



City of Keene

Bicycle / Pedestrian Path Advisory Committee (BPPAC)

AGENDA - AMENDED

Wednesday, April 8, 2026

8:15-9:30 AM

City Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room

Committee Charge Summary: *Encourage communication between users of Keene's bicycle and pedestrian systems, city staff, and advise City Council on related matters. Provide recommendations, assist with planning and grant efforts, advocate for infrastructure improvements, and promote the safe and accessible use of the City's active transportation network.*

A. AGENDA ITEMS

1) **Call to Order**

2) **Adoption of Minutes** – March 11, 2026

3) **Safety & Outreach**

- a) Review Upcoming Schedule of Events
- b) Cheshire Rail Trail – Trail Walk in Commemoration of the 30th Anniversary
- c) Monadnock Alliance for Sustainable Transportation (MAST) Updates
- d) Process for Repainting Road Markings
- e) Article for The Local Crowd Monadnock

4) **Regular Project Updates**

- a) BPPAC Master Plan Update
- b) Updates to Project Tracking Table
- c) Mobility Management

5) **New Business** (*Suggested items for next meeting*)

6) **Next meeting date** – May 13, 2026

B. MORE TIME ITEMS

- 1) A Week Without Driving: September 28, 2026 - October 4, 2026

C. ADJOURNMENT

City of Keene
New Hampshire

BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN PATH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 11, 2026

8:15 AM

2nd Floor Conference Room,
City Hall

Members Present:

Dwight Fischer, Chair
Councilor Edward Haas, Vice Chair
Brian Phillips
Rowland Russell
Charles Redfern (remote; left at 8:59 AM)
Jacob Robertson
Michael Davern, Alternate
Diana Duffy, Alternate
Andy Holte, Alternate

Staff Present:

William Schoefmann, GIS Coordinator
Jason Nadeau, Parks & Recreation Program
Manager

Members Not Present:

Samantha Jackson

1) Call to Order

Chair Fischer called the meeting to order at 8:21 AM. Mr. Redfern participated remotely from Florida due to travel. He was alone in the room he called from.

[*Certain Agenda items were heard out-of-order.*]

2) Adoption of Minutes – February 11, 2026

Revision: Line 327, change “Jacobson” to “Robertson.”

A motion by Vice Chair Haas to adopt the February 11, 2026 minutes as amended was duly seconded by Mr. Phillips and the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Redfern was absent from the vote.

3) Safety & Outreach

A) **2026 Monadnock Region Earth Festival – Saturday, April 25th from 11:00 AM–3:00 PM in Railroad Square**

Vice Chair Haas and Mr. Redfern had participated in this event the previous few years. It involves a table with information and talking to the citizenry about what the trail system offers and what the Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Advisory Committee (BPPAC) does. Vice Chair Haas said in the past,

32 the BPPAC’s table was next to Pathways for Keene’s table for mutual support. He noted that the
33 materials provided at the table for this event had never been particularly “exotic,” but he said that
34 if anyone wanted to bring anything, it would be welcome. Vice Chair Haas could provide the table,
35 as well as a tent if necessary. He said the BPPAC should be able to participate, noting the trick is
36 arriving early enough to get the key spaces. Pathways for Keene always gets the front, and Vice
37 Chair Haas said BPPAC wants to be second in Railroad Square. Mr. Redfern agreed. Vice Chair
38 Haas volunteered to table at the 2026 Monadnock Region Earth Festival on Saturday, April 25
39 from 11:00 AM–3:00 PM. Dr. Russell volunteered to help set up and stay for a part of the time
40 earlier in the day.

41
42 Ms. Duffy asked whether the Committee was sure it wanted to table at this event. She attended for
43 many years and in 2025, the weather was very cold; she called it a “washout.” She thought it would
44 be good for the Committee to ask itself the value and objective of participating, noting past
45 challenges of rallying volunteers and absence of materials. Ms. Duffy said the BPPAC has links
46 for information; in 2025, Vice Chair Haas displayed QR codes in an effort toward a trash free
47 event. Ms. Duffy wondered about other ways to spread the BPPAC’s message without staffing a
48 table; she did not think the Committee needed a table and did not think that it was scandalous to
49 say. Ms. Duffy reminded the Committee that there could be other ways to be involved. Chair
50 Fischer thought that it was a good point to consider.

51
52 Dr. Russell argued the counterpoint, noting that in the past BPPAC displayed physical maps,
53 sometimes on the shared tables with Pathways for Keene. He suggested one reason to consider
54 tabling was because the Committee had not begun its master planning process. Dr. Russell thought
55 this event/table could be an opportunity to gently solicit input from the community that could help
56 inform the BPPAC’s master planning process. He added that the week before the Monadnock
57 Region Earth Festival is Keene State College’s (KSC) Solar Fest, where Keene’s Energy and
58 Climate Committee (ECC) would have a table. Maureen Nebenzahl, the ECC Vice Chair,
59 contacted Dr. Russell because of his role in community gardens and requested some information
60 to share.

61
62 Ms. Nebenzahl also asked whether there are any materials (e.g., maps) the BPPAC might want
63 displayed at the Solar Fest ECC table. Vice Chair Haas noted the BPPAC’s banner (i.e., 30” x 80”,
64 which is displayed in May for Bike Week) could hang near the ECC’s tent at Solar Fest. If there
65 were no objections, he thought that the banner could be displayed at KSC the week before the
66 event too; it would advertise Kiwanis Kool Wheels and Keene as a bicycle friendly community.
67 Dr. Russell pointed out that the ECC has its own banner, so there may not be space for two banners
68 at the ECC Solar Fest table. He added that it would only make sense to have the ECC banner
69 displayed if one Committee was tabling.

70
71 Chair Fisher said it sounded to him like there was enough Committee energy for the Monadnock
72 Region Earth Festival but remaining questions about: (1) why is the Committee doing it? (2) what
73 is the impact? Chair Fischer thought the conversation pointed out that if there were some people
74 and energy behind it, then it would bubble up to the top; otherwise, it would fall off. Chair Fischer
75 and Mr. Robertson added themselves as potential volunteers for the Earth Festival in addition to
76 Vice Chair Haas and Dr. Russell.

