



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](mailto:ctbikepedboard@gmail.com)

## REGULAR MEETING NOTES

Friday October 23, 2020 9 AM

This meeting will be held over TEAMS:

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[+1 860-840-2075](tel:+18608402075) United States, Hartford (Toll)

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### 1.1 Call to Order/Roll Call

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

#### Guests

Robert Bell, CTDOT  
Melanie Zimyeski, CTDOT  
Jennifer Carrier, FHWA  
William Champagne, CTDOT  
Laura Baum, Bike Walk CT

Bill Veronesi, Hartford  
Amy Watkins, Watch for Me CT  
Bruce Donald, East Coast Greenway Alliance and CT Greenways Council

Bob Dickinson, South Windsor

Kate Rattan, SECCOG

### 1.2 Minutes

On a motion by Brian, seconded by Rod, approved unanimously

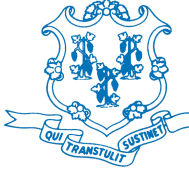
### 2.0 Reports/Presentations

#### 2.1 DOT Projects and News

DOT Bicycle Design Guidance State Roads submission into DOT last week, pending review internally  
Community Connectivity Grant –  
no updates on awarded projects  
New round of applications – approximately 50 submittals from municipalities

#### **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.



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Craig Babowicz is program administrator  
DOT is considering updating the bike ped assessment form

### Active Transportation Plan – Implementation/Metrics

Will be updating progress

Strategies and actions are listed in the plan with a spreadsheet summarizing the action items

Progress regarding bicycle prohibition on non-limited access roadway segments

At front end of the process, have assigned it internally to start the drafting of the regulation

Gold Star bridge –

November marks ~6 months for bridge unit to review feasibility study – progress?

Completion of study is expected in near future, hopefully this year

CHIP SEAL – Updates regarding roads already treated, response to Board's letter to Deputy Commissioner Eucalitto

Concern raised by board on the use of the Active Transportation Plan Interactive Bike Map for future paving. Board suggested regional bike route networks should be reviewed also as the state map may not include them. Board identified the need to identify bike routes that are not on the bike map so the Department can consider them in the project list generation

Interactive state map – the Board had understood that this would be a living document and updated periodically. Regional information could be added with updates. Melanie and Rob will look at the possibility for the map to be updated with regional networks.

Board approved a response to the letter - Not just the state map but region maps and concern for shoulders getting worse for recently paved routes, suggested that the project generation list be provided to the COGs for overlay of the region maps

### 3.0 Old Business

#### 3.1 Election of officers

Slate of officers, Sandy, Brian and Joe (Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary), on a Motion made by Rod, seconded by Francis, approved unanimously by the Board

#### 3.2 US Bike Routes 1 and 1A, progress, next steps

Two fold issue for both routes

Route 1 – East Coast Greenway through state is marked entirely, either on trail or on road. From RI to New Haven, the route of the trail is known, west

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from New Haven it is not yet clear. Merritt Parkway route is the proposed route to Hutchinson trail but this idea has not been progressing  
Should be an agreed upon travel corridor between COG's, Towns, Board and CTDOT  
Portions of ECG in other states are already designated as US Bike Route 1, both trails and bike routes

US Bike Route 1A – to be a coastal route along the shore, need COG's to agree upon the route and then move forward

Kate Rattan – SECOG is in support of the US Bike Route 1A and planning effort

SECOG has USBR 1 and 1A

Will improve opportunities for developing facilities along the bike routes

Discussion on the leadership of the USBR planning process and what Bike Ped Board role should be.

Bike Ped Board should be involved but not lead it. COG's should be leading the planning process. DOT would lead the USBR approval process through AASHTO once the proposed route has been submitted to them for review.

The USBR designation can lead to more federal money for communities.

Bike Ped Board can be champion of the process to promote the interest in the project. We need to prod the groups involved.

Next steps – reach out to the three COG's regarding route that Brian forwarded, what are their thoughts.

How USBR recognized in the State – CTDOT outline of elements in the sequence of planning for the USBR (attached to these minutes)

Designated/signed as ECG does not mean formal US bike route corridor, none of the ECG in CT is designated as USBR1 yet.

At this time, DOT cannot commit to leading the USBR effort. Towns and COGS would need to show interest to have it become a priority. (Followup note based upon subsequent conversation with DOT: There are many issues involved. Some other issues are that the proposed bike route does not agree with the State Bike Map, and another issue is that a large portion of it falls on local roads which are outside of CTDOT jurisdiction).

ECG on road routes are already marked with signs

SECOG is already on board, SCRCOG and RiverCOG

Planning work can go under PL funds

May be challenging to fund the efforts through COG

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Board can participate in the COG Board meetings  
Plenary sessions between the COG's may be held to discuss with CTDOT and Bike Ped Board. Brian can participate for the board  
Maine has implemented model of USBR1 and USBR1A that may make sense in CT. Brian will send out a link to a map of the USBR system. This illustrates the variety of types of routes designated. Sometime the designation is of a corridor when the precise route is unknown.

### 3.3 Development of Powerpoint

DOT/COG Complete Streets Information Exchange Oct 28-29

Sandy to present and discuss the bike ped advisory board at the exchange  
Discussion on powerpoints and contents

Outline is one page, three categories, what, why and how

Presentation has information on complete streets

Board should consider revisiting the discussions at BPAB retreat, need to think about purpose, audience. Tom said he sees it as an advertisement of the board to bike and walking clubs and towns. Who we are, our purpose, how they can use us. Brian has developed a short "benefits of CS" powerpoint that he developed from shared docs on the National CS Coalition site. Could just supplement this with information about the board.

### 4.0 New Business

4.1 Annual report – schedule for development.

Continue with similar format and information from last year report

Request information from CTDOT regarding progress in the last year.

Chip seal topic will likely be included in the report

Board should review last year's report for discussion at November Board meeting. Sandy will send it out.

There are really two reports, one for Governor/Commissioner/legislative leadership and one for DOT

Goal is to publish by end of year (two meetings remain in 2020)

### 5.0 Input

5.1 Input from Visitors (5 minutes)

Bob Dickinson continuation of virus through the winter and trail usage may still be desired, suggest to Towns to consider plowing trails this winter

5.2 CT Greenways Council/ECGA

Annual awards presentation on Oct 1, one given to Scott Bushee CTDOT (include this in BPAB annual report)

Awaiting agenda for the CT bond commission meeting on 10/30 which may have recreational trails funding

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### 5.3 CT Trail census No report

### 5.4 Watch for Me CT Update Funded for 2021

Pedestrian safety month this month, Halloween safety push  
Presenting at Complete street info exchange next week  
First slow street in Hartford being deployed in early November  
Hampton Street, parallel to Main and Barbour, runs Tower to Parker Memorial Center  
Tactical urbanism, walk and roll on 11-1pm, Nov 7<sup>th</sup>, meet at Hampton and Earle at 11 am  
Street to be painted next week  
Oval median diverter in middle of street as well

### 5.5 Bike Walk CT Update No report

Next Meeting – November 20, 2020, 9 AM

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