

# BICYCLE PEDESTRIAN PATH ADVISORY COMMITTEE AGENDA

Wednesday, July 10, 2024

8:15-9:30 AM

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room 3 Washington St, City Hall

#### **Members:**

Sam Jackson, Chair Dr. Rowland Russell, Vice Chair Ed Haas, Councilor Autumn DelaCroix Dillon Benik Jan Manwaring Michael Davern

Charles Redfern, Alternate Diana Duffy, Alternate Janelle Sartorio, Alternate

- 1) Call to Order, Roll Call, Welcome
- 2) June 12, 2024 Minutes
- 3) Community Bike Share
- 4) Safety and Outreach
  - a. Public Art and the Trails Updates
  - b. Other Bicycle Pedestrian Promotion
- 5) Regular Project Updates
- 6) Volunteer Opportunities
- 7) Old Business
  - a. Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan
  - b. Kiosk Maps and Wayfinding Updates
- 8) New Business
  - Items to be included for next meeting
- 9) More Time

Downtown Bike Lane Rules Old Stone Arch Bridge Safety Improvements BPPAC Website

10) Adjournment

Next meeting date - August 14, 2024

City of Keene 1 **New Hampshire** 2 3 4 5 BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PATH ADVISORY COMMITTEE **MEETING MINUTES** 6 7 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, Wednesday, June 12, 2024 8:15 AM **City Hall Members Present: Staff Present:** Samantha Jackson, Chair William Schoefmann, GIS Technician Dr. Rowland Russell, Vice Chair Michael Davern Councilor Edward Haas Autumn DelaCroix Charles Redfern, Alternate Janelle Sartorio, Alternate **Members Not Present: Guests:** Dillon Benik Mike Frank Diane Duffy 8 9 10 1) Call to Order, Roll Call, Welcome Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at 8:17 AM. 11 12 2) May 8, 2024, Minutes 13 Chair Jackson welcomed any corrections and discussion on the minutes. With no corrections, 14 Mr. Ed Haas moved to approve the May 8, 2024, minutes, which Dr. Rowland Russell seconded. 15 With unanimous approval, the minutes from May 8, 2024, were approved. 16 17 3) Downtown Bike Racks 18 Mr. William Schoefmann said he observed nine u-racks with a few other random types such as 19 the City Hall bike rack. Chair Jackson said she saw one by Mon Amie that is a random type. The 20 listed locations were two at Davis Street, across from Cumberland Farms, outside of Mon Amie, 21 and then a few around the Square. Chair Jackson pointed out there was one near Ye Goodie 22 23 Shoppe. 24 The highway superintendent took the recommendations and responded that it was too many 25 spots. Mr. Schoefmann whittled it down to ten spots which the superintendent used. 26 Ms. DelaCroix said the timing of putting them out was excellent because she saw them 27 frequently being used during the Food Festival. 28

Mr. Redfern shared that they are starting to focus Stantec on where things are to be located. He suggested connecting with Don Lussier or with a representative of Stantec. Mr. Schoefmann said getting a representative from Stantec might be tough. He suggested the committee members

review the plans and bring any suggestions.

Chair Jackson asked about the potential of a covered bike rack. Mr. Schoefmann suggested the committee look at it. It is something that has been looked at for some time. Mr. Haas commended Chair Jackson for her presentation on the bike racks. He questioned publicizing the bike rack presentation or at the very least getting on the agenda of the Municipal Services, Facilities & Infrastructure (MSF) Committee for recognition. Mr. Redfern asked to include bike lockers. Mr. Schoefmann suggested adding the bike locker to the preferred rack list. He said that at the next meeting, the BPPAC can make a motion to accept it once everyone has reviewed the additions. Dr. Russell agreed with Mr. Haas's suggestion to put it before MSFI but suggested adding the current locations of the rack as well. He wondered whether Mr. Lussier or someone from Public Works should be invited to the next meeting. Chair Jackson will update the current locations of the bike racks before sending it to Mr. Schoefmann. Councilor Haas noted that MSFI comes up at the end of the month and then will go to the council next month. He worried that waiting until the next BPPAC meeting would be too late. Mr. Schoefmann said it was up to

Councilor Hass motioned to approve Chair Jackson's document with suggested edits as a piece of advisory information for the MSFI. Ms. DelaCroix seconded the motion and with no discussion, the motion was approved unanimously.

the committee and dependent on Chair Jackson's confidence as to whether she could get the

Mr. Schoefmann suggested running a census on them a couple of times a summer and offered a sheet to help them with that if desired.