77

78 Discussion continued about the Committee’s plan for Monadnock Region Earth Festival. Vice
79 Chair Haas noted that he was unsure the BPPAC does much other than have a presence at the
80 Festival. Since so many BPPAC members go to the event, he was unsure there would be much
81 more for the BPPAC to do than stand by the table and support Pathways for Keene. He agreed
82 with Ms. Duffy that for an Earth Festival, the Committee does not want to promote a lot of paper
83 and trash. Mr. Schoefmann thought this could be a good opportunity for BPPAC members to
84 spread the word about impending community engagement for the Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Master
85 Plan, although he knew the discussion had been about going paperless. Dr. Russell agreed that it
86 would be good to talk with the City Engineer, Bryan Ruoff, because once the vendor signs the
87 contract for the Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Master Plan, there could possibly be an online feedback
88 form to collect helpful community information. Mr. Schoefmann did not think the contract would
89 be signed by April.

90
91 Mr. Redfern replied to Ms. Duffy’s question. Mr. Redfern said participating in this event would
92 also help to let the public know the background and history of how the trails were developed,
93 which he and Mr. Schoefmann agreed is a good thing. On this note, Dr. Russell said he spoke with
94 Mr. Redfern about the need to look back through all the documentation, specifically about when
95 actual construction occurred on the Cheshire Rail Trail; it could be a 30-year anniversary. They
96 discussed Dr. Jim Gruber from Antioch University New England, who spearheaded the research
97 and grant writing, and Mr. Redfern with Pathways for Keene, leading a history walk along the trail
98 for the 30-year anniversary (if it were confirmed). So, Dr. Russell said if that walk proceeded,
99 there could be a poster about it at the Earth Festival table, or at least information about the history
100 of the Rail Trail. Mr. Robertson agreed. He said the Cheshire Rail Trail is great, and the Committee
101 should celebrate it and promote it.

102
103 Chair Fischer said it sounded like this event had potential. There would be one more BPPAC
104 meeting (April 22nd) before the Monadnock Region Earth Festival on April 25, 2026. The list of
105 volunteers at this time were: Chair Fischer, Vice Chair Haas, Dr. Russell, Mr. Robertson, and Mr.
106 Phillips. Ms. Duffy offered to contact the Monadnock Food Co-Op about reserving the table before
107 the April 22, 2026, BPPAC meeting. Dr. Russell noted that once that step is accomplished, the
108 BPPAC would appear in all of the 2026 Monadnock Region Earth Festival publicity. Mr.
109 Schoefmann said that if they were to need the City of Keene logo, etc., he could send it (he thought
110 the Co-Op probably had it already). Dr. Russell asked if there is a large-scale copy of the Cheshire
111 Rail Trail map to bring. Chair Fischer confirmed that he meant the map published in 2025. Mr.
112 Schoefmann said he thought it would be available to print again. Chair Fischer asked Mr. Redfern
113 whether he still had any of the printed maps. Mr. Redfern would bring the few he still thought he
114 had.

115
116 **B) Annual Mayoral Bike Ride – Letter to Mayor**

117
118 Mr. Holte reported on what Ms. Duffy said could be Keene’s first “Annual Mayoral Bike Ride.”
119 After the February 2026 BPPAC meeting, Mr. Holte and Dr. Russell met with Mayor Kahn to
120 discuss the idea (Vice Chair Haas spoke with the Mayor too). Mr. Holte recalled that the concept
121 for this event from other cities is to have the Mayor and City Council go on a bike ride with the
122 community on a particular day. Specifically, the goal is for the Mayor and Council to experience
123 the City on a bike, sense what may need to change, and be involved with the community.

124
125 Mr. Holte reported on his conversation with Dr. Russell and Mayor Kahn. Mr. Holte said the mayor
126 is on board with the idea and noted that they also discussed May 15, 2026: this is “Bike to Work
127 Day” during “Bike Week.” The mayor took Mr. Holte and Dr. Russell to the City Clerk’s Office
128 to retrieve the application for the Use of Public Ways: Parades, Bikes, and Footraces. Mr. Holte
129 passed the application around to the Committee. They were informed that event would not need to
130 appear before the City Council if no roads will be closed and there is no need for Police. With the
131 minimal impact of this event, this application would allow for administrative approval by the City
132 Clerk’s Office; however, Mr. Holte said there is a \$50.00 application fee and the potential need
133 for insurance.

134
135 Dr. Russell communicated with members of Pathways for Keene and a former BPPAC member,
136 Jan Manwaring, who often completes the forms for Pathways. Because of the connection to
137 Pathways for Keene, Dr. Russell said Ms. Manwaring and Mr. Redfern sent BPPAC’s application
138 to the full Pathways for Keene Board, with the idea of collaborating/cosponsoring. Pathways for
139 Keene indicated that they would discuss it at their April Board Meeting. However, Dr. Russell said
140 the timing may not align to submit the application in time for approval. Discussion ensued briefly
141 as Dr. Russell noted the matter would have to appear before a City Council Standing Committee
142 and then City Council for approval if there were a significant impact from the event (i.e., road
143 closure). However, he and Vice Chair Haas agreed that it would likely not be the case, and it should
144 be an administrative approval by the Clerk’s Office.

145
146 Dr. Russell said that left the question of the \$50.00 application fee, but he thought the Committee
147 could contribute. He said he would write to Pathways for Keene to inquire about their insurer and
148 the cost. Dr. Russell noted that it could definitely be a limiting factor if the Committee cannot
149 afford the insurance as well. Committee Staff Liaison, Mr. Schoefmann, thought that if the Mayor
150 sponsors the Bike Ride, then the City’s insurance, Primex, may more than likely have a role; he
151 said Mayor Kahn would probably have to start that conversation. Chair Fischer and Mr.
152 Schoefmann agreed that it would be something big to understand and probably best approached
153 internally by the City, so Mr. Schoefmann said he would take it on. Chair Fischer did not think the
154 \$50.00 application fee was significant.

