



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
ctbikapedboard@gmail.com



REGULAR MEETING NOTES

Friday May 27, 2022 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,,497169333#](tel:+18608402075,,497169333#) United States, Hartford

Phone Conference ID: 497 169 333#

1 Call to Order/Roll Call

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

Martha Conneely Riverfront Recapture

Bill Veronesi, Harford

Amy Watkins, Watch For Me CT

Caitlin Palmer, CRCOG

Bob Dickinson, Bloomfield

Kate Rattan, SCCOG

Mary Cockram, Bike Walk CT, Hartford

Craig Babowicz, CTDOT

Robert Bell, CTDOT

Bill Champagne, CTDOT

Marlon Pena, CTDOT

Sara Radacs, CTDOT

Charles Harlow, Fuss & O'Neill

Kim Bradley, CT Trails Program, UConn Extension

Thomas Regan-Lefebvre, Transport Hartford

1.1 Minutes, April 22 meeting

Adopted with minor typo corrections in the meeting minutes.

2.0 Reports/Presentations

DOT Projects and News

Updates:

Progress with new CS policy

CTDOT reviewing 2014 policy for updates. Workgroup formed within CTDOT. Existing internal processes being reviewed. Bike/Ped

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assessment form also be reviewed to be more formalized in design process. Have looked at other states' policies and city and town policies, along with Smart Growth America recommendations. The hope is to streamline and embed compete streets earlier in the process. Work will continue on the process this summer. The idea is to not just have words on a document, but to have an improved process that gets results. Francis raised a concern with no pedestrian crossing signs, asserting that these should not be allowed with a strong CS policy. Discussion ensued, the policy will likely not be this specific. Rob will look into what policies or procedures exist that govern the placement of these signs.

Federal grant opportunities

Safe Streets for all grants – NoFo announced, municipalities/MPO's only, no DOT allocation.

Federal \$ that come through the state:

Carbon reduction funds projects: waiting for more guidance on this new program

CMAQ program ongoing

Electric vehicle charging

State funding:

State climate action bill passed with a program for upgrade of town signals with \$15M allocated per year for this purpose.

Some discussion whether the money is actually included or not in the state budget. It is included in the budget as a not to exceed \$75 M portion of a more general DOT allocation of \$180 M. Unclear if it must be spent or can be spent. See page 470 of the adopted budget..

<https://www.cga.ct.gov/2022/ACT/PA/PDF/2022PA-00118-R00HB-05506-PA.PDF>

Bus stop enhancement program is being funded as an ongoing program, run by public transportation. It will involve shelter improvements and ADA work (this could include sidewalks and curb ramps). Is in the late planning early design phase.

Mark noted that there are many sidewalk gaps existing on state roads.

Francis brought up the fact that the state helped to develop RTSPs (Regional Transportation Safety Plans) for COGs throughout the state, but to be eligible for some federal \$, Safety Action Plan's (SAP) are actually needed. The COGs will discuss this and determine how they can most efficiently convert the RTSPs into SAPs.

Chip seal – placeholder for reporting as repaving starts up

Update of Active Transportation Plan online map – consultant

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selection being negotiated. No report otherwise.

Gold star bridge – progress with feasibility analysis of improving existing pedway? No update. It was noted by SCCOG that an update will be available in June for the NB bike ped facility.

Community Connectivity grant program – 17 new projects awarded, 104 total program projects. 20 constructed, 24 in construction rest in design and predesign.

HSIP plan with CTDOT – F&O working on HSIP to identify gaps in sidewalks for developing program to fill in the gaps. They are talking with COGs about sidewalk gaps and are looking at transit stops, and pedestrian generators.

Bulkeley Bridge progress – CTDOT working on intersection/crossing

3.0 Old Business

3.1 Support letter sent regarding shared emobility grant in New Haven
New Haven sent out to Board

3.2 Recommendations for updated CS policy
Provided, see above.

3.3 OSTA followup by Sandy – reference the followup email from Joe Ouelette sent April 28 where he offered ideas and asked for feedback from the Board. (email is attached to these minutes). Input from Board

Rather than setting criteria or thresholds that would require bike ped consideration, the default should be that bikes and peds are expected at every development, and a developer should need to prove why they should not be expected and planned for.

Requiring the applicant review the Town's POCD., In discussion the Board felt that the problem can be intra-town communication. That the LTA (local traffic authority) might sign off on a major traffic generator roadway proposal without speaking with the Town planner. So the applicant should be required to provide some evidence that the LTA has communicated with the town planner about the project.

3.4 Powerpoint presentation created by Tom – Sandy will send it out and

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we will review next month

4.0 New Business

4.1: definition of rural community – Rod asked what the definition of a rural community is for the purposes of an upcoming grant. Much discussion, the definition can differ depending upon the program. For the state's new Transportation Rural Improvement Program (TRIP) rural is defined as a town in which 50% or more of the population lives outside of the urbanized area. DOT is supplying maps which explain this to the COGs.

5.0 Input

5.1 Input from Visitors (5 minutes)

Bob Dickinson - Bruce Donald will be making a presentation on Why We Need Trails next week at Seabury.

5.2 BikeWalk CT

No report

5.3 Watch for Me CT

Working with Hartford Yard Goats young ambassadors
Participating in Domingo open streets event in Hartford
BikePed safety night at YG June 28

Bike rodeo to be scheduled in Hartford in July

Train the Trainer: Impact teen drivers on June 21, 9-1 Wethersfield police department community room for distracted driving and teen drivers. The program is for police officers, community educators, and driving instructors

5.4 CT Trails Program

Aggregate count and survey reports to be posted

5 years worth of data is now available

Airline state park master plan – report being wrapped up

CT Trailfinder – benchmarks exceeded 1000 miles of trails mapped, 198 trail systems, will soon be at 200.

CT Trails Day – 1st weekend of June

5.5 CT Rail Council

No report

5.6 CT Greenways Council/ECGA

No report

5.7 Transport Hartford

BiCiCo – ebikes voucher rollout from CTDEEP, planning an event

Survey for legislative priorities for coming year, expect to have a focus upon safety (survey here: www.surveymonkey.com/r/2XH9K2P)

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TransportHartfordGroup/permalink/4890807891047541/>

Continuing walk audits

Domingo – open streets in Hartford – June 26th is first of three events of summer. Transport Hartford will participate.

Sue Smith reported:

LCI seminar to be held in Academy Building next to Town Hall in Glastonbury October 14-16 for bike instructor training seminar

July meeting cancelled.

Next Meeting – June 24, 2022, 9 AM

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