



City of Keene
New Hampshire

BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN PATH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, September 11, 2019 8:15 AM

**City Hall, Second Floor
Second Floor Conference Room**

Members:

Dillon Benik, Chair	Charles Redfern
Drew Bryenton, Vice Chair	Todd Horner
Brad Dufresne	David Souther, Alternate
Christopher Brehme	

- 1) Roll Call
- 2) August 14, 2019 Minutes
- 3) Council Referral (FOP) – Request to Purchase City Property: 160 Emerald Street
- 4) Old Business
 - Downtown Bike Racks & Winter Parking
 - Fall Bicycle & Pedestrian Counting Dates
 - Dedication of Path System Section (Thom Little)
 - Public Outreach and Events Subcommittee
 - Arts and Culture Corridor
- 5) Project Updates
(Note: BPPAC Master Plan Documents available on google drive)
- 6) New Business
 - Items to be included for next meeting
- 7) Adjournment

Next meeting date – October 9, 2019

City of Keene
New Hampshire

BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN PATH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 14, 2019

8:15 AM

2nd Floor Conference Room

Members Present:

Drew Bryenton, Vice Chair
Charles Redfern
Christopher Brehme
David Souther, Alternate

Staff Present:

Will Schoefmann

Members Not Present:

Brad Dufresne
Dillon Benik, Chair
Linda Rubin
Todd Horner

1) Roll Call

Vice Chair Drew Bryenton called meeting to order at 8:15am.

Mr. Bryenton stated David Souther was recognized as a member to make quorum.

2) Adopt the Rules of Procedure

All members unanimously adopted the rules of procedure.

3) July 10, 2019 Minutes

Minutes passed from last week unanimously.

4) Old Business

- a. Downtown Bike Racks and Winter Parking and Fall Bicycle and Pedestrian Counting Dates

William Schoefmann stated he spoke with Professor Joe Beth Mullens at Keene State and she has an outdoor recreation class this fall and she thinks that getting the students involved in helping with the bike rack counting and bike counting is something she wants to do. Mr. Schoefmann said there are 14 students in the course, and offered to go to Keene state the week before classes resume, propose the counts and go over how to complete the counts. Mr. Schoefmann continued saying the bike counting should be straightforward and maybe he could prepare a collector app for the students to count

considering the bikes racks are at a static location that can be updated. Mr. Bryenton asked if Mr. Schoefmann would be focusing on the bike racks or bike racks and West Street with the students. Mr. Schoefmann stated both and have the committee members also still do counting as experienced folks and will prepare a plan for that in the near future. Mr. Bryenton asked when this would take place. Mr. Schoefmann replied stated he believes it's the September 8th through the 14th but will notify members before the next meeting. Mr. Bryenton stated that sounds great and asked Mr. Schoefmann to prepare the doodle poll prior to the next meeting and asked if supplemental bike counting is okay prior to the schedule bike count. Mr. Schoefmann said the national bike counting initiative is looking for counts on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays between 4pm and 6pm and a Saturday count.

Mr. Bryenton said he spoke with Jessica on a potential community service day with the Keene State students and it sounds like it won't work with groups of 25 that need to be together. However a number of student clubs at Keene State are looking for public service projects and responded to Keene State saying we will reach out when we have more information. Mr. Bryenton asked if we have another week in September or October would work too. Mr. Schoefmann said he did counting in March and May is the spring month we have been trying to focus on and September is the month that coincides with how the counting is done nationally. Mr. Schoefmann continued stating any information and data we can gather for the quarter is better. Mr. Bryenton said focusing on the mid-September week with help from the students. Mr. Schoefmann said we can adjust the timing and he would reach out to Keene State to coordinate.

Mr. Schoefmann addressed winter parking with the committee stating we should consider making a recommendation or a communication on winter parking to DPW by next month and recommended adding this agenda item for the next meeting. Charles Redfern asked Mr. Schoefmann if DPW should make a recommendation for where to put the racks in the winter. Mr. Schoefmann said he believes their recommendations would be to bring them in. Mr. Schoefmann continued suggesting the Wells Street parking deck and hit social media with it maybe make a press release to the Keene Sentinel about winter bike parking and have locations that people can understand. Mr. Bryenton asked if the bike rack by the farmer's marker bus station is under an overhang that is protected. Mr. Schoefmann said it could be protect but that sometimes the snowdrifts pile up there but getting feedback would be beneficial. Mr. Bryenton stated we are looking for something that is covered and Wells Street is ideal and asked the committee if there was anything else on the other side of town the committee could suggest. Mr. Brehme asked if there was anything by the library. Mr. Schoefmann replied stating there is not anything covered by the library. Mr. Redfern said there is a shelter for people waiting for the Friendly Bus and the City Express by the library but it has no seating yet and does not have a whole lot of space inside. Mr. Redfern stated the library might oppose that idea. Mr. Schoefmann replied saying the idea is something to think about and that he or Mr. Bryenton could send out an email to the group to think about that idea for next month while also inquiring if they have any ideas. Mr. Redfern said making a request for a bike shelter at library is a good idea and makes sense in the winter too because many bikes are parked there in the summer, fall and spring and it could be popular in the winter too. Mr. Schoefmann said the library has a new director and believes facilities and DPW would be