155
156 Lisa Steadman, Southwest Region Planning Commission’s (SWRPC) Monadnock Region
157 Mobility Manager (formerly Terry Johnson), arrived at 8:40 AM and introduced herself.

158
159 The Committee discussed whether the May 15, 2026 date was confirmed for the first “Annual
160 Mayoral Bike Ride.” Mr. Holte said no, there was still flexibility if logistics proved to be too
161 challenging. The event could be anytime with warm enough weather. He mentioned that it could
162 align with the unofficial monthly Keene community rides during warm weather. Mr. Holte spoke
163 with Pam, who helps with those rides, and said there would be potential to coordinate and merge
164 them. Community rides are usually on the third Fridays of the month, which also aligns with “Bike
165 to Work Day.”

166
167 Mr. Holte noted that when submitting the application, the Committee would need to provide the
168 route for the Mayoral Bike Ride. Dr. Russell said he discussed the route with the Mayor, who
169 rides, but would prefer a less strenuous route. Dr. Russell recalled the Committee talking about

170 this being an opportunity to highlight some of the infrastructure work related to the dedicated
171 protected bike lanes, likely to start at Railroad Square. He did not suggest riding on Main Street
172 but said the locations of the forthcoming dedicated protected bike lanes could be pointed out. Dr.
173 Russell suggested pointing out the Marlboro Bypass while going past. Then, stop at the end of
174 Eastern Avenue to point out where the Transportation Heritage Trail will start. He said perhaps
175 the ride could be structured in such a way to pass by Patricia Russell Park, which is relatively new,
176 and the Skate Park. Dr. Russell thought there would be a chance to use the route to highlight things
177 being done in the City.

178
179 Mr. Holte and Dr. Russell agreed to prepare a draft route for the April 2026 BPPAC meeting. They
180 would also start working on the Application for Use of Public Ways: Parades, Bikes, and
181 Footraces, pending information from Mr. Schoefmann about insurance. Dr. Russell would confirm
182 whether there would be need for Council Committee approval. The Committee would work out
183 the Application fee at the next meeting.

184
185 **C) Bike Week Agenda**
186

187 The Committee brainstormed ideas for a possible “Bike Week.”
188

189 Vice Chair Haas noted that Saturday, May 2, 2026, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM is the Kiwanis Kool
190 Wheels event at the Keene Recreation Center. He said BPPAC members joined in the past to
191 contribute simple maintenance on people’s bikes. The BPPAC’s participation in that event is not
192 sponsored by the city or by the Committee; individuals purely offer to help with the repairs. Vice
193 Chair Haas said the Kiwanis Club would be seeking volunteers to join him for repairs. The Kiwanis
194 Club offered the BPPAC a table during the event to talk about bike maintenance and other things.
195 Vice Chair Haas said he had not responded yet because it was something the BPPAC had not done
196 before. He was unsure whether he wanted to volunteer to organize but wondered whether anybody
197 else might.

198
199 Dr. Russell was reminded that May 2026 is also “Bike Month,” not just “Bike to Work Week.”
200 So, he thought the Committee could be looking for opportunities during the whole month. He
201 thought these were things to add to the table for the Earth Festival and Solar Fest. Dr. Russell
202 offered to draft a poster about the “Annual Mayoral Bike Ride” to promote it at BPPAC tabling.
203 He recalled a pop-up bike repair one year at the Earth Festival. He thought someone came to a
204 BPPAC meeting who does that. Dr. Russell wondered whether the Committee should reach out to
205 have repair/maintenance as an option the day after the “Mayoral Bike Ride.”
206

207 Mr. Schoefmann noted the Committee should keep in mind there would be a Mayoral Proclamation
208 one or two weeks before the event; the Committee requests that the mayor make the proclamation
209 in advance. There is standard language, but information could also come from this Committee.
210 Someone from the Committee would need to be present at the Council meeting to receive the
211 proclamation in front of Council, often the Chair or a selection of members.

212
213 Chair Fischer clarified the actual dates of “Bike Week” 2026. Dr. Russell reported that the League
214 of American Bicyclists’ “Bike to Work Week” would be Monday, May 11 through Sunday, May
215 17. This includes “Bike to Work Day” on Friday, May 15, 2026.

216
217 Dr. Russell said the Mayor was already aware that the BPPAC would be requesting a proclamation.
218 Dr. Russell said the Committee should decide what the proclamation would be for specifically. In
219 the past it was for “Bike Month,” but Dr. Russell thought it may also be a joint proclamation with
220 “Bike to Work Week.” He said the Committee provides the information. Mr. Schoefmann agreed
221 that the Committee would receive a copy of the proclamation to revise it.
222

223 Mr. Holte mentioned that in the past, Monadnock Alliance for Sustainable Transportation (MAST)
224 had promoted “Bike to Work Week,” but it sounded like that was not happening this year. Mr.
225 Schoefmann thought Commute Smart New Hampshire had used an application for people to track
226 miles for the past six/seven years. Ms. Steadman agreed. She noted that MAST had become very
227 Complete Streets-centric, which was their only focus at this time. Ms. Steadman said she had been
228 trying to get MAST to open up some of the other ride-sharing committees and things outside of
229 Complete Streets. Chair Fischer said this would be something good to follow up on during the
230 April 2026 meeting.
231

232 Dr. Russell said he would look into using one of the online tools people can use as gentle
233 challenges for “Bike to Work Week” to self-track miles they ride. He said there would be no prizes
234 and no fundraising; it is for people to challenge themselves for the week and track it.
235

