



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

Friday May 24, 2019, 9 AM

DOT Headquarters, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT 06111, Room B

1.0 Preliminaries

1.1 Call to Order/Roll Call

Meeting was called to order at 9 AM

On Phone: Joe Balskus

In Room: Neil Pade, Ken Messier, Sue Smith, Francis Pickering, Ray Rauth, Al Sylvestre, Sandy Fry, Brian Kent.

Guest/ Public: Bob Dickenson, Amy Watkins

DOT: Staff Melanie Zimyeski, Marlon Pena., Robert Bell

1.2 Minutes

The April minutes were adopted with the following changes:

- Under DOT news, the presentation referenced will be attached.
- Page 2, correct "loner" to "longer", and "Falls River" to "Falls Village"
- Remove quotation marks after adjournment

1.3 Input from Visitors (5 minutes)

Bob Dickinson – suggest including a list explaining the acronyms on the website. Suggest including Bike-Ped Board design recommendations for local roads.

2.0 Reports/Presentations

2.1 DOT Projects and News

- Bike to Work Day held.
- Traffic working on Pedestrian Safety Manual – guidance on how to design for safe pedestrian improvements. The Board expressed its interest in being able to provide input and feed back to the project.
- The Board asked the DOT to think about applicability to state and local roads. It was discussed that state standards are typically required to be applied to municipalities that have not adopted local standards or may simply adopt the state standards as their own.
- The Board complimented the DOT on the presentation that occurred on the Putnam Bridge. Timing of the project and funding is not clear at this time but the Department is moving ahead with the planning process.
- Active Transportation Plan Update and discussion (reference Tom Maziarz January 2019 email). Sandy reviewed the correspondence from Tom referencing the collaborative process that was to ensue after



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adoption.

- Concerns: Collaborative process; Outreach to Regions; Lack of outreach to Board.
- Staff provided an update –
 - Next steps, a spreadsheet of strategies and goals is to be used to track goals, potentially based on priority. This will be raised at the next internal CS Standing Committee for presentation and review, and to generate comments. Possible assignments for tracking will be discussed.
 - Data and Metrics still need to be defined and what will be tracked is not yet clear. Sandy suggested the development of a draft list of metrics to be utilized, such as “miles of bike lanes”, etc...
 - VIP Miles of 11’ lanes is not necessarily the best metric. Suggest looking at amount of shoulder increased such as, “4’ shoulders provided”. Robert indicated that they will look at measuring shoulder width as a possible metric among other ideas in the upcoming discussions.
 - Sandy asked if information being developed for use as metrics could be sent to the Board for feedback. Robert stated that would be possible from time to time (bike ped measures and spreadsheet).
- Bike Network map – suitability index and what it means
 - Francis – raised concerns from the COG perspective regarding local demand for routes to destinations that don’t work using state roads under current conditions. Should they try to identify state routes or should they avoid them?
 - Robert discussed possibilities of regional maps for bike suitability and how these different sources may relate to each other, including connections to sources developed by others that specify local roads.
 - As the Active Transportation Plan is being finalized, how will the process surface issues that require attention? Robert asked for people to reach out to staff to bring issues to their attention to be aware of and compare with potential upcoming projects by the Department.
 - Francis and Brian both relayed issues with how to plan/ design for the crossing of bike routes across or on state routes, and how some municipalities want to avoid use of state roads at all costs. A more efficient way is necessary to interact with DOT on local input to determine what the best route through local areas should be.
 - The use of the map was discussed including the ability to direct



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- potential improvements to projects in an area where it might be more advisable, or to utilize a preferred alternate route that would be safer, over a project on a state route that is viewed as being more dangerous.
- Overall the desire is to improve bike access through the state. Regions and local municipalities will have better insight/ detail that can be added to the map (or connected) that provide better information for DOT to be alerted to. Send map updates to Anna, send high priority items/issues to Melanie.
 - Robert stressed the importance of recognizing the intended purpose of each source prior to inclusion, such as a recommendation on where to go biking vs. a focus for engineering designers where improvements should be contemplated.
 - A source should be determined for use on how to get to point b from point a. Use of suitability layer was raised as a source that should be evaluated. New language added to the website clarifying the intended use of the Interactive Map.
 - Neil noted improvements were made in the mapping for the areas he was familiar with and had submitted corrections for. Confusion with use of similar legend colors between layers. If more than one layer is on, the colors are very confusing, such as what is a Tier I road is also identified as having lowest suitability.
- Discussion with Mark Carlino
 - Sandy provided a status update on the concern regarding inconsistent standards/ review comments between districts, and between districts and DOT, and the signage question from Naugatuck Valley.
 - Sandy sent Mark a summary of concerns.
 - Neil relayed that it was identified during this process that an engineer from each district office is on the internal CS Committee which provides opportunity for cross communication of CS interests between the DOT and Districts that, coupled with design guidance, should improve the consistency of comments throughout the state.
 - DOT CS Policy
 - The Board requested staff to provide an update on use and application of the current CS policy, including looking at what is working well and what may not be working.