## 4) Safety and Outreach

document prepared in time.

#### A) Downtown Bike Lane Rules

Councilor Haas shared that the information and document were presented at the Council workshop held the previous night. Councilor Haas said it was a draft. Mr. Schoefmann said the list is probably what they are drafting into the ordinance. A detailed list was provided to City Manager Dragon by Mr. Schoefmann. That list will probably be turned into an easily referenceable website for the public.

Mr. Redfern said he attended the Stantec Presentation to the MSFI workshop. His only concern was the removal/relocation of the trail at Railroad Square from going through the middle. They moved it north of the square and will paint railroad tracks where the rail trail used to be. Their diagram was not clear in showing where the trail would go. He believes it will lead to confusion. Chair Jackson said her understanding of that area was that it becomes mixed-use, which means that whatever motion is already happening in it takes precedence. If there is already pedestrian activity, bikes will become secondary and will need to yield. It sounds chaotic, but where she has seen it happen, it is usually positive.

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- 72 Mr. Schoefmann brought the conversation back to the rules. He added references to state law in
- 73 the extended edition because the policy committee wanted a baseline. He will distribute the draft
- 74 to the BPPAC. The next step will be to adopt that into an actual ordinance.
- Dr. Russell motioned that the BPPAC acknowledges support of the documents presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Haas and was unanimously approved.

### **B)** Bicycle Pedestrian Promotion

Councilor Haas asked if anyone wanted to hold on to the banner. Mr. Schoefmann offered storage in his office. Councilor Haas offered to hang onto it and suggested taking advantage of banner use moving forward and being creative and where and how to advertise. Mr. Schoefmann pointed out that no one organization is a clearinghouse for Bike Month. Dr. Russell pointed out that Jen Risley does it, but not in a formal sense.

Chair Jackson shared the success of the community bike ride. She shared that everyone stayed together and communicated well and all seemed to have had a good time. The rides will occur monthly until October. Future rides are scheduled for July 19<sup>th</sup>, August 16<sup>th</sup>, September 20<sup>th</sup>, and October 18<sup>th</sup> (the third Friday of every month) from 5:30-6:30. Most are gone by 7 pm. Promotion is through word of mouth. Pam Bys posted it on social media and promoted it through clubs and text messages.

Dr. Russell shared that Monadnock Outdoors has a website and thought that would be a great promotion opportunity. Ms. Jeanelle Sartorio suggested routing the ride near the Transportation Heritage Trail.

## 5) Regular Project Updates

Mr. Schoefmann shared that the steering committee for the Safe Streets for All grant is meeting next week on the 24<sup>th</sup>. When they meet, there is a draft plan that will be shared. The advisory committee saw it yesterday and provided their feedback. There is lots of good work happening there. Providing the draft through the policy committee was the major update. He suggested putting an education and outreach discussion on the agenda for next month as a next step.

He then shared there was a workshop last night for the council. Councilor Haas shared that Stantec got new imaging and projected imaging on the project. One detail in the sentinel was bike lanes would be colored concrete.

Mr. Schoefmann explained that Stantec is also the consultant for phase one of the Transportation
Heritage Plan. From the public input sessions, screening along the trail was a major highlighted
factor. This trail goes behind and sometimes through people's backyards, so screening helps
provide a bit of privacy. One of the preferred options was screening treatment on fencing. That
has driven the cost up along with all the needed drainage and surface treatments along the trail.
They have not heard back from the consultants but are preparing to discuss the costs and the
need to cut in certain areas. The time for construction would be for next year.