236 **4) Regular Project Updates**
237 **A) BPPAC Master Plan Update**
238

239 Mr. Schoefmann reported that the internal staff review committee began reviewing the requests
240 for proposals and selected VHB as the consultant after receiving bids on February 6, 2026. He said
241 VHB has a strong background and helped complete the Safe Streets for All Report that was
242 conducted for the City, so they are well-informed. At this time, the City was waiting for the
243 contract to be signed as a few things still being worked out with the City Attorney. As soon as that
244 was completed, Mr. Schoefmann said there should be some kickoff dates for a Steering Committee
245 meeting after the consultant meets staff. Chair Fischer said the consultant would be interpreting
246 and then there would be a Subcommittee. Mr. Schoefmann explained that the idea is for the
247 BPPAC to serve as the *Steering Committee (SC)*. The consultant will visit the SC, which requires
248 a quorum of the BPPAC to hold its separate meetings. The consultant will guide the City through
249 the project. So, once the contract is signed, Mr. Schoefmann said everyone will have a better idea
250 of those next steps.
251

252 Vice Chair Haas noted this is a \$50,000 contract with the City to write a Bicycle/Pedestrian Path
253 Master Plan (he thought the title should be “Pedestrian/Bicycle Path Master Plan,” so there would
254 be emphasis for pedestrians). Vice Chair Haas explained that he was somewhat uncomfortable
255 with this spending. He noted the city had just ended a master planning exercise, with a lot of things
256 in that 2025 Comprehensive Master Plan (CMP) about improving the pedestrian/bicycle
257 environment. He said the CMP was written not only with aspirations, but with Action Items, which
258 the SC may end up reviewing. Vice Chair Haas said he was unsure that a new Bicycle/Pedestrian
259 Path Master Plan would do except reiterate those same ideas and actions. He passed around Action
260 Items from pages 50 through 52 of the 2025 CMP, which discusses action plans to be undertaken.
261 He stated that he did not imagine the BPPAC would be able to accomplish anything better than

262 what was listed on those pages. He thought that if the Committee leaned into these CMP Action
263 Items, it could have greater impact.

264
265 However, Vice Chair Haas heard that the consulting contract was already signed, but he really
266 hoped that was not the case. Mr. Schoefmann thought Vice Chair Haas should probably contact
267 City Engineer, Bryan Ruoff. Mr. Schoefmann was not going to field this question at this time. Vice
268 Chair Haas said it was his understanding that the contract was not yet signed and in these troubled
269 times, he thought that it might be “a hard left.” Chair Fischer asked for a summary to clarify the
270 issue. Mr. Schoefmann that this Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Master Plan had been budgeted for the
271 previous two years. Mr. Schoefmann stated that he was “not exactly sure where trimming \$50,000
272 worth of fat is going to really make a difference,” adding that was his perspective.

273
274 Dr. Russell said he understood Vice Chair Haas’ point and agreed that there were aspects he could
275 see overlapping with the CMP. However, Dr. Russell said the CMP is not very detailed, calling it
276 pretty big and very vague. For instance, he did not see development of the Transportation Heritage
277 Trail represented; he called it implicit, but not explicit and said there would be a lot of connective
278 work to do. Dr. Russell thought the “connective tissues” the BPPAC discussed were not present in
279 the CMP as the starting point (e.g., wayfinding project, sites for proposed kiosks), as well as the
280 level/scale of detail to address the planning needs that would allow the BPPAC to consider the
281 outcomes it is trying to achieve, the strategies to get there, and the resources needed to make this
282 happen. Dr. Russell said those aspects are not in the CMP.

283
284 Mr. Holte also respectfully disagreed with Vice Chair Haas. Mr. Holte thought that if the
285 Committee was going to abandon the idea, it probably would have wanted to do it earlier, noting
286 that the project was pretty close to ready. Mr. Holte thought the CMP would be a good starting
287 point, and then the whole point is to focus on how that gets executed; he thought about it like a
288 funnel in terms of the CMP for the City overall. Whereas the Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Master Plan
289 is how the City approaches pedestrian and bicycle access, and he thought it would be a good
290 opportunity to further refine the CMP and lead to actual action.

291
292 Mr. Phillips confirmed that the City’s CMP was completed in 2025 and now there would be a new
293 master plan for bicycle/pedestrian path uses. Mr. Schoefmann said yes, the City’s previous
294 Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Master Plan was from 1999. To be good stewards of funds, Mr. Phillips
295 said that if the 2025 CMP covers some of the bicycle/pedestrian path uses, he thought the
296 Committee may be spending more money to redo the same work. He said that if the CMP exists,
297 the Steering Committee for the Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Master Plan should use it and not ignore
298 it.

299
300 Chair Fischer thought it was okay to ask about the impact of these things. He returned to the core
301 question of whether \$50,000 would ultimately be worth the updated Bicycle/Pedestrian Path
302 Master Plan and whether it would take a consultant to accomplish that (i.e., could it be done another
303 way). However, Chair Fischer said this process was already in motion. Mr. Schoefmann said it
304 was fully in progress.

305
306 Mr. Redfern left the meeting remotely at 8:59 AM.

307

308 Dr. Russell recalled mentioning the Brattleboro Walk/Bike Master Plan at previous meetings. It
309 was prepared with a consultant. He recommended that other BPPAC members look at it, noting it
310 is only about 50 pages of reading. Dr. Russell said he was going to state a “both/and” scenario: the
311 CMP’s existence helps the BPPAC leverage anything it does in its Master Plan because it can say
312 the CMP is the City’s Master Plan and the reason for doing anything put forward in the
313 Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Master Plan is because of the CMP; although the CMP does not have the
314 same level of detail, Dr. Russell said it provides enough foundation for the BPPAC to cite it and
315 leverage what it needs to have happen.

316
317 Mr. Robertson said he understood the Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Master Plan to be the BPPAC’s
318 guidance document. The Committee would use the City’s CMP and supplement it with ideas. He
319 said the Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Master Plan would be like the BPPAC’s constitution, in a way,
320 so he asked if that is not important. Chair Fischer replied that it is the opportunity to ensure the SC
321 (i.e., BPPAC) drives the process, stating that the consultant should take most everything from the
322 Committee. Therefore, the Chair said the BPPAC would need to be very clear on what it needs to
323 get out of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Master Plan. Mr. Robertson said the Bicycle/Pedestrian Path
324 Master Plan SC could expand on the Keene 2025 Comprehensive Master Plan Action Items (i.e.,
325 less detailed) with ideas and real specific purpose that might not be detailed in the City’s view at
326 this time.