in charge of installing or maintaining it and suggested approaching both the new library director as well as the facilities and DPW to consider an install. Mr. Redfern said he knows the new library director and would approach her. Mr. Schoefmann said we should consider West Keene as well. Mr. Bryenton said he would send out an email. Mr. Schoefmann asked in the YMCA has covered bike parking. Mr. Bryenton said he believes the bike rack is half covered and half exposed. Mr. Schoefmann stated it is something to research a bit more.

b. Dedication of Path System Section (Thom Little)

Mr. Schoefmann suggested putting up a street sign in memory of Thom Little, possibly calling it "Little Way." Mr. Schoefmann further suggested committee members make a recommendation that this information is considered by counsel that a section of trail be in the name of Thom Little for all the work he has done for all the pathways in Keene. MR Schoefmann said we could make a motion and vote. Mr. Bryenton stated he could not imagine why anyone not in attendance would have an issue with naming the trail. Mr. Redfern commented that we are not renaming an existing trail and would use an unnamed the trail in his memory. Mr. Bryenton stated it is a difficult part of the trail and to give it recognition and identity might be helpful. Mr. Redfern recommended calling the trail "The Little Way Trail."

Mr. Bryenton filed a motion for a recommendation to city council to consider dedicating the trail as discussed as "Little Way." Mr. Redfern seconded the motion and Mr. Bryenton inquired the members for any further discussion. Mr. Brehme asked if this motion includes signage. Mr. Bryenton retracted the previous motion and made a new motion to amend the previous motion to recommend to city council to dedicate the previous trail as previously described as "Little Way" and establish signage as "Apple Way." Mr. Brehme seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

c. Public Outreach and Events Subcommittee

Mr. Bryenton stated after reviewing July's notes that Kürt Blomquist has suggested that drafting a charge for what the subcommittee might do. Mr. Bryenton said he believed Mr. Redfern took that project on. Mr. Redfern stated he would like to table the discussion until a larger group is present. Mr. Bryenton stated the discussion would be tabled until next meeting.

d. Arts and Culture Corridor

Mr. Schoefmann said although some of the information is not available as of yet, the MADC and Jack Dugan are responsible for redevelopment of the railroad land are talking about an arts and culture corridor going form railroad square all the way down Gilbo Avenue to the west toward School Street. It would be a pedestrian way with all sorts of new street scaled and building redevelopment and arts and performance spaces similar to what you would see on Church Street in Burlington. Mr. Schoefmann continued stating Jack Dugan is drumming up proposals and Mr. Schoefmann said he produced a map for him. Once it gets enough support from different folks there will be opportunity for public comment but maybe a better approach would be talking to Jack Dugan and having him

come to one of these meetings. Mr. Schoefmann asked if Mr. Redfern knew Jack Dugan. Mr. Redfern stated yes he spoke to Jack Dugan and stated it is important to show up to a meeting and give input if they want the trail maintained. Mr. Schoefmann stated he would also call Jack Dugan. Mr. Redfern said I want it on the public record that we want to accommodate the rail trail. Mr. Schoefmann said the project is funded with federal funds and they would have to maintain semblance of the trail space that exists. Mr. Redfern said that was his understanding as well and stated he thought the project would be upwards up \$30 million dollars. Mr. Schoefmann said they are pursuing grants and this could be exciting. Mr. Redfern said it sounds exciting and they are talking about railcars and turning them into stores and tourist information but we have to protect the trail system. Mr. Souther asked if we have a standard for how wide the trail is. Mr. Schoefmann said federal guidelines were followed in order to create it with federal funds. Mr. Souther asked what if we want to maintain federal guidelines for width. Mr. Redfern said 10 feet. Mr. Schoefmann said you may not have to do that and just bring up the fact that it was paid for with federal funds and communicate that there is a process for moving a trail and possibly relocating it and it would be good for someone to look up what those requirements are. Mr. Schoefmann stated he is willing to look into the requirements. Mr. Bryenton stated that Mr. Schoefmann would follow up with Jack Dugan and see if we can get him to a meeting. Mr. Bryenton continued saying that after reviewing July's minutes when we talked about downtown revitalization to be sure that the arts and culture corridor is kept as separate in order to stay on point with both of them.