- Dr. Russell said that while it is not part of the design, Friends of Public Art and the Historical 115
- Society would be in support of art motifs on the abutment that will be exposed when the clearing 116
- 117 happens. He asked who they should talk to about that when the time comes. Mr. Schoefmann
- suggested talking to the Heritage Commission in the meantime. 118

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- 120 Mr. Redfern said if things come to fruition, Phases 2, 3, and 4 will be eliminated in favor of a
- one-and-done plan. Annie Kuster has put in a congressional allotment. He expressed kudos to the 121
- bike and pedestrian community for helping to get that through. The city put in at least four 122
- applications for consideration of that congressional easement. He participated by taking Annie 123
- Kuster's aid on a tour of the three last phases. During the tour, he explained the challenges. The 124
- tour occurred during heavy traffic on Route 101, which helped make his case. During the tour of 125
- the bridge, the aide noted the lack of fencing and Mr. Redfern was able to explain the multiple 126
- 127 safety incidents that have happened because of the fencing. This congressional allotment still
- must be approved at the federal level. He did not know the timing and asked if Mr. Schoefmann 128
- did. Mr. Schoefmann did not either. 129

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#### **Volunteer Opportunities 6**)

- Dr. Russell asked about discussion points on bike counts. Mr. Schoefmann wanted to schedule 132
- some walk-throughs for the census to determine the usage of the bike racks. Chair Jackson said a 133
- 134 Google form would be the easiest. Chair Jackson and Mr. Schoefmann to talk offline.

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- Dr. Russell mentioned the crossing counts, in particular, crosswalk violations. Mr. Schoefmann 136
- said they would need to define what they are looking for more. With the downtown project 137
- coming up, this is something that the BPPAC may want to consider for downtown as well. It 138
- does not need to be this year, but Mr. Schoefmann said the focus could be Main Street and West 139
- Street corridors and how many cars do not stop at crosswalks. He would have to research the 140
- methodology to make sure they get it right. Dr Russell suggested focusing on the Railroad 141
- Square Crossing, Ashuelot Park Crossing, and the Central Square Crossing both on Court and 142
- Washington Street. Mr. Mike Frank suggested the School and Gilbo Avenue intersection as 143
- 144 another location.

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- Dr. Redfern commended Mr. Schoefmann for the work he put into the draft map. He shared that 146
- 147 Pathways said they will not approve it until Mike Davern signs off on it. Mr. Davern is to e-mail
- Ted McGreer. Once approved, Mr. Redfern will get it commercially printed. Ms. Sartorio 148
- pointed out that the light does not have the same convention and believes that contributes to the 149
- 150 confusion and issue.

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#### 7) **Old Business**

#### **Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan**

Mr. Schoefmann shared that the plan is for community development staff to draft a request for proposal (RFP) to go out for completion of the plan. They have been in touch with both public

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and private options for this and are expecting some decent options with it. He will share once he 156

gets it drafted. Dr. Russell wanted to acknowledge the work of this committee over the last few 157