327
328 Dr. Russell clarified that the City’s CMP is aspirational, it is not necessarily strategic. There are
329 some step-by-step things, but very little of them. So, he said the Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Master
330 Plan would be taking those aspirations and operationalizing them.

331
332 Ms. Steadman, SWPRC’s Mobility Manager for the Monadnock Region, referred to the Connected
333 Mobility Pillar of Keene’s CMP. She wondered whether the Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Master Plan
334 would include things like multimodal and microtransit, or would it be narrowly focus on bicycles
335 and pedestrians. Chair Fischer said the latter. Chair Fischer and Dr. Russell agreed that things like
336 multimodal and microtransit are not the BPPAC’s charge.

337
338 Vice Chair Haas confirmed that this Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Master Plan had been budgeted
339 “forever,” and that selection of a consultant was well underway. However, he said the budget had
340 not been expended. While he noted it was hard for him to disagree with any of the emotions here,
341 he wondered whether the Committee would be respecting the CMP that was created well enough.
342 That was his hesitation. Vice Chair Haas agreed that there is a lot more that could be added to the
343 CMP. He said the Action Items in the CMP are strategic; next, tactical goals would be needed. It
344 struck Vice Chair Haas that the city had not worked on the CMP enough yet before going to the
345 next level of having a more practical master plan for pedestrian/bicycling.

346
347 Mr. Schoefmann noted how much the Planning Division of the Community Development
348 Department had been looking forward to adding a Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Master Plan as an
349 addendum to the 2025 CMP. He said the Public Works and Engineering staff, as well as public
350 bicycle/pedestrian advocates had been “chomping at the bit” for this Bicycle/Pedestrian Path
351 Master Plan for over a decade. Mr. Holte added that having an updated Bicycle/Pedestrian Path
352 Master Plan would probably help the Committee/City with executing things like grant applications
353 and Ms. Steadman agreed.

354
355 A motion by Vice Chair Haas to postpone the Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Advisory Committee’s
356 recommendation to the Community Development Department on execution of the contract for the
357 Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Master Plan at least until the April 2026 BPPAC meeting, so the
358 Committee can examine the existing Keene 2025 Comprehensive Master Plan and develop the
359 thoughts discussed during this meeting. With no second, the motion failed.

360
361 **B) Updates to Project Tracking Table**
362

363 Mr. Schoefmann explained that the Project Tracking Table is where City staff track updates to
364 initiatives that are relevant to the Committee. The table is included in the BPPAC Agenda packets,
365 and the City Engineer highlights any projects with updates. Mr. Schoefmann provided updates on
366 the following projects from the Tracking Table:
367

- 368 • FY26 Sidewalk Rehab Project: Mr. Schoefmann reported that a list of these projects is
369 available in the 2027 through 2033 published Capital Improvement Program (CIP). The
370 projects were currently being bid at this time, and he said they should be opened during
371 March 2026. So, there will be more information from the City Engineer soon.
- 372 • Downtown Infrastructure Project (Main Street): the City rebid for the Project during March
373 2026, and Mr. Schoefmann reported that bids would hopefully be opened in April. At this
374 time, pending responsive bidders, the City planned to start some sort of construction in
375 June 2026. Mr. Schoefmann directed the Committee to a list of the Downtown
376 Infrastructure Project phases. In response to Dr. Russell, Mr. Schoefmann recalled that the
377 Project had to be rebid because some items were way out of bounds and so the bids were
378 way out of budget. The dedicated protected bike lanes were some items in the budget that
379 were most in line with what was anticipated rather than some of the other items, so those
380 did not need to be pared down.
- 381 • Transportation Heritage Trail (THT) Phase 1 – CRT Eastern Avenue to NH 101: work
382 began at the end of February 2026 in an attempt to accomplish drainage work prior to the
383 ground thawing, when it gets really messy. Mr. Schoefmann thought the City Engineer,
384 Bryan Ruoff, would have more information at the next meeting.

385
386 **C) Sidewalk Rehab Project – Replacement Overlay & Plans**
387

388 Discussed under “Updates to Project Tracking Table” item above.
389

390 **5) New Business (Suggested Items for Next Meeting)**
391

392 The Committee discussed items to be covered at the next meeting. Mr. Schoefmann said the
393 Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Master Plan would certainly be covered, in addition to items such as Bike
394 Month, Bike to Work Week, and the 2026 Monadnock Region Earth Festival.

395
396 Mr. Holte wanted to ask the City Engineer about how the City approaches updating and refreshing
397 painted markings, such as crosswalks and at stop signs, when needed. Mr. Schoefmann said he
398 could give the layman’s answer: most of the long line striping and symbol striping are awarded,
399 sometimes through the same contract, oftentimes broken-out and subcontracted. Some recent

400 parking spaces and symbolization were done in-house with a refabricated paint machine.
401 Otherwise, Mr. Schoefmann said the City Engineer would provide more information about how
402 they plan to bid for that in 2026. He told Mr. Holte he could email the City Engineer and ask him
403 to update the Committee, noting that this was discussed at the meeting. Mr. Schoefmann would
404 try to seek an update as well.

405
406 Dr. Russell noted that Monadnock Region Earth Festival is the same day as Green Up Keene. Mr.
407 Redfern, Scott from Pathways for Keene, and Dr. Russell usually table the Festival. So, they
408 coordinate a clean-up each year on the following day (Sunday), so those at Earth Festival can
409 participate in Green Up Keene. Dr. Russell said he would coordinate with Mr. Redfern and share
410 details about the timing at the next meeting for anyone interested.