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2.2 Bike Walk CT Update

Sue provided an update

- Bike to Work day at State house, approximately 70 people in attendance including DEEP Commissioner.
- Education program on bike safety (off bike) piloted in elementary school in southern CT. 'Bike Safety Science Fair' – now to be offered in schools or anywhere else. One to be held in Southington on June 7th.
- Vision Zero Summit at University of New Haven on June 7th.
- July, League Certified Instructor seminar in Glastonbury
- April, Held Traffic Skills 101
- June 23rd Falls Village event

2.3 Watch For Me CT Update

Amy provided an update

- Launching new campaign this weekend, inclusive of new resources and updates on existing resources.
- Amy reviewed efforts with public services announcements.

3.0 Old Business

3.1 Retreat follow up – planning an outreach meeting

- Discussion on potential venue's, time, locations for taking a meeting on the road and getting input from the public more effectively.
- Sail Fest New London was raised as an idea. Approximately 300,000 people in attendance (July 12-14).
- Discussion ensued on idea of being present at an event to solicit input.
- Annual meeting of Trails Council was suggested.
- BWCT Annual Dinner suggested.
- Past CRCOG two-day symposium on CS was referenced.
- ITE CT Chapter Meetings, other professional organization meetings WTS summit, ATWA, SNEAPA, CCM, that have an audience.
- Groups that have average public in attendance require a commitment.
- Over next couple of weeks everyone to think of and suggest regular meetings, with professional and advocacy, that board could participate in.

3.2 Web site – input/discussion

Suggestions:

- Brian provided a list of websites from comparable organizations that were impressive. Brian gave a summary. One defining element is that they are supported by and within the state DOT's website unlike the Board's page. It is not likely the Board can improve the effectiveness of our website under the current system.
- New Jersey was called out as an example, especially for its FAQ's and



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ability to direct users to sources of information.

- Arizona was called out as one with professionally done graphics that call attention to items for users.
- Update/ review contacts,
- Remove/ revisit “Goals” section,
- Include list of accomplishments
- Include recent power point presentation explaining the board.
- Dead links on the DOT dashboard were identified.

- 3.3. Bylaws, policy document? Input from Policy committee
Sandy introduces bylaws drafted by the board subcommittee, handed out a copy for review, comments to be made at the next meeting.

4.0 New Business

Meeting adjourned at 10:38 pm

Next Meeting – June 28, 2019, **9 AM**

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

Fry, Sandra

From: LaPenta, Melanie J. <Melanie.LaPenta@ct.gov> on behalf of Maziarz, Thomas J <Thomas.Maziarz@ct.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 17, 2019 11:12 AM
To: 'Mark.Carlino@ct.gov'; 'kathryn.faraci@ct.gov'; 'Matthew.Vail@ct.gov'; 'Aaron Budris'; 'Anna Stokes'; 'Bonnie VanGilder'; 'Bruce Donald'; 'Charlie Beristain'; 'Chris Failkner'; 'Dan McGuinness'; 'Emily Gordon'; 'Emily Hultquist'; Nichols, Eugene; 'Francis Pickering'; Wright, Grayson A; 'James Kulpa'; 'Jennifer Carrier'; 'Katherine Rattan, AICP'; 'Ken Shooshan-Stoller'; Giannotti, Laurie; 'Mark Nielsen'; 'Matt Fulda'; 'Molly Henry'; 'Neil Pade'; 'Ray Rauth'; 'Richard Lynn'; 'Sam Gold'; Fry, Sandra; Radacsi, Sara; 'Stephen Dudley'; 'eric.sanderson@necog.org'; 'Tim Malone'; 'chaneljohnson510@gmail.com'; 'ounpuuadams'; 'ctladycyclist@gmail.com'; 'Nicholas.Teeling@cga.ct.gov'; 'debbie.thibodeau@comcast.net'; 'ABudris@nvcogct.org'; 'jhall@thejonahcenter.org'; 'ounpuu.adams@comcast.net'; 'gannon_long@ctprf.org'; 'MTorresq@newhavenct.gov'; 'tony_cherolis@ctprf.org'; 'dhausladen@newhavenct.gov'; 'dbolognani@housatonicheritage.org'; 'Branchaud, Thomas F (Talcott and Group Benefit Ops)'; 'Brian Kent'; 'Busa24@optonline.net'; 'CAPTUNDRA@aol.com'; 'fpickering@westcog.org'; 'jbalskus@vhb.com'; 'Neil Pade'; 'rayrauth@optonline.net'; 'susan@bikewalkct.org'; Sylvestre, Alan
Cc: Maziarz, Thomas J; Kissane, Colleen A; Elder, David C; Bell, Robert E.
Subject: 2019 Active Transportation Plan

Good morning,

Thank you to everyone who provided comments on the Draft Active Transportation Plan. We received comments from over 20 stakeholders.

We have incorporated several of the less complex comments into the Final Plan. We are especially appreciative of the many comments providing concrete recommendations concerning the harder-to-reach communities and users.

We intend to respond to all comments during the collaborative Plan refinement and implementation process that the Department will begin within the next six months. As part of this process, we expect to work with regions and stakeholders to gather input on near-term and high-priority actions, define potential data and metrics to measure progress, and regularly update the interactive map layers.

The Final Plan and Appendices are posted on the website:
http://www.ctbikepedplan.org/plan_library.html

We look forward to working with you in the coming months.

Tom

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