5) Project Updates (Note: BPPAC Master Plan Documents available on Google Drive)

Mr. Schoefmann said there is a spreadsheet at the end of the last week's minutes, the first set is for August updates and said he will highlight anything in yellow on those. Mr. Schoefmann continued saying to keep in mind some suggestions for winter parking and bike racks and relay them to DPW. The update on the street grant for 2017 and 2018 is that there were some complications with the road-striping budget and reports he has been working with the person managing that contract and DPW but it has been difficult getting a straight answer. Mr. Redfern stated he was concerned that the winter weather would negatively affect the street striping. Mr. Schoefmann stated if people are concerned contact DPW. Mr. Bryenton asked if the initial project was funded by an anonymous donor and if there were any stipulations. Mr. Schoefmann said only for the first year. Mr. Bryenton asked if after that point DPW takes over. Mr. Schoefmann stated yes and the striping contracts bids came in \$40,000 dollars over and it's been communicated the project will happen. At this point it should be completed in the spring because by September cyclists only have a month and a half to ride and that is for people who can handle riding in cold weather and/or don't have any other options for other transportation. Mr. Bryenton said he would add that to the email about bike parking. Mr. Bryenton asked if Kürt Blomquist be the best person to contact. Mr. Schoefmann stated you could call or email Kürt Blomquist and encouraged the committee to relay and feedback. Mr. Redfern asked where the money is coming from. Mr. Schoefmann said the city has a road striping budget.

Mr. Schoefmann continued saying CHA, the consultant for the Cheshire Rail Trail and Park Avenue loop, has sent out their response to the committees comments. The NH Department of Transportation has that now and CHA is working on the final design submission after comments submitted from our group and NHDOT. The city is working on collaborating with property owners regarding right of way. Those plans that CHA is drafting should be submitted in 2-3 weeks. Bidding can commence after all design phases have been commented on and approved. The goal is to have the bid out to possible contractors by December 2019. Mr. Bryenton asked Mr. Schoefmann if we could expect the project start date to be next spring. Mr. Schoefmann replied yes.

Mr. Schoefmann stated he would consult his contact at Keene State College regarding dates for bike counting and bike rack counting. Mr. Schoefmann said the KSC crossing has a new island installed and the project is wrapping up.

Mr. Schoefmann said he is unsure on the status of bike boxes and bike lanes.

Mr Redfern asked if the Eastern Avenue 101 extension is on the highlighted section for reviews. Mr. Schoefmann said it is in the updates but there has not been any movement on it. Mr. Redfern asked if we could have the Eastern Avenue and Route 101 extension highlighted. Mr. Schoefmann said it is just a project request at this point and does not have a date assigned to it yet. Mr. Redfern said he will try and get the project on the radar.

Mr. Bryenton stated that the committee recognizes that Mr. Brehme left the meeting at 8:45am and committee is no longer able to establish a quorum. Mr. Bryenton stated we have tabled several things that would be considered new business and establish in an email if any other new business needs to be added for the next meeting.

6) Adjournment

Vice Chair Drew Bryenton adjourned the meeting at 8:48am.

