



## 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

Friday January 27, 2023 9 AM

This meeting will be held over TEAMS:

## Microsoft Teams meeting Notes

**Join on your computer or mobile app**

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[+1 860-840-2075,852154497#](tel:+18608402075852154497) United States, Hartford

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### 1 Call to Order/Roll Call

Sandy Fry (Chair), Joe Balskus (Secretary), Brian Kent, Francis Pickering, Rod Parlee, Neil Pade, Al Sylvestre, Sue Smith, Mark Moriarty, Tom Branchaud

Craig Babowicz, CTDOT  
Bill Champagne, CTDOT  
Robert Bell, CTDOT  
Kevin Tedesco, CTDOT  
Michelle Goering, CTDOT  
Dimitri Koutoumbas, OSTA  
Amy Watkins, Watch For Me CT  
Charles Harlow, Fuss & O'Neill  
Bruce Donald, CT Greenways Council/EC Greenway  
Jacob Robison, New Haven Planning  
Jennifer Carrier, FHWA  
Caitlin Palmer, CRCOG  
Doug Hausladen, Park New Haven  
Bob Dickinson, resident, Bloomfield  
Martha Conneely, Riverfront Recapture, Hartford  
Bill Veronesi, resident Hartford  
Kevin Sullivan, resident, Wethersfield  
Dylan Reilly, Farmington  
Jay Stange, Center for Latino Progress  
Richard Donovan, NVCOG  
Mary Cockram, Bike Walk CT  
Tim Delillo, Bike Walk Wethersfield  
Cindy Jacobs, Wethersfield  
Jennifer Lacker, President Bike Stonington

#### 1.1 Minutes, December 16 meeting – Accepted by Board

##### 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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### 2.0 Reports/Presentations

#### DOT Projects, News, Updates:

Gold star bridge – federal grant allows work on north bound span to be accelerated. Update on improving bike/ped access? Existing footprint of bridge deck – northbound side cannot sustain additional structure so bike ped access would need to be included within the existing structure.

SB side direction is being reviewed for bike/ped access improvement (widening from 5 ft. to 8 ft.), to be decided this winter whether the improved access will be on the NB or SB span. Sandy asked for a copy of the feasibility report for the SB as soon as it is completed.

Progress with new CS policy, update next month with Commissioner change, CS standing committee meeting. While the BPAB has not seen the draft yet, our input early on was instrumental in the development of the draft policy.

Update of Active Transportation Plan online map –stakeholder group? Negotiations completed with consultant, and start of project in February. How to expand bike network being considered, desire is for it to be data driven.

Community Connectivity grant program (CCGP), round 5 coming out soon, early February with 6 months allowed for applications to be submitted  
Expectation is annual funding, though solicitations may not be annual.

Also launching TRIP for general improvements for rural areas, applications due in February. This is similar to CCGP but is not focused solely on bike ped improvements.

Bulkeley Bridge – any photos? No update except that additional striping delayed until spring.

RAISE Grants – question on whether CTDOT will administer the CRCOG grant award. This should be determined by next month.

Neil noted that a DOT rep attended a town meeting on road safety, this was extremely helpful, kudos to DOT. The RSA to CCGP process is very important, would be good if CCGP allowed funds to be used for design.

Suggestion to include legislation by CTDOT for next month  
HB 5917 – Vision Zero recommendations bill, public hearing on Monday 1/30 at Capitol, testimony support requested

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Putnam Bridge bike trail approach construction update and bridge deck issue – next month

### 3.0 Old Business

#### 3.1 Annual Report

Street project documentary noted, with some very effective footage related to the blind spots in front of SUV's. Great work, Amy and Watch for Me CT! CTWatchForMe funding, Sandy asked about funding that DOT indicated went to AARP. Amy clarified that the additional funding was used to get more media buys for the Words to Live By campaign, which focused upon senior citizens.

Need for updating the drivers manual for new legislation, The Vision Zero legislation speaks about a video that will be developed to highlight the changes. Chuck Harlowe who served on the VZ committee that recommended the video said the idea was to set it up so that anyone going to the DMV site (to register a vehicle, etc.) would have to view the video. It was noted that the new laws relative to bike ped safety could be elements of the safety campaign.

Importance of the safety campaign to affect behavior, and can provide more bang for the buck. To date, the bike ped safety messaging is not ubiquitous, not like the slow down for work zones campaign of a number of years ago. Use UCONN TRSC information for safety data. It is more up to date than the UCONN crash data repository (some police depts. never report to the data base.)

Add recommendation on focusing on pedestrian fatality trend with education/behavior and infrastructure. Might note that last year DOT was in penalty for not achieving pedestrian safety improvements goals. This year is likely to be the same based upon 2022 goals. Also, note that our % of motor vehicle crash deaths that are pedestrian is higher than the national average.

Should note what the Board does (monthly meetings, testimony, support letters)

VZ recommendations should be an appendix not in front of report with specific recommendations highlighted in the report.

Report needs to be more readable, make sure the major points jump out. AI to send updated revised report early next week for finalization

#### 3.2 Status of Slide Show

Update – to be distributed to board members, almost over the finish line.

3.3 In person meeting discussion – Board accepted to hold hybrid in person meetings in 2023 as follows:

Spring in New Haven  
Fall in Hartford

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### 4.0 New Business

- 4.1 Massachusetts VU bill – anything we can advocate for from that?  
Committing real monies for vulnerable user safety

Several senate/house bills being considered affecting bike/ped discussed by the Board including Vision Zero bill testimony Monday. Sandy will prepare testimony for HB5017, SB904, HB6842. Other bills we should follow: HB5045, SB0157, HB5255, HB6162

- 4.2 Route 146 Corridor Management Plan – no report  
4.3 Large vehicles – Francis reported on a discussion he had with the AG. There are no state AGs going after the issue of vehicle safety relative to large vehicles, but this might happen in the future.

### 5.0 Input

- 5.1 Input from COG's

Transportation bill themes – wrong way driving, taxes being reduced

- 5.2 Input from Visitors (5 minutes)
- 5.3 CT Rail Council – no report
- 5.4 CTDEEP Trails and Greenways - no report
- 5.5 CT Greenways Council/ECGA  
DEEP RecTrails Grant funding noted ROW acquisition language  
RAISE grants have timeframes for spending monies impacting rail/trail projects  
Rec trails grant applications are due March 1. They encourage applications for design funds and maintenance funds
- 5.6 BikeWalk CT
- 5.7 Watch for Me CT – statistics email being sent for annual report update
- 5.8 CT Trails Program – no report
- 5.9 Transport Hartford – Support for Asylum Street Road Diet needed, public meeting on Monday.

Next Meeting – February 24, 2023, 9 AM

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