



## 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](mailto:ctbikepedboard@gmail.com)



### REGULAR MEETING Friday April 26, 2024 9 AM MEETING NOTES

- 1 Call to Order/Roll Call, see attachment for meeting attendance
- 1.1 Minutes, **March 22**, meeting notes were accepted with no revisions
- 2.0 Reports/Presentations

**Eric Jackson, Executive Director, Connecticut Transportation Institute**

**Update on UConn Crash Data Base:** Eric demonstrated new features of the crash data repository, including story maps. He indicated that so far 2024 is on track to be as deadly for vulnerable users as 2022 was. He pointed out the dashboards that are available for safety emphasis areas, these can then be filtered for location, fatal, etc. October to January is always the peak time for pedestrian crashes in CT. if a user has ESRI, they can move the crash data to their own maps. Once it is pulled, it continues to be updated daily. They will soon publish data at the vehicle and person level, as opposed to crash level as is available now. They will be doing police training on how to investigate pedestrian and bicycle crashes. This will include a crash demo which we are invited to attend (date not known yet.)

Currently the data base does not distinguish e-bikes or e-scooters. DOT is planning to update the crash data collection form (the MMUUC) to the 6<sup>th</sup> edition, this will be completed for a January 2027 launch. UConn has a research project with chat GPT to extract more data from the narratives on the current forms. It can take 6 to 8 months for a fatal crash to appear in the database – the police must finalize their report on the crash before it goes in.

**Sidewalk Inventory:** the gis sidewalk inventory being developed is primarily on state roads, it includes width and pavement material and also includes at grade rail crossing inspections. DOT will begin to do QA QC on the database by early July. This inventory will provide an ADA compliance tool. Existing sidewalk inventories maintained by towns are not being pulled onto this database, but when the state data is ready, towns may use this data. Eric says that they will be able to provide sidewalk ramp data to towns.

**DOT reports, Active Transportation Unit:** The Putnam bridge trail ribbon cutting will be in early May. 32 micro grants have been received. The next round of applications will be due June 28. The grant funding goes to the COGs who distribute to their awardees. May 15 will be bike to work day at DOT, there will be a ride from the maintenance garage in Wethersfield to DOT. New Haven will have an East Coast Greenway ribbon cutting.

3.0 Old Business

3.1 Action steps from Annual Report:

*DOT setting targets and goals:* The Active Transportation Plan is where we should push for targets and goals..

*State providing funding for local match of federal grants:* currently rec trails funds can be used as a match for federal funds. Some COGs would like the flexibility to use LOTCIP to match federal

**NOTE TO PERSONS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:**

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or other accommodation at a meeting must notify the Connecticut Department of Transportation in advance of the meeting as soon as they are able.



## 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](mailto:ctbikepedboard@gmail.com)



grants. DOT considers LOTCIP a success and asked, why don't communities let us know what they need for match, but the concern is that the discretionary programs will disappear and towns need to act quickly. At the federal level, they need to see that \$ are being spent. No conclusions.

*PILOS legislation:* Al, Neil and Francis will serve on a subcommittee to draft PILOS legislation.

3.2 Legislation update – no report

3.3 People who bike and walk in CT: Dr. Julie Flagg, 73, an ob gyn in Middletown spoke about her own biking experiences and the people she sees biking. She uses an e-bike almost exclusively, often biking from her home in Chester to work. In her practice she increasingly sees people who don't drive – about 30% of her patients. When she bikes to Aldis she gets a lot of questions about her e-bike. She sees an older woman in Deep River who uses an e-trike for all of her transportation. There is a need for more bike routes in Southern CT. The group talked about e-bikes – they open biking to more people and these new riders need better facilities. Julie described her commute - leaves home 5 or 5:30 am, uses local roads to old Route 9. On her return trip at 5 or 6 pm or 9 or 10 pm, the traffic is variable. She is very visible with lights and bright colors.

#### 4.0 New Business

4.1 Keeping the momentum, given pushback, for bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure investments Sandy will draft a letter to go to both West Hartford and Manchester where their town center complete streets projects have received pushback. The letter will focus on the economics of bike infrastructure investments.

4.2 Seeking registration surcharge for vehicles with high grilles – we should begin a discussion with DMV and DOT on this. A higher registration fee for vehicles with high grilles could go to a fund for bike ped projects. Follow up with Eric regarding high grille crash data.

#### 5.0 Input

5.1 Input from COG's and Vision Zero Updates.

NVCOG: working on ATP update, the public outreach is ongoing.

5.2 Input from Visitors (5 minutes): Sylvia Oonpu of Bike Walk Bolton and the Hop River Alliance – there are large cracks on the Charter Oak Trail, DOT says they will not repair till 2026. Anna will follow up with Sylvia. Bolton Notch missing link – the board advised Sylvia that her group should lobby the board of Selectmen on this.

5.3 CT Age Well Collaborative: no report

5.4 Transport Hartford 8 AM, 5/14, Bike to Work at the Old state House with a ride in with the DEEP Commissioner from BiCi Co West Hartford.