Respectfully submitted by,
Claire Kunzler, Minute Taker

Additional Edits by,
Will Schoefmann, GIS Technician

Project	PRIORITY	Master Plan Project #	Status	Budget *		Schedule			Updates (changes and relevant updates)
				Cost	Status	Start	Finish	Status	
Master Plan	N/A	N/A	Working	City Staff	N/A	Spring14	Fall 2018	Behind	Introduction and Background available for BPPAC Review, Trail Specific Maps and details regarding North Bridge inserted. Developing a scope of work and seeking funding to hire a consultant to complete the plan.
Jonathan Daniels Trail Maintenance	N/A	BE4	Planning	25,000.00	Even	Summer20	Fall 21	N/A	\$25k set aside in CIP FY' 21
Bike Racks	N/A	BE28	Working	N/A	N/A	ongoing	N/A	N/A	Bike Racks set out by DPW - downtown plan attached to June Agenda/Packet. BPPAC to suggest Winter Parking Locations. Counting 9/14-21 with help of KSC Geography Class
Lighting	N/A	BE28	Completed	City Staff	Even	complete	N/A	On Schedule	Pathways for Keene are making an additional donation this year to the City. Proposal is to light Appel Way.
Complete Street Grant 2017-18	N/A	N/A	Completed	\$10K	Even	complete	May-18	On Schedule	Lining has been redone as part of DPW's road striping budget. Project signage has been installed. City Staff needs to follow up on the metrics with SWRPC including Bike Counts in the project area, a final PSA, accident research. Lack of funding for these facilities is an issue in the striping budget
NHDOT TAP Grant 2018	N/A	BE22	Submitted	\$674K	N/A	Winter 2018	Summer 19	On Schedule	City of Keene has been selected as a TAP grant recipient for Complete Street improvements to Marlboro Street that tie into other planned improvements, infrastructure, economic development goals and the Cheshire Rail Trail. Agreement recieved from NHDOT for Manager's Signature Monday 5/6.
Bicycle Mayor	N/A	N/A	Working	Safe Routes to School	Even	Winter 2018	Fall 2019	On Schedule	Keene Middle School - Safe Routes to School grant for education and outreach events and updated safe routes tool kit document. Bicycle Mayor is wrapping up the project with survey and presentations to MAST and City Council. Event was a resounding success with 60 kids walking/biking on May 15!
MASTER PLAN PROJECTS									
Cheshire Rail Trail - Park Ave. Loop	1	BE0	Working	\$411,615.51	Even	Spring19	Fall 19	Behind	Engineering division of DPW is managing this project now. Preliminary Engineering Plans and Report as well as NEPA review approved by NHDOT/FHWA. Anticipated construction 2020. ROW discussions and negotiations underway with abutters. Easement and trail resolutions passed by City Council.
Access Point & Connectivity Analysis	2	BE13	Planning	KSC Students	N/A	Fall 2018	Dec-18	On Schedule	Master Plan top 5 project. Staff is working with a Group of KSC Geography Seniors in the capstone seminar project to help analyze connectivity and develop a Complete Streets "report card"
Wayfinding	3	BE15	Planning	City Staff Unknown	N/A	Planning	N/A	On Schedule	Continued development of the downtown "pedestrian" level wayfinding is being conducted. What is BPPAC's input? Trail and in street level wayfinding thoughts/plan?

Complete Streets Assessment	4	BE20	Working	City Staff	N/A	ongoing	N/A	N/A	Master Plan top 5 project. KSC Geography Students conducted an assessment of City Streets based on their Complete Street designations and current layouts. See "Access Point & Connectivity". A report is available via google drive. Student presentation at regular June meeting.
Sidewalk/Pedestrian Connectivity	5	BE21	Planning	City Staff	N/A	Planning	N/A	N/A	The Engineering Division, Department of Public Works has an app available to them and have completed 65% of the condition assessment of all City Owned sidewalks for Spring 2017.
West Street - Complete Street	6	BE26	Planning	City Staff Unknown	N/A	Planning	N/A	N/A	Designated as a Gateway Street in the Complete Street Design Guide. BPPAC discussing interim and long range solutions for bike/ped facilities along the corridor. BPPAC began 2018 bike/ped counts for middle section of West Street in March and May counts compiled. September 14-21 dates to with help of KSC Geography students to assist.
Cheshire Rail Trail Phase 4 - Transportation Heritage Trail	7&8	BE2, BE5	Planning	\$ 2,564,500.00	Even	N/A	N/A	N/A	Project submitted as a supplemental CIP - unfunded but in the plan book. Project includes from Eastern Ave - 101, Bridge to Span 101, improvements to Old Stone Arch Bridge and potential crossing at Swanzy Factor Rd.
South Bridge, Ashuelot RT Gap	9	BE16		City Staff, KSC	N/A	Planning	N/A	N/A	Pave or surface the gap between the old Railroad Bridge on the Ashuelot Rail Trail and South Bridge
Main Street (Complete Street)	10	BE18	Planning	City Staff	Under	Planning	N/A	On Schedule	Main Street is an icon to the Keene community and in need of multimodal transportation overhaul. DPW has a downtown revitalization CIP that is multi year. KSC Crossing in process of completion, in street facilities issues (bike lanes, sharrows and bike boxes) How does BPPAC fit in and provide input? Downtown Bike Rack Counts Sept 14-21 with KSC Geography
Emerald Star (Trail Info Hub)	11	N/A		City Staff	N/A	Planning	N/A	N/A	Concept of an "Emerald Star" or trail system that has a centralized point for gathering and trail system information. Kiosk/visitor center included.

ITEMS WITH UPDATES

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ITEMS WITH UPDATES

Toby Tousley
PO BOX 626
Keene, NH 03431

February 18, 2019

Mayor Kendall W. Lane
and Keene City Council
3 Washington Street
Keene, NH 03431

Honorable Mayor and City Council:

I would like to acquire a piece of the Railroad Corridor land that is situated between my building on 160 Emerald Street and the bicycle/pedestrian path.

In 2011 the City expressed interest in selling some of this property, which in turn would put the property back on the tax roll. At that time I went to the Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Advisory Committee who in turn recommended that the City sell the property to me.

