



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 September 24, 2021 9 AM

This meeting will be held over TEAMS:

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 860-840-2075,513712836#](tel:+18608402075513712836) United States, Hartford

Phone Conference ID: 513 712 836#

1.1 **Call to Order/Roll Call**

Sandy Fry, Brian Kent (Vice Chair), Al Sylvestre, Joe Balskus (Secretary), Neil Pade, Francis Pickering, Rod Parlee

Aaron Budris, NVCOG
Kim Bradley, CT Trail Census Coordinator
Bill Veronesi, Hartford
Richard Donovan, NVCOG
Amy Watkins, Watch For Me CT
Laura Brown, CT Trailfinder,
Bill Champagne CTDOT

Anna Bergeron, CTDOT
Bruce Donald, CT Greenways
Bob Dickinson, South Windsor
Jennifer Carrier, FHWA
Caitlin Palmer, CRCOG
Kate Ratan, SCCOG

Mary Cockram, Bike Walk CT
Doug Hausladen, NHPA

1.2 **Minutes**

Approved by Board

2.0 **Reports/Presentations**

2.1 **DOT Projects and News**

Top 10 (12) safety priority corridors from ATP – currently updating scoping

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documents for these. 5 of the 12 have been studied further or are in design, the remainder are being scoped. A Road Safety Audit (RSA) is planned for #7, Route 1 in Bridgeport.

Chip seal – pilot projects, status, results?

CTDOT visiting MassDOT to observe their applications for shoulders and possible utilization for 2022 program for new roads chip sealed with an overlay on shoulders for bike route roadways. Will make a decision soon for 2022 and will provide an update next month

Active Transportation Plan –mapping. Dave Elder reached out to the COGs and asked for members for a stakeholder group that will vet and review proposals for map changes. This will be similar to the group that oversaw the creation of the first map. The Board will also be invited to have a participant.

Gold star bridge – there will be three contracts for improvements to the bridge – the first, strengthening the truss span, needs to go out soon (October 6), so focus is on this. The second will be for strengthening the girder spans, and the final will be for replacement of the deck. It is in this final stage that a bike path might be designated on the north span. Progress with feasibility study of improving existing ped way – in June reported that this would be completed in September. Study is ongoing as focus has been on getting the first bridge project out to bid.

Community Connectivity grant program, update

90 grants awarded to date

16 constructed, 17 in construction, 8 in preconstruction

\$8.5 million awarded to communities, \$21.9 million of projects outstanding

Discussion of need for design \$ - SCCOG has selected an on call consultant for this purpose.

Vision Zero Council – no update available, Anna will send Sandy an update via email. Joe noted that he attended the kickoff meeting of the Council. Members of the Council are all part of state government. There will be a subcommittee that allows broader public participation.

2.2 Update and presentation on Trailfinder program, Kim Bradley

<https://www.cttrailfinder.com/>

Copy of presentation to be provided

3.0 Old Business

3.1 Bulkeley bridge

Field meeting held at site held by CTDOT and will be studied more. (Thank

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you Anna for making this happen!)
To be reviewed by CTDOT for a real solution.

3.2 Board initiatives for 2021

Video of board duties by Tom, need CT based photos

3.3 Implementation of bicycle plan: Ability of people to use bicycles for regular transportation – need a strong focus on urban areas, and specifically safety

Making improvements for pedestrian safety will likely also help bikes and transit. Any city that is bicycle friendly is also walkable

Focus on the pedestrian gaps, usually sidewalk/signal deficiencies

Correcting the Fee in Lieu of Sidewalk (FILOS) issue could help.

What is the role of the bike ped board in these initiatives?

What recommendations we might include in our next annual report.

Sidewalk inventories should be considered. It is hard for communities to get funding for planning. It took New Haven 4 years to put together funding for its Safe Routes for All plan. COGs can help but there is not sufficient funding for all planning needed. Could each town have a bike/ped contact? Need driver for regional facilities, starting with urban areas.

3.4 Speed camera initiative

Consider in the future legislation session? Board supports this.

Work zone pilot is in current legislation and should be in the implementer.

So far an uphill battle on speed zones. ACLU is strong anti, we don't have a strong champion organization. Roland Lemar brings it up each year, and this year it went the furthest ever. Issues are privacy, race and broad enforcement. It is important to get some conversations going to discuss these issues and allay concerns.

4.0 New Business

4.1 Annual report development

Sandy to send out last year report to remind board to review recommendations and initiate thoughts for 2022

Open seat for Board with new minority leader in next session, nominations to be considered in future

Francis has been reappointed by the speaker of house

5.0 Input

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- 5.1 Input from Visitors (5 minutes)
- 5.2 CT Greenways Council/ECGA
CTDEEP Rec Trails funding open, applications due November
[CRT- Funding \(ct.gov\)](#)
- 5.3 CT Trail census – previous presentation
- 5.4 Watch for Me CT Update
Ped safety month October
New crosswalk and dooring laws on October 1, raising hand not required, and don't have to step into the crosswalk anymore, bicycle can be extended into the crosswalk as well
Stop not yield is the law October 1
- 5.5 Bike Walk CT Update – no report

Others

New Haven Bike Coalition leading bike training for instructors

CRCOG webinar to discuss 4th grade bike safety curriculum

CRCOG – CDC grant hosting Charles T Brown

SCCOG opening tri town trail in Preston/Ledyard for single track trail

Next Meeting – October 22, 2021, 9 AM

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