	BPPA	C Mee	ting Minutes	DRAFT
		12, 2024		
158 159 160		ıs. He c	counted six at the visioning session. He commended that members show to	ıp and do
161		<b>B</b> )	Kiosk Maps and Wayfinding Updates	
162	Mr S	,	nann said installation of the wayfinding signs was expected mid to late sur	nmar Ha
163			t more of a concrete update soon.	IIIICI. IIC
164	wiii u	y to get	t more of a concrete update soon.	
165	8)	Now 1	Business	
166	0)	A)	Items to be included for the next meeting	
167	Chair	,	n did not have anything. Dr. Russell reminded the group of the desire to i	nvite
168			. Mr. Schoefmann will invite a staff member to discuss the downtown inf	
169	-		nt of bike racks and lockers.	rastructure
170	and pi	iaccinci	it of one facks and fockers.	
171	Mr F	rank int	troduced himself as a member of the Monadnock Cycling Club.	
172	1711. 1	i ank in	troduced infinser as a member of the Worldanbock Cycling Club.	
173	Counc	cilor Ha	aas moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Russell seconded. Mr. Schoefmann	n clarified
174			not need a motion to adjourn, the chair can simply adjourn the meeting.	retarrited
175	tilat ti	icy do i	to theed a motion to adjourn, the chair can simply adjourn the meeting.	
176	9)	More	e Time	
177	7)	A)	Public Art and the Trails Updates	
178		B)	Old Stone Arch Bridge Safety Improvements	
179		C)	BPPAC Website	
180		<b>D</b> )	Community Bike Share	
181		2)	Community Bine Share	
182	10)	Next	<b>Meeting: July 10, 2024</b>	
183	10)	1 (0110	Treemer out y 10, 2021	
184	11)	Adio	<u>urnment</u>	
185	,		no further business, Chair Jackson adjourned the meeting at 9:20 AM.	
186	111010	201115	no recently decired, chair vacabon adjourned the moving at 7.20 mm.	
187	Respe	ectfully	submitted by,	
	r		J 7	