Unfortunately the matter never came before the Council as there were questions of ownership. Recent developments have shown that the City does own this part of the Railroad Corridor.

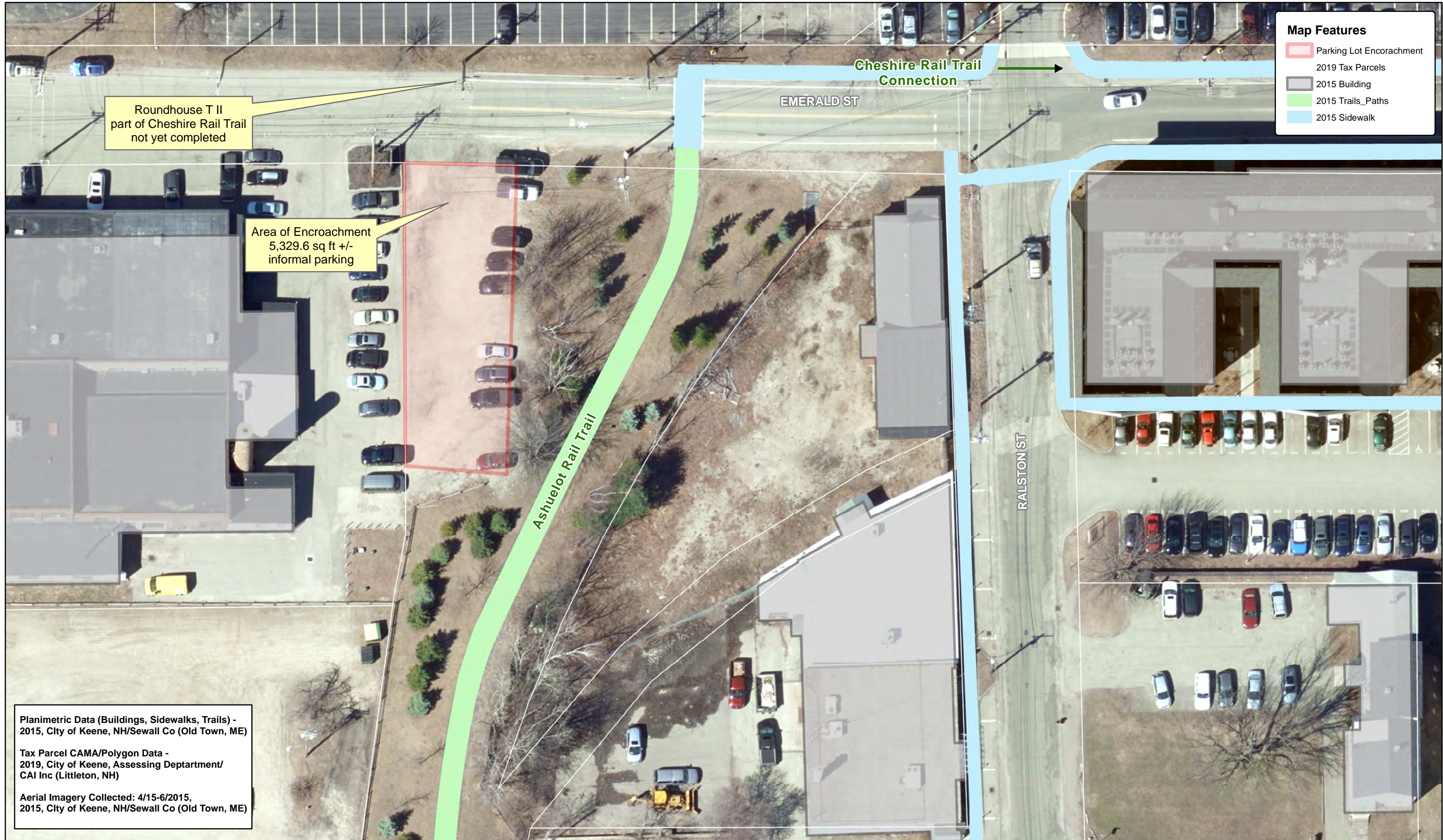
I have included a map showing a proposed subdivision. The proposed taxable piece of land would be approximately .25 acres.

I would suggest that the boundary be 6' west of the existing paved path and follow the path, with the 6' buffer, from Emerald Street to a point in line with my existing southerly boarder.

