



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 February 28, 2020 9 AM

DOT Headquarters, 2800 Berlin Turnpike, Newington, CT 06111, Conf. Rm B

1.0 Preliminaries

1.1 Call to Order/Roll Call

Sandy Fry (Chair), Brian Kent (Vice Chair), Joe Balskus (Secretary),
Neil Pade, Susan Smith, Francis Pickering, Alan Sylvestre, Tom Branchaud

Guests

Bill Veronesi

Charles Tracy, CT Trails Census coordinator UCONN Extension

Amy Watkins, Watch for Me CT

Robert Bell, CTDOT

Melanie Zimyieski, CTDOT

Balazs Martai, CTDOT Traffic Safety

1.2 Minutes

Adopted with correction to DOT project news – Goldstar Bridge – feasibility analysis is *bicycle* and pedestrian

2.0 Reports/Presentations

2.1 DOT Projects and News

Active Transportation Plan – Implementation/Metrics

Ready to be sent out, Robert will send to Sandy and she will distribute

Gold Star Bridge – feasibility analysis of pedestrian and bicycle facility on nb span. DOT Bridge folks to review with the consultant, no time frame for completion of this review

CS committee Updates

Annual Report – to be sent out to Sandy who will distribute to the Board.

Complete Streets Forum, June 4, 2020, ITTB New Britain, all day forum
Agenda in development, targeting the municipalities

US Bike Route approach – see attached initial approach proposed by DOT. Board suggested that the following could be undertaken in the shortterm:

Apply to be placed on AASHTO Contact List

Establish a group of Representatives or Committee willing to take responsibility and develop objectives

Establish State Objectives of Project

Contact RIDOT to discuss coordination

Note of clarification: Bike route 1 is proposed to be east coast greenway

Bike route 1A is a separate bike route being proposed

Pedestrian countermeasure tool – Balazs Mirtain presented information

Taken from FHWA table, attempted to make it more usable

At marked uncontrolled crosswalks

Result of couple of workshops using FHWA information worksheets, CTDOT developed one specific for CTDOT

Important to understand that engineering judgment must be used with the tool

Available on traffic safety website (<https://portal.ct.gov/DOT/Traffic-Engineering/Traffic-and-Safety-Engineering>) Scroll down to pedestrian countermeasures

All marked uncontrolled crosswalks in CT have been catalogued (on state roads). Some have pedestrian measures that have not been approved by DOT, were installed by Towns

Francis requested CTDOT to find older Merritt Parkway Trail study presentation materials as he has a use for some of the material. DOT will find this.

CTDOT interactive bike route map shows an alternative bike route in SW CT, question on what that route is (interim East Coast Greenway route) and whether there are bike route signs posted. The route should have ECG signs posted (these signs are small)

3.0 Old Business

3.1 Annual Report status

Report was finalized with a change to the affordable housing recommendation. The report was sent to Pam Sucato for distribution to the Governor, Commissioner and Transportation Committee Chairs. A separate letter, with the letter to Governor et al, was sent to Robert Bell and Mark Carlino, chairs of the DOT Complete streets Committee. Sandy is waiting to hear back from Pam that the report has been distributed, before the report is distributed

3.2 US Bike Route Designation – next steps - see discussion above under DOT Project and News

3.3 Bicycle prohibition on non-limited access roadway segments (update of earlier 2017 discussion) – shoulder rumble strips were installed on Route 202 and some other regularly used bicycle routes. In 2017, dOT was going to look into this – it appeared that some road segments have been labelled as limited access and off limits to bicyclists, even though they are not in fact limited access. In the discussion that ensued it was noted that changing designation might have unintended consequences in that it might allow for driveway development. Do state statutes allow the Commissioner to designate limited access roadway segments that can be used by cyclists? Robert Bell noted that some work has been done in investigating this issue. Sandy will include this as an agenda item going forward so we don't lose track of it. –

4.0 New Business

4.1 Discussion on follow up from February 22, 2019 retreat
Effectiveness of the Board? Do we need people to know about us or about the importance of complete streets. After some discussion of economic value, safety value, decided:
Sandy to develop a quick outline of a powerpoint presentation for board members to provide input. The gist of the presentation will be why CS matters, and tools to implement. Our ppt should be something that could be used by other organizations – like BWCT and or Watch for Me CT.
Brian is attending April 9 regional meeting with SECOG to discuss the SE bike plan with communities and can also try out the new ppt there
Secretary to review if there are other similar State bike ped boards based on Brians previous research

5.0 Input

- 5.1 Input from Visitors (5 minutes)
Add CT Trails Census to future agendas
- 5.2 Watch for Me CT Update
Pedestrian fatalities involve older pedestrians more than younger pedestrians
Need to reach out to AARP – Sandy will connect Amy with AARP
- 5.3 Bike Walk CT Update
Teach the PE teachers program ongoing, held a session with Wethersfield in February
Legislative reception held at the Capital was a success w/120 attendees and 7 legislators attended
March 2, 11am Transportation committee public hearing at the LOB for revised bill 5324 which is in the transportation committee
Board to provide testimony, Sandy will draft, will support the elements of the legislation which the Board has specifically supported in the past.
Discover CT rides in Bloomfield May 30 and Falls Village July 19 with beer garden

Meeting adjourned at 1037am

Next Meeting – March 27, 2020, 9 AM
Unable to attend? You can still participate:

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

NOTE TO PERSONS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:

Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or other accommodation at a meeting must notify the Connecticut Department of Transportation in advance of the meeting as soon as they are able.