5.5 CT Trails Program: no report

5.6 CT Public Transportation Council: The Council and state just lost a wonderful advocate when Zelle Stever of SE CT passed away

5.7 CT DEEP Trails and Greenways reviewing grant applications, expect to present grants to the Greenways Council in mid May. Greenways awards

#### **NOTE TO PERSONS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:**

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or other accommodation at a meeting must notify the Connecticut Department of Transportation in advance of the meeting as soon as they are able.



## 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](mailto:ctbikepedboard@gmail.com)



ceremony will be 5/31 at the Hartford riverfront boathouse;

5.8 CT Greenways Council/ECGA: no report

5.9 BikeWalk CT: no report

5.10 Watch for Me CT: continuing to work on a brochure for motorists regarding how to operate around bike lanes. She will share drafts with the Board.

5.11 T2 Center: recently held a class on ADA self evaluation and transition plans.

Next Meeting – **May 24**, 2024, 9 AM  
VIA TEAMS

### **NOTE TO PERSONS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:**

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or other accommodation at a meeting must notify the Connecticut Department of Transportation in advance of the meeting as soon as they are able.

12 MONTH ACTION PLAN Plan for 1 or 2 in person meetings

February 23, 2024 Distribute Annual Report, Strategize how to move recommendations forward.

In the following 4 months, set up presentations by T2 Center on their programs; update on GIS (sidewalks, crash data), update on progress with HSIP Implementation Plan for VU, update on Active Transportation Plan, Watch for Me, OTHERS?

March 22, 2024: presentation on Safe Routes to Schools and the Idaho stop white paper

April 26, 2024: Presentation by Eric Jackson on UConn crash data base and gis sidewalk inventory

May 24, 2024: Presentation by Mike Whaley CTDOT and Amy Watkins, Watch for Me CT on Bike Ped safety outreach programs

June 28, 2024, in person at Riverfront Boathouse, Hartford

Presentation by Riverfront on their bike/ped projects; T2 center on their bike ped programs

July 26, 2024

August 23, 2024

Election of officers

September 27, 2024

Layout legislative asks for following year. After meeting, request meeting with Anne Kleza

October 25, 2024, in person at CTDOT, Presentation by Natasha Fatu, CTDOT, Highway Safety Improvement Plan, annual Implementation Plan for Vulnerable Users

Layout recommendations for 2024 report, begin compilation of data for tables in report

November 22, 2024

Initial draft of report

December 20, 2024 (not the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday)

Draft final report

January 2025 – Distribute annual report

**NOTE TO PERSONS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:**

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or other accommodation at a meeting must notify the Connecticut Department of Transportation in advance of the meeting as soon as they are able.

CT Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board Meetings

Name	Affiliation	4/26/2024
<b>Board Members</b>		
Sandy Fry (Chair)		X
Brian Kent (Vice Chair)		X
Joe Balskus (Secretary)		
Thomas Branchaud		X
Mark Moriarty		X
Keith Nappi		X
Rod Parlee		X
Neil Pade		X
Francis Pickering		X
Sue Smith		
Al Sylvestre		X
<b>GUESTS</b>		
Obe Aye-Addo	CTDOT	
Craig Babowicz	CTDOT	X
Norm Berg	Farmington trails	
Anna Bergeron	CTDOT	X
Kim Bradley	CTDEEP	X
Jennifer Brady	FHWA	
Bill Champagne	CTDOT	X
Martha Conneely	CT Riverfront	X
Graham Curtis	CTDOT	X
Bob Dickinson	Bloomfield	
Bruce Donald	CT Greenways	
Richard Donovan	NVCOG	X
Natasha Fatu	CTDOT	X
Gabriel Filer	SCRCOG	
Marcos Gonzalez	RiverCOG	X
Curtis Graham	CTDOT	
John Hall	Jonah Center	X
Charles Harlow	F&O	X
Jason Hughes	T2 Center	X
Dimitri Kotoumbas	OSTA	X
Jennifer Lacker	Bike Stonington	X
Kristen Levesque	CTDOT	
Erica Lindeberg	Jacobs	X
Pat Padlo	OSTA	
Allison Palmer	Stonington bike shop	
Caitlin Palmer	CRCOG	
Myra Parker	Reach PM Hartford	
Shayla Ranmal-Suppies	City of Hartford	
Kate Rattan	SCCOG	X
Christopher Roberts	CTDOT	X
Kate Rozen	Fairfield	
Jay Stange	BICO	X
Phil Shattuck	OPM	
Peter Salomone	Plainville greeway alliance	
Anna Stern	WatchForMeCT	X
Bryan Walsh	CT Rides	
Amy Watkins	WatchForMeCT	X
Adam Weber	New Haven	
Geo Wilton		
Grace Yi	Hartford	X
Paul Ashworth	CT DOT	X
Devin Clarke	MetroCOG	X
Elliot Warceham	NVCOG	X
Eric Jackson	CT Transp Inst.	X
James Rode	SCRCOG	X
Mary Cockram	Bike Walk CT	X
Philip Shattuck	CT OPM	X
Sylvia Ounpuu	Bike Walk Bolton	X
Brian Walsh		X
Bruce Wittchen	CT OPM	X