Sincerely,

Toby Tousley





Map Features

- ▭ Parking Lot Encroachment
- ▭ 2019 Tax Parcels
- ▭ 2015 Building
- ▭ 2015 Trails_Paths
- ▭ 2015 Sidewalk

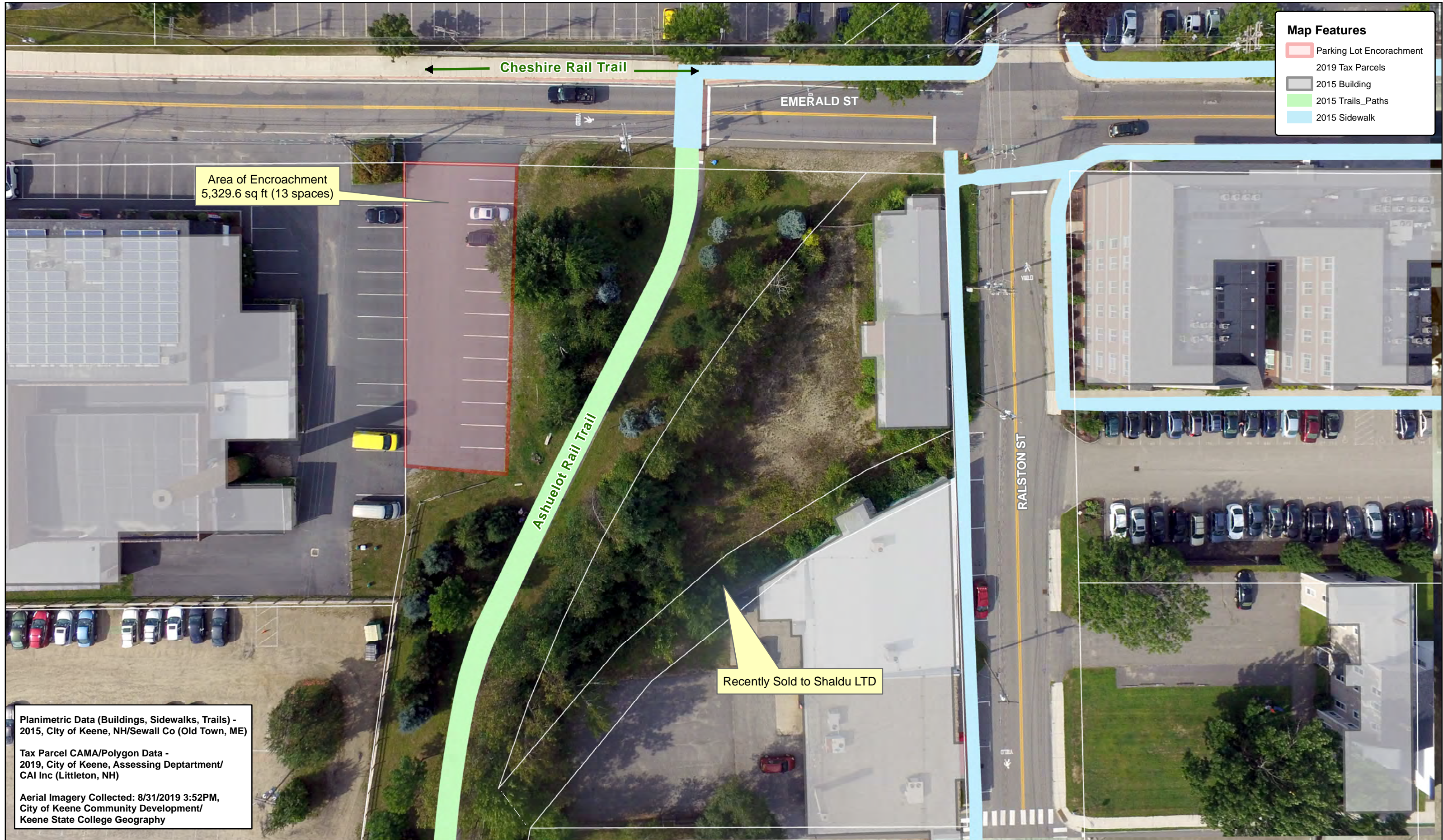
Roundhouse T II
 part of Cheshire Rail Trail
 not yet completed

Area of Encroachment
 5,329.6 sq ft +/-
 informal parking

Planimetric Data (Buildings, Sidewalks, Trails) -
 2015, City of Keene, NH/Sewall Co (Old Town, ME)

Tax Parcel CAMA/Polygon Data -
 2019, City of Keene, Assessing Department/
 CAI Inc (Littleton, NH)

Aerial Imagery Collected: 4/15-6/2015,
 2015, City of Keene, NH/Sewall Co (Old Town, ME)



Area of Encroachment
 5,329.6 sq ft (13 spaces)

Recently Sold to Shaldu LTD

Planimetric Data (Buildings, Sidewalks, Trails) -
 2015, City of Keene, NH/Sewall Co (Old Town, ME)

Tax Parcel CAMA/Polygon Data -
 2019, City of Keene, Assessing Department/
 CAI Inc (Littleton, NH)