411
412 Councilor Haas reported that he offered the services of the BPPAC to the Monadnock 250th
413 Anniversary Committee for the July 4, 2026 event: to help organize the kids bike parade, meeting
414 up with whoever comes down to Keene State College, helping with decorating bikes and getting
415 them all lined up, making sure they have helmets, and similar providing similar help with the
416 parade. He explained that the parade will proceed up Main Street. Vice Chair Haas thought it
417 would be great for this to be an official BPPAC sponsorship but said it would also be great to just
418 volunteer. He was unsure whether the Committee would need to vote on whether to participate.
419 Mr. Schoefmann said the group could discuss it at the next meeting. Vice Chair Haas said he would
420 start recruiting people or Committee members could let him know how they would like to
421 contribute. He encouraged everyone to get their baseball cards ready to donate for the effort and
422 Dr. Russell mentioned Pokémon cards as well.

423
424 Vice Chair Haas asked when the annual Bike-Walk New Hampshire Tour of New Hampshire
425 would be coming to Keene in 2026. Chair Fischer asked about the Tour of New Hampshire. Vice
426 Chair Haas said it is a ride through approximately 15 various New Hampshire communities. Mr.
427 Phillips said this was on the agenda for the Monadnock Cycling Club on March 10, 2026 and he
428 could check the minutes (he was not in attendance) because he thought there had been some
429 negative dialogue back and forth. He did not know all the details, but he had access to the minutes.
430 Vice Chair Haas said the Tour of New Hampshire events are approximately 20- to 80-mile rides
431 that occur in different communities over different weekends during the summer. One leg comes
432 through Keene at some point. Mr. Holte noted that in 2025, the ride was on the rail trail.

433

434 **6) More Time Items**

435
436 Chair Fischer suggested deleting all of the listed More Time Items, asking if anyone wanted to
437 keep any of them on the agenda. Mr. Robertson asked why the items were on “More Time.” The
438 Committee discussed each item:

439

440 **A) Website**

441
442 Chair Fischer summarized that he felt this should be removed from “More Time” because it had
443 been listed for over one year. It had come up that the BPPAC should have its own website, and he
444 said it seemed to stall. In the Chair’s assessment, it would require someone to maintain it and keep
445 it updated/working within the Keene portal system. Chair Fischer also felt that **the Committee**

446 should be using social media. Mr. Schoefmann explained that the Committee has a landing page
447 on the City’s website for membership and other boilerplate things. He added the Safe Streets for
448 All Report and some other items that the Committee wanted added to the page. Mr. Schoefmann
449 said the Committee has a webpage, but it is just not very “flashy.” Chair Fischer said it is also not
450 bi-directional, so users cannot engage with it.

451
452 Dr. Russell clarified that this “Website” item was on “More Time” because the Committee had
453 wanted to improve it, which he said happened a little bit. He thought the Committee could always
454 keep an eye on it and discuss if someone has an idea. Mr. Schoefmann said he was recently
455 familiarized with the website platform and how to make minor updates. So, when the Committee
456 formalizes details for Bike Month or Bike to Work Week, he could post links to flyers (and
457 eventually take them down). He thought that would probably be the extent of the website
458 development the Committee was discussing. Dr. Russell agreed that social media is where things
459 happen but said City committees cannot have their own social media. Chair Fischer noted that the
460 City itself can publicize events on its existing social media feeds for the Committee. Mr.
461 Schoefmann agreed about that process in collaboration with the City’s Communications
462 Department. For the “Annual Mayoral Bike Ride,” he said they would probably do a press release.

463
464 Mr. Robertson asked whether the goal was to spruce up the website or make more use of it. Mr.
465 Schoefmann said a former member, Jan Manwaring, would be thrilled to know those components
466 were finally added; it was about getting more information added to the website. Mr. Robertson
467 confirmed it was not an instance of the Committee feeling like it needed someone dedicating time
468 to maintaining the website. Mr. Schoefmann said no and agreed that the website could probably
469 be removed from “More Time.” When people have things they want to see on the BPPAC’s
470 webpage, they can bring it up. Chair Fischer said the webpage is better than it ever was.

471
472 **B) Downtown Bike Lanes**

473
474 Chair Fischer called this an ongoing conversation. Mr. Schoefmann said it was sort of wrapped in
475 with the Downtown Infrastructure Project. He was unsure this needed to be kept as a separate part
476 of the Agenda unless something were to come up. Mr. Robertson asked if it was still unclear
477 whether the dedicated protected bike lanes would be going in, because there had been a lot of
478 discussion. Mr. Schoefmann said no, the dedicated protected bike lines were included in the
479 Downtown Infrastructure Project bid and were actually the most responsive part (i.e., cost
480 effective). So, unless the bids were to come back again without them, and Mr. Schoefmann said
481 he did not think there was enough justification for the argument about removing those. Vice Chair
482 Haas said the bike lanes are baked into the whole Downtown Infrastructure Project and could not
483 be extracted, so he suggested keeping an eye out over the next month to see whether it happens or
484 not as the project goes back to bid in March 2026, and estimates are received by the end of April.

485
486 Mr. Robertson recalled hearing from people about whether they want bike lanes for safety. He
487 asked whether that conversation was over from the City Council perspective, with its input taken.
488 Vice Chair Haas said the City Council provided its input and will continue to have input as the
489 City develops more guidelines. Councilor Haas recalled the Council passing an Ordinance in 2025
490 with rules for the dedicated protected bike lanes, which can always come back into question. He
491 explained that the City Council will be developing more safety information that will not be an

492 ordinance, but it will be available. So, Vice Chair Haas said there will be dedicated protected bike
493 lanes if there is a Downtown Infrastructure Project.

494
495 **C) Public Art & Trails Updates**

496
497 Dr. Russell explained that he carried this item forward. He said the Committee does not always
498 get to the “More Time” items. However, there are two projects he would be providing updates on
499 related to the Transportation Heritage Trail as that develops. Chair Fischer suggested adding those
500 items to the Agenda as needed and Dr. Russell agreed. So, Chair Fischer said this item would be
501 removed from “More Time.”

502
503 **D) A Week Without Driving: September 28–October 4, 2026**

504
505 Vice Chair Haas wanted to keep this on the Agenda under “More Time” as a discussion item that
506 is important to some current and former Committee members. Dr. Russell said it would be like the
507 Art Projects, presenting updates as needed. Vice Chair Haas still wanted to keep it on the Agenda
508 as a visual reminder. Dr. Russell agreed and confirmed for Mr. Schoefmann that he wanted to keep
509 “Art Projects” on the agenda under “More Time” for the same reason.

