using your computer, tablet or smartphone:

https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/900550389

OR

You can also dial in using your phone: United States +1 (312) 757-3121 Access Code: 900-550-389