Aerial Imagery Collected: 8/31/2019 3:52PM,
 City of Keene Community Development/
 Keene State College Geography

City of Keene
New Hampshire

BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PATH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 10, 2011

8:30 am

**4th Floor Conference Room, City
Hall**

Members Present:

Clark Dexter, Chair
Steven Ellis, Vice Chair
Thom Little
Michele Chalice, Alternate
Andy McCarron
James Duffy, Councilor

Members Not Present:

Frank Shlauer
Ed Guyot

Staff Present:

William Schoefmann, GIS
Kurt Blomquist, Public Works
Rhett Lamb, Planning
Andrew Bohannon, Director Parks &
Recreation

Others Present:

Linda Rubin
Toby Tousley

Chair Dexter called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM. Roll call was conducted.

1) Accept Minutes from July 13, 2011

Mr. Ellis made a motion to accept the minutes with the following corrections submitted by Mr. Little. Page 1, Others Present, add Chuck Redfern, Page 8, item H, paragraph 3, change “what the City Council told him” to “what the City Attorney told him,” Page 8, item H, paragraph 3, change “can only abstain” to “can only abstain.” Councilor Duffy seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

2) Sale of Properties in Vicinity of Ashuelot Rail Trail

Mr. Schoefmann noted that there are two properties up for sale by the State. This item was referred by the City Council. Mr. Lamb provided the following background information: The State owns the ROW between Emerald Street and Winchester Street where the Ashuelot Rail Trail is. Abutters and the Town are notified when individuals purchase property from the State. The State asks the City/Town whether or not they have an opinion on the sale or if the City/Town wants to purchase the property. In the past couple of weeks two notifications have been received from DOT that there are two requests to purchase properties at the northern end of the ROW section. The first item has already gone to the MFSI Committee which recommended it come to this committee for a recommendation to City Council. The recommendation should come in the form of a letter.

A. Shalldo Limited requests to purchase the property where the Keene Gas is located; on the north end of Ralston Street near Emerald Street. Mr. Lamb stated this first property is a spur that connects the Ashuelot Line to a location on Ralston Street, just north of Davis Street. It splits off on an old spur line, 20' wide. From the 2010 aerial photography it is clear that whatever is left of this ROW no longer really exists, as a ROW. It is parking for the two businesses, Grave Printing on one side and Keene Gas on the north side. The area contains fence lines, parking and storage. Mr. Lamb noted there is no obvious interest the City might have now or in the future, no existing ROW. He noted that the State needed to be cautious as to where the sale ends because at a certain point it could encroach into the main stem of the Ashuelot Line going south. If they are not cautious they could sell property that would eventually affect the use of the bike trail (BPPAC's primary concern). Mr. Lamb' recommendation to the DOT was that there is no obvious reason for the City to be involved in this section. In the 1990's the City did try to purchase the north-south section, but the State held on to it. The Master Plan had addressed this section as a road connection between Emerald and Foundry Streets.

B. Toby Tousley presented copies of the State/City survey of the property of interest. Mr. Tousley owns the piece of property on Emerald Street that is just to the west abutting the Rail Trail. The bike path meanders along the trail leaving a sizeable triangle (graveled area) that is not utilized. Many people come on to his property and park. Mr. Tousley enquired about purchasing this from the State. He stated that it made sense to put this back on the tax rolls. He continued that he can ensure the committee there would be no upsetting of the bike path if he is allowed to purchase the property. Mr. Tousley reported that through his conversations with Louis Barker he learned that the State is having issues due to the lack of sales being properly recorded during the 1800's as to the historical ownership and exact extent of the property. It may be possible that the City owns some of this property. Mr. Tousley contacted the Assessing Department and they reported the land is owned by the State. The State is not interested in investing the time or money to determine actual ownership. Mr. Tousley stated that he would cover the cost of the research. Mr. Blomquist noted that the source of the State survey document is actually from a project the City did in 2000.

Mr. Little recommended the committee discuss each item one at a time. He continued that with regards to the first property nobody cares except for where the division line is. He recommends a diagram be prepared depicting the actual division line. Mr. Lamb agreed with Mr. Little.

Chair Dexter made a motion to recommend to City Council, with regards to the first property, that they have no interest in the sale of the spur line, and that the edge of the property not encroach onto the north-south main railroad ROW. Councilor Duffy seconded the motion.

Discussion ensued and Mr. Little asked what the width of the area was. Mr. Blomquist replied that he was not comfortable at this time giving specifics. He continued that he would rather work with the State and the property owner to determine what exactly they want to do there. Theoretically Davis Street crosses that corridor, and he has to make sure that that the City's interest is preserved in the process also. He will be working with all parties involved to ensure that this and other interests are preserved.