Amanda Trask, Minute Taker 188

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Reviewed and edited by, 190

Will Schoefmann, Community Development Staff 191

BPPAC Project Updates 2024	JUL			ITEMS WITH UPDATES						
Project	PRIORITY	Master Plan Project #	Status	Budget * Cost S		Start	Schedule Status		Updates	
		Project #		Cost	Status	Start	FIIIISII	Status	(status changes and project notes)	
Master Plan	HIGH	P17	Submitted	City Staff \$50K	N/A	July 1 2024	August 1 2025	Behind	CIP Project to complete the plan in 2024/5. Staff beginning to draft RFP for release in FY'25.	
Complete Streets	N/A	N/A	Working		N/A	2018	N/A	Behind	GIS Tech working with Highway to inventory in street bike markings for budget purposes. Bike Boxes, Downtown Sharrows remarked.	
Bike Racks	HIGH	P21	Working	N/A	N/A	ongoing	N/A	N/A	Gaps in where historically placed. Chair Jackson presentation April. Updates being made to document for forwarding to City Council (publicly managed racks).	
Appel Way Trail Paving	HIGH	P7	Planning	\$ 104,900.00	Even	2025	N/A	Behind	Appel Way repaving project, CIP Budgeted in Parks and Rec Trail Maintenance Program. <b>Pushed out to 2025</b>	
Safe Streets for All Grant	N/A	N/A	Planning	NA	N/A	Spring 2023	N/A	N/A	Engineering division of DPW is managing this grant opportunity. Will Staff rep on TAC /Autumn BPPAC Rep on Steering Committee. Draft Action Plan up for TAC and Committee review.	
NHDOT TAP Grant 2018 - Marlboro Street	HIGH	BE22	Working	\$674K	Over	Winter 2018	Summer 2022	Behind	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. Project is moving into construction phase.	
Safety and Outreach	N/A	N/A	Working	N/A	N/A	Ongoing	N/A	N/A	Topics for Safety and Promotion of other Bike/Ped Initiatives via outreach. May Bike Event Banners; E Bikes; Downtown Bike Lanes. Policy recommendations to Bike Lane Policy Committee. Draft work update reported out in June, BPPAC in support with motion.	
League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly Program & other community ranking programs	N/A	N/A	Completed	Staff/Volunteer Time	N/A	Summer 2023	Summer 2023	On Schedule	Renewal process concluded and includes data gathering for a report/application. Keene awarded Silver Status with it's renewal effort. Eeport card to be reviewed at future meeting. <b>Promotion to be included on Banner for Bike Month</b> .	
Sidewalks	N/A	N/A	Submitted	CIP	Even	Spring 2022	N/A	On Schedule	Summer 2022 expecting to replace approx. 2,000 LF of asphalt sidewalk, including Colby St. and Adams St. The CIP will request funding for about 2,000 LF / year beginning in 2023.	
Downtown Infrastructure Project (MAIN STREET)	нібн	P14	Planning	CIP	Even	Summer 2023	Fall 2027	N/A	Final recommendation from City Council via MSFI includes widened sidewalks and protected bike lanes. All other concepts scrapped.  Downtown Project Workshops have concluded. Downtown Bike Lane Policy Work being done by BPPAC/BLPC	
Lower Winchester Street (Roundabout - City Line)	HIGH	P22	Planning	CIP	Even	Summer 2024	Fall 2027	N/A	Planned improvements including sidewalks connecting market place in Swanzey and Route 10/Winchester Street	
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Project								T	
Jonathan Daniels Trail Maintenance	HIGH	P3	Planning	\$25K	Even	Summer 2020	2022	N/A	CIP Budgeted in Parks and Rec Trail Maintenace Program.
Wayfinding Signage Facilities and Plan	HIGH	P11	Working	City Staff, \$42,000	N/A	Planning	N/A	On Schedule	BPPAC Considering overall wayfinding plan with Parks/Rec, DPW and Comm Dev Departments. <b>UNH Downtown Trails Initiative</b> completed. Next steps signage design and placement in conjunction with City branding effort. Planned installation mid-late summer.
◆Transportation Heritage Trail ◆									
THT Phase 1 - CRT Eastern Ave to NH 101 (Transportation Heritage Trail)	HIGH	P1	Working	\$ 386,400.00	Over	2024	2025	N/A	Project includes from Eastern Ave - 101 Bridge abutments. Stantec and City reviewed draft Engineering Study Report - submited to NHDOT for review and approval of proposed improvments. Project overbudget.
THY Phase 2 - Prowse Bridge - CRT NH 101 Overpass to Stone Arch Bridge (Transportation Heritage Trail)	HIGH	P4	Planning	\$ 381,685.00	N/A	2027	N/A	N/A	Installation of the Historic Prowse Bridge at NH Route 101 and connecting the Cheshire Rail Trail to the Old Stone Arch Bridge and safety improvements (railings) to Old Stone Arch Bridge. Promotional website and video released with funding donation from PFK.
THT Phase 3 - Old Stone Arch Bridge - (Transportation Heritage Trail)	НІСН	P4	Planning	\$ 321,195.00	N/A	2025	N/A	N/A	Collaboration with Heritage Commission to conduct research and assist with Historic Resources LCHIP application for railing/abutment design. PFK funding conceptual visuals. LCHIP grant planned for 2022 to fund Planning Study phase. Promotional website and video released with funding donation from PFK.
THT Phase 4 - Island Street Bailey Bridge - Swanzey Factory Road to Town Line (Transportation Heritage Trail)	MEDIUM	Р4	Planning	\$ 1,862,310.00	N/A	2027	N/A	N/A	Installation of the Historic Island Street Bailey Bridge at Swanzey Factory Road to create a safe overpass for trail users and creating continuity of the Cheshire Rail Trail towards the Swanzey Town line. Island Street bridge due to be removed from Island Street during current project in March.
NHDOT Route 101 Improvement Project	HIGH	P23	Planning	NA	Even	2023	2025	On Schedule	NHDOT Project including widening and other improvements to NH Route 101 in the vicinity of the THT and improvements to the intersection of RT 101/Swanzey Factory Rd.
West Street - Complete Street	MEDIUM	P19	Planning	\$ 785,275.00	N/A	2027	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. Funds available in 2027, DOT 10 Year Plan redesign/construction
AMENITIES	нібн	P21	Working	City Staff, Facility and Maintenance Costs	Under	Planning	N/A	On Schedule	Staff should establish a base line of existing amenities. Types and locations of future amenities should be planned. To include Kiosk/Trailhead facilities, Trailside Facilities such as bathrooms, potable water and tune up stations. Outreach to the artist community to identify spots on the trails for public art will enhance the unique qualities of our system. TRAIL LIGHTS NOW INCLUDED HERE

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