510
511 Ms. Steadman reported that “A Week Without Driving” overlaps with “Community Transportation
512 Week.” Sam Jackson had asked Ms. Steadman to approach City Express about a “no fare week”
513 and they agreed. The Committee congratulated Ms. Steadman. She suggested a fifth “More Time”
514 item about “Mobility Management” and how her scope overlaps with the BPPAC’s. The Chair
515 said he would invite Ms. Steadman to provide an agenda item anytime one arises, so that it can be
516 listed under more time. Mr. Schoefmann suggested a 10-minute presentation on how her scope as
517 Mobility Manager for the Monadnock Region relates to the BPPAC during the April 2026 meeting
518 under “Regular Project Updates.” Ms. Steadman agreed.

519
520 Mr. Holte mentioned that if the Committee were unable to do the Mayoral Bike Ride when
521 planned, that “A Week Without Driving” would be a possible fallback option. He thought it was
522 another reason to keep it on “More Time,” but did not think it was urgent.

523
524 Mr. Phillips found the information from Bike-Walk New Hampshire on the 2026 Tour of New
525 Hampshire, which was emailed to him via the Monadnock Cycling Club. The Tour of New
526 Hampshire proposed various routes and rides in the Monadnock region starting May 30, 2026. The
527 Monadnock Cycling Club was asked to help lead rides. Leaving from Keene, Mr. Phillips cited
528 one ride leaving from the Monadnock Food Co-Op and two from Elm City Brewery: six rides total
529 in the Monadnock Region. The rides are various distances from 16 to 30 miles. He would seek
530 more information about the routes for the next meeting.

531
532 **7) Next meeting date – April 8, 2026**

533 **8) Adjournment**

534
535 There being no further business, Chair Fischer adjourned the meeting at 9:25 AM.

536
537 Respectfully submitted by,

538 Katie Kibler, Minute Taker
539
540 Reviewed and edited by,
541 Megan A. Fortson, AICP - Planner

BPPAC Schedule of Events 2026

Event	Dates	Notes	Member Contact(s)	Members
Earth Day	4/25/2026	11am-3pm, Vice Chair Haas to provide table, set up next to PFK - Railroad Sq	Ed Haas, Dianna Duffy	Dwight Fischer, Ed Haas, Rowland Russell (set up), Jacob Robinson, Brian Phillips
Kiwanis Kool Wheels	5/2/2026	Kiwanis sponsored Bike Safety and Helmet give away, Parks and Recreation 312 Washington St		
Bike To Work Week/Day	5/11-16/2026	Bike to Work Day Friday May 15 including Mayoral Proclamation	Dwight Fischer	Committee members to attend City Council meeting to receive proclamation
Mayoral Bike Ride	TBD (5/15/2026)	Mayor led bike ride mostly on the Rail Trails, BPPAC members to help with safety. Rowland/Andy planning route with Mayor	Rowland Russell, Andy Holte	
Green Up Keene	5/17/2026	Trail Section clean up - TBD	Rowland Russell	
4 on the 4th	7/4/2026	Annual Road Race fundraiser held by PFK - Downtown	Chuck Redfern	
Monadnock 250th Celebration	7/4/2026	Celebration of the USA including Kids Bike Parade - Keene State College	Ed Haas	
Tour de NH	TBD	Rail Trail Rides across NH, One held in the Monadnock Region - TBD	Brian Phillips	Monadnock Cycling Club assisting NH Bike Walk Alliance with routes and guide services
A Week Without Driving	9/28-10/4/2026	https://weekwithoutdriving.org/	Ed Haas	
Community Transportation Week	9/28-10/4/2026	https://www.nhtransit.org/community-transportation-month		SWRPC - Lisa Stedman

Article for the Local Crowd Monadnock

From: Jen Risley

Sent: Thursday, April 2, 2026 7:23:39 AM

To: Jen Risley

Subject: Article: Bicycling Means Business, and Community Wealth Building

Hi all,

I'm working on an article for [Bicycle Month](#) and a [Bicycling Means Business Campaign](#) for May. (Here's [last year's article](#) for reference.)

I'd love to make a stronger connection to Bicycling and [Community Wealth Building](#). Please send me any examples/ideas in our region and beyond!

Also, please send me any special bicycle-related events or promotions you plan for May by **Monday, April 13**. We'd love to include them.

Thank you so much for all that you do!

Best, Jen

Jen Risley
603-400-9157

[The Local Crowd Monadnock:](#)
Community. Connection. Capital.

