



Connecticut Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Board

Volunteer board members advising agencies of the state on policies, programs, and facilities for bicycles and pedestrians.



2800 Berlin Turnpike • Newington, CT 06111-4113
ctbikepedboard@gmail.com

REGULAR MEETING NOTES

Friday November 22, 2019, 9 AM

DOT Headquarters, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT 06111, Room 2141

1.0 Preliminaries

1.1 Call to Order/Roll Call

Sandy Fry (Chair), Brian Kent (Vice Chair on phone), Joe Balskus (Secretary), Neil Pade, Susan Smith, Rod Parlee, Tom Branchaud (phone), Al Sylvestre, Ken Messier, Francis Pickering

Guests

Melanie Zimyeski CTDOT
Amy Watkins, Watch for Me CT
Jonathan Theisse, Town of Bloomfield
Bruce Donald, CT Greenways Council
Bob Dickinson, South Windsor
Robert Bell, CTDOT

1.2 Minutes

Accepted by Board

2.0 Reports/Presentations

2.1 DOT Projects and News

ATP – spreadsheet noted as a work in progress to be discussed in January. No new updates from last month.

Next meeting of Complete Streets committee (quarterly) in December. Annual report is thought to be prepared (to be confirmed).

Bicycle and pedestrian projects in CT2030 plan – Noted as an overarching plan and many of the big projects do not mention bike ped work as they are inclusive in all projects. Community connectivity program as noted in the plan is just sidewalks but this is not how the program will operate. Some silence on bike ped is because they are not considered new initiatives as they are now included in all projects.

Noted that Gov Malloys prior plan (Lets Go CT) was specific to bike and pedestrian projects (mostly Merritt Parkway trail which isn't expected to go forward)

LOTICIP projects retain funding in CT2030 plan as proposed.

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Any Issues to be submitted to CS committee – none noted.

Issue for discussion with DOT– trail along 189, Jonathan Thiesse of Bloomfield was present to discuss. The issue is what type of separation is needed between state route 189, which is considered limited access in this location, and a multi use path that is alongside the roadway.

DOT to consider the request and will review it again. Bloomfield and Simsbury will follow up with CTDOT Engineering.

CTDOT looking to produce a Complete Streets forum that might include training elements – showcasing the various CTDOT projects with objective that local communities learn that they can do these projects – with examples within CT. Will take place Spring 2020

CTDOT Complete Streets Subcommittee working on organizing the forum
CTMain Street Center participating in forum development

3.0 Old Business

3.1 Annual Report and recommendations and format

Review of recommendations - see attached summary matrix.

Legislation for modifying crosswalks – keep this, was introduced last year, may do better this year, there seems to be some momentum.

Implementation of complete streets legislation – showcase what is built and seek out projects that will demonstrate concepts not previously done in CT
Modify to indicate many successes to date at State and Local levels, ask CTDOT to research these

Prioritize the projects identified in the Active Transportation Plan – someone needs to review them and determine what is supportable by the Board – Neil to review

Continue educational outreach program – leave as is

Engineering design training for complete streets in each CTDOT District office – need to be uniformly applied in all Districts

VIP paving program – Neil to revise

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Support bike walk CT efforts – leave as is

Police officer training – DOT program is ongoing and supported by the Board

Modify state legislation to allow payment in lieu of sidewalks for projects – Francis to modify

Ensure bike and ped design considerations included in future CTDOT Highway design manual updates – (supplement being developed by consultant under Active Transportation Plan

CT2030 plan – needs to preserve funding

Legislation should be adopted regarding dooring – not likely to be introduced until 2021 – included in bike walk priorities for legislation, consider adding to New Haven legislation?

Pedestrian and bicycle pedestrian facilities to be provided in affordable housing projects? Francis to review recommendation – move this to new category for recommendations that need more study – affordability is not only rental rate

Provide for lower speed limits in urban areas and school zones – OSTA sets speed limits for all roadways – less than 25 mph currently prohibited
Sue to review what other states are doing on this issue and move to the new future study category

Accelerate delivery of funding projects especially those with a small scope of work – no specifics related to this recommendation – community connectivity program providing funding and construction of projects, recognized that many details in the implementation of projects which complicate and delay the process

Bike commuting to work – bike walk state program in 2020, chokepoint areas identified CT2030 should include more ped bike amenities – need to explain

Provide regular training to planners and engineers, CT T2 center working on new training – T2 is supporting CTDOT with the 2020 training forum

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Tax larger vehicles at a higher rate, dangerous vehicle tax considerations
Other states – have higher taxes on heavier vehicles
Incentives for buying bigger vehicles – can be claimed as business expense
on tax rebate – move this to study category

School zone speed cameras – include legislation for a pilot – keep

Transit benefits for state employees – drop recommendation

Develop report in a letter format with recommendations attached

Response to article in Hartford Courant in October
Draft to be updated and distributed

3.2 Web site

Tabled

3.3 Brochure, powerpoint, planning outreach

Tabled

4.0 New Business

4.1 meeting schedule 2020

Tabled

5.0 Input

5.1 Input from Visitors (5 minutes)

CT Trails program to test Merritt Parkway trail but was voted down (\$200k in funding)

Street trees in Bloomfield – pushing back from District on tree maintenance
and suggestion for legislation to allow for this

5.2 Bike Walk CT Update

Annual dinner recap – Ray Rauth awarded (need to provide to him)
Big kudos to Tom Maziarz - can presentation can be shared
League of bike communities – bronze bike friendly – Canton
New Milford honorable mention
State rankings to be announced on Monday Nov 25 – sounds positive
Board considering hosting a legislative reception in early 2020
(February) depending on bills and CT2030 – bike ped awareness –

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CT bike ped board would be asked to support recommendations

5.3 **Watch For Me CT Update** tabled

Next Meeting – December 20, 2019, **9 AM**
Unable to attend? You can still participate:
Using your computer, tablet or smartphone:
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/900550389>

OR

You can also dial in using your phone: United States +1 (312) 757-3121
Access Code: 900-550-389

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