Councilor Duffy clarified that this committee is only being asked to comment on the sale. He is in agreement with Mr. Blomquist that all the details will be worked out.

The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Regarding the second parcel Mr. Blomquist stated that this certainly is not a pathway for the bike path, however a consistent space needs to be maintained through there. He continued that the issue of Foundry Street is on record regarding its possible extension to Emerald Street; the reworking of Emerald Street to Island Street and the issue of creating a better corridor from Winchester Street up to Emerald Street. Mr. Blomquist reported that his recommendation, on the part of the Department of Public Works, to City Council would be that unless they are going to give up that plan, the full property should be retained.

Chair Dexter asked if any members were opposed to Mr. Blomquist's recommendation. No members expressed opposition.

Mr. Little asked about the width. Mr. Blomquist noted he was not comfortable giving those measurements at this time. There had been talk of making Ralston Street one-way northbound or making it a dead end at Winchester Street and making an opening at Foundry Street where it butts up against this particular corridor. Mr. Tousley commented that is assuming that the State sells the property.

Chair Dexter noted the importance of this site and asked if this committee could be kept informed.

Mr. Tousley commented that if the committee recommends the sale to him that would ensure that the trail stays as a bike path.

Chair Dexter asked for guidance as to whether or not it is within this committee's purview to recommend the sale to a particular individual. Mr. Blomquist noted that it is for this committee to recommend to the City Council whether it makes sense to consider this appropriate in its response to the State.

Mr. Ellis commented that he is inclined to recommend that the City not give up rights to any property within a certain number of feet from the centerline of the trail. Chair Dexter asked if the widths could be made available at the next meeting. Mr. Blomquist responded he was not comfortable doing that. He noted that the location of the trail is a choice of the City. If City Council and the community decided to reconfigure it, they can reconfigure it. He continued that as long as the trail remains, that is the important issue. He noted problems the City is having with other properties. He suggested a width of 30' from centerline of the path should reconstruction be necessary. Mr. Blomquist continued that the meandering trail was a conscious decision at the time. It was felt that a straight trail was not attractive, and at the time they had the whole corridor width. Mr. Little commented that this type of trail was also to aid in slowing down bike traffic coming up to Winchester Street. Mr. Lamb noted the flexibility obtained with this extra width. Mr. Blomquist noted the inflexibility of other trails in the City.

Mr. Tousley presented the second page of the survey depicting the rest of the line and its straightness. He suggested continuing the width into the upper section of the corridor maintain the triangle. Mr. Tousley noted that the “oasis” area (area containing a fence and saplings) would not be disturbed, the gravel area would be used for parking, there would be no encroaching on the bike trail, and the City would gain revenue if he is allowed to purchase this property from the State.

Mr. Ellis motioned for the committee to recommend that City Council not oppose the sale of property or the lease of the ROW to Mr. Tousley. Mr. McCarron seconded the motion.

Mr. Little expressed his concern over the lack of information regarding the property lines at this time. Ms. Chalice-Throop noted that a plan survey was needed for a decision to be reached. Chair Dexter stated that he was trying to develop a motion that would continue the trail corridor right up to Emerald Street.

Mr. Little motioned to amend the previous motion to include the preservation of the existing trail corridor. Ms. Chalice-Throop seconded the motion. The previous motion was withdrawn and the motion carried with five members voting in favor and one member voting in opposition.

3) Education and Outreach

Ms. Chalice-Throop asked if the committee would approve her writing a draft press release on the sharrow at Wheelock Park, similar to the one that came out in Portland. This would explain what a sharrow is, and outline the location. She suggested the possibility of putting up a flyer in the park with a photo, explanation, and point of contact information.

Ms. Chalice-Throop motioned for the committee to approve her developing a draft press release and draft flyer for education on the shallow at Wheelock Park. Mr. Ellis seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

4) Complete Streets

Mr. Schoefmann reported that a letter submitted by Chair Dexter, on August 1, 2011 will be presented at MFSI tonight. He also stated the memo, as directed at the last meeting, regarding the motion to recommend that the Council accept the Vision 2020/Keene Streets resolution, has been sent and will be on the MSFI agenda. These two items will be accepted as informational tonight by the Committee. Mr. Blomquist reported that the proposed resolution for Complete Streets has already been submitted.

5) BPPAC-related Project Status

A) Jonathan Daniels Trail – Chair Dexter reported that he has been discussing with Mr. Bohannon the need to develop a maintenance budget for the trails. He commented on the beauty of the Ashuelot Rail Trails and suggested members visit there. He noted that there are no funds to do a similar project on the Jonathan Daniels Trail up to Appel Way Trail. Grants or donations will be needed to do this. This would encompass the area from the arboretum to Appel Way