BPPAC Project Updates 2026

FEBRUARY

ITEMS WITH UPDATES

COMPLETED ITEMS

Project	PRIORITY	Master Plan Project #	Status	Budget *		Schedule			Updates (status changes and project notes)
				Cost	Status	Start	Finish	Status	
City Master Plan	HIGH	P17	Completed	\$ 160,000.00	Over	November 2024	August 2025	N/A	CIP Project to complete the plan in 2024/2025. Completed and adopted by City Council in August 2025 .
Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan	HIGH	P17	Working	\$ 50,000.00	Even	March 2026	October 2026	Behind	Proposals were received by the City on February 6th, 2026 VHB is under contract for the project.
Complete Streets	MEDIUM	N/A	Working	TBD	Even	2018	Ongoing	N/A	GIS Project to track and integrate pavement markings. Street Markings included in Flyover collection
Bike Racks	HIGH	P21	Working	TBD	Even	Ongoing	Ongoing	N/A	The Proposed bike rack locations for the Downtown project were distributed and feedback from was provided to the City Engineer regarding the proposed locations in June and incorporated into the final design for bidding. All new racks are being installed Downtown, the existing racks can be re-used at other locations.
Appel Way Trail Paving	HIGH	P7	Working	\$ 48,500.00	Under	April 2026	July 2026	On Schedule	Project is under contract with CM Minkler for the repaving of the trail, scheduled for April 20th 2026
Safe Streets for All Study	HIGH	N/A	Submitted	NA	Under	Spring 2023	January 2025	N/A	The 2025 Roadway Safety Plan has been adopted by City Council as of February 5th the scope of the project has been completed.
Marlboro Street & Cheshire Rail Trail NHDOT #42515 - NHDOT TAP Grant	HIGH	BE22	Working	\$ 674,000.00	Even	April 2026	D	Behind	Winter 2018 start of design. A TAP grant with complete street improvements connection to Cheshire Rail Trail. March 4, 2025; bids came in \$1 million high and the City revised and resubmitted the PS&E to NHDOT to allocate additional money to rebid. Construction is scheduled to start mobilizing April 13th
Safety and Outreach	N/A	N/A	Working	N/A	Even	Ongoing	Ongoing	N/A	Safety/Outreach Plan and Request for banner needs to be formalized. Local/Regional two sided map finalized and delivered. Consideration to be utilized for kiosk maps in wayfinding program. Dwight Fischer liaising with Keene Glass Works sign group. May - Bike Month Planning - proclamation made via the Mayor.
League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly Program & other community ranking programs	N/A	N/A	Completed	Staff/Volunteer Time	Even	Summer 2023	Summer 2023	N/A	Keene awarded Silver Status with it's renewal effort. Eeport card to be reviewed at future meeting. Promotion to be included on Banner for Bike Month - time to reserve. Score card from previous application distributed in March.
FY26 Sidewalk Rehab Project	N/A	N/A	Working	\$ 550,000.00	Even	Spring 2026	Fall 2026	N/A	Project awarded, construction starting in April 2026 .
Downtown Infrastructure Project (MAIN STREET)	HIGH	P14	Planning	CIP	Over	Spring 2026	Winter 2028	On Schedule	Being rebid in March 2026 for an April 2026 bid opening and June 2026 start of construction. Phase 1: Central Sq, Church St, Lamson St and Stormwater Utilities on NB Main St between Central Sq/Railroad St. Covered Bike Parking now as Bid Alt not in main project bid. Bike Rack Locations from City Engineer.

Lower Winchester Street (NH) Rte 101 - City Line)	HIGH	P22	Planning	CIP	Even	Spring 2032	Winter 2034	Behind	Planned improvements including sidewalks connecting market place in Swanzey and Route 10/Winchester Street. Preliminary design submission April 8th with construction anticipated for 2032 based on the updated NHDOT 10-year plan.
Parks and Recreation Bridge Rehabilitation	HIGH		Working	CIP, City Staff	Under	August 2025	November 2026	Behind	Ashuelot River Suspension Bridge (completed in 2025), Appel Way (completed in 2025), North Bridge, Cheshire Rail Trail over Beaver Brook, Cheshire Rail Trail over the Ashuelot River and the Ashuelot Rail Trail Bridge (KSC bridge) will all be rehabilitated in 2026, with the work anticipated to be bid in February for winter / spring construction.
Goose Pond Dam Pedestrian Bridge	MEDIUM	n/a	Planning	Operating	Under	September 2025	July 2026	Behind	Bridge installed, gravel access path required to be installed to the bridge approach in the spring / summer 2026.
Jonathan Daniels Trail Maintenance	HIGH	P3	Planning	\$25K	Under	May 2026	September 2026	On Schedule	Trail erosion and stream banking repair (completed in 2025). CIP Budgeted in Parks and Rec Trail Maintenance Program for improvements in 2026.
Wayfinding Signage Facilities and Plan	HIGH	P11	Working	City Staff, \$42,000	N/A	August 2025	N/A	On Schedule	Signs have been installed WOOD AND WOOD SIGNS. Additional maps for Greater Goose Pond/Drummer Hill being created. Meeting scheduled between cooperative responsible for producing trail map for pdf web posting(s).
West Street - Complete Street	MEDIUM	P19	Planning	\$ 785,275.00	N/A	2031	2032	Behind	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 2029 for 2033 construction in the current DOT 10 Year Plan redesign/construction. Council request for crosswalk at Pearl/West approved, design completed by Engineering has been installed.
AMENITIES	HIGH	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 public art community. TRAIL LIGHTS NOW INCLUDED HERE
↓Transportation Heritage Trail ↓									
THT Phase 1 - CRT Eastern Ave to 101 (Transportation Heritage Trail)	HIGH	P1	Working	\$ 386,400.00	Under	late Winter 2026	Summer 2026	On Schedule	Project includes from Eastern Ave - 101 Bridge abutments. In construction, project is progressing.
THT Phase 2a - Prowse Bridge - CRT NH 101 Overpass to Stone Arch Bridge (Transportation Heritage Trail)	HIGH	P4	Planning	\$ 381,685.00	Even	2027	2032	Behind	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. 2025 TAP Grant Letter of Support and grant submitted. Included in NHDOT's 10-year plan as a TAP project.

THT Phase 2b - Old Stone Arch Bridge - (Transportation Heritage Trail)	HIGH	P4	Planning	\$ 321,195.00	N/A	2027	N/A	On Schedule	PFK funding conceptual visuals. LCHIP grant planned for 2022 to fund Planning Study phase. Promotional website and video released with funding donation from PFK. Updates on safety improvement initiatives from Chuck Redfern. Included in NHDOT's 10-year plan as a TAP project.
THT Phase 2c - Island Street Bailey Bridge - Swanzy Factory Road to Town Line (Transportation Heritage Trail)	MEDIUM	P4	Planning	\$ 1,862,310.00	N/A	2027	N/A	On Schedule	Installation of the Historic Island Street Bailey Bridge at Swanzy Factory Road to create a safe overpass for trail users and creating continuity of the Cheshire Rail Trail towards the Swanzy Town line. Included in NHDOT's 10-year plan as a TAP project.
NHDOT Route 101 Improvement Project	MEDIUM	P23	Planning	NA	Even	2024	2032	Behind	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/Swanzy Factory Rd. In preliminary design anticipated construction in 2031