

FINAL

**PEDESTRIAN & BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, April 2, 2019
CITY HALL, WEST MEETING ROOM
7:00 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Colin Smith (Chair); John Kelleher (Vice-Chair); Erling Heistad (City Council); Alan Schnur; Marie McCormick; Megan Chapman; Sarah Akhtar; Clifton Below (Alt)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kenneth Warren (Friends of Northern Rail Trail); Shane Smith (Alt. Council Representative)

STAFF PRESENT: Rebecca Owens (Associate Planner)

1) CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: March 4, 2019

Page 2, line 2, replace Ms. McCormick with Ms. Akhtar; line 9, correct LEAC; Page 3, line 1, to read, "Include five foot shoulders on City and State bridge and road projects..."

MOVED by Marie McCormick to approve the March 4, 2019 Minutes as amended. Seconded by Alan Schnur.

**The MOTION was approved (7-0-1). (Clifton Below abstained)*

Chair Smith appointed Councilor Clifton Below in place of Kenneth Warren.

3) STUDY ITEMS:

A. Updates from Other Boards:

- **Planning Office** - Rebecca Owens projected the Oak Ridge Road area across from Sachem Village, which is a high density area without sidewalks. Ms. Owens was asking for feedback regarding pedestrian features that might be needed based on future development. There are approximately 40 homes at present, and having sidewalks could encourage more people to walk to the bus rather than using single vehicle trips. Councilor Heistad noted that vehicles create the biggest expense to the City after sewers, and encouraging people to use public transportation would be a benefit. Councilor Below stated that there is an existing sidewalk system that could connect sidewalk on the main portion of Oak Ridge Road. There are an additional 30 units off the side roads to Oak Ridge Road for a total of 70 existing units. Ms. Akhtar asked about school bus stops. The committee discussed the wording of a recommendation.

MOVED by Megan Chapman that the Pedestrian & Bicyclist Advisory Committee recommends the Planning Board consider sidewalks internal to the site between each

unit and the access road, and a sidewalk and crosswalk to Oak Ridge Road to Route 10 from the Oak Ridge Road.

Seconded by Erling Heistad.

****The MOTION was passed (8-0).***

Rebecca Owens reported that there will be a City Council discussion of the tunnel restoration on May 1st at LMS with a public meeting on May 2nd at RVCC.

- **Police Reports** – Alan Schnur reported that there were 0 crashes in January and 1 in February involving a pedestrian and bicyclist, but there are no details yet.
- **City Council** - Councilor Below stated that there are still issues between the City and DOT regarding the dry bridge. They want it for rail use only and do not want any pedestrian use. They also want it to be quite high in order to make the approaches work. It is an unresolved issue. It is hoped that the City will acquire more of the State owned river front property to make the connections. The State has included funding in the proposed state budget for the hazardous waste removal and mitigation of asbestos and lead, demolition of the buildings, and site cleanup.

B. Miracle Mile Crossing – Rebecca Owens

The original proposal still stands. The cost estimates to a signalized crosswalk with all related activities are over \$240K. Advance Transit was going to apply for a grant, but they are now trying to expand the project to include items from the TAP proposal. They are using the cost estimates from the TAP project, but it is a complicated process. The design and construction would have to follow federal guidelines. They are waiting to hear back from the DOT. Construction cost would be \$245K, but the design cost is not known. Chair Smith suggested that some temporary warning signs would be helpful, and Counselor Heistad agreed. Ms. Owens said she would put it forward. There was a general discussion of other sites that are potentially dangerous. Ms. Owens said that there are meetings coming up with DHMC and Hanover to share information regarding the Mt. Support Road issue. Ms. Owens noted that there is a question of whether temporary safety countermeasures would be a liability if the signage and lines are not part of a complete infrastructure improvement. Chair Smith asked that they request a report on the options that could be done short term to make the area safer. Councilor Below shared a recommended crossing system that would work for the Miracle Mile location. The committee discussed the best approach for making the location safer. Ms. Akhtar noted that this is a long standing problem and that it is urgent that the situation be addressed.

MOVED by Alan Schnur that the Pedestrian & Bicyclist Advisory Committee considers the absence of a crosswalk on Miracle Mile to be an urgent and dangerous situation. The committee requests that the City prioritize provision of a short-term solution until a long-term solution can be implemented. Seconded by John Kelleher.

****The MOTION was passed (8,0).***

C. Master plan Implementation: Review Draft Report Content/Questions

Ms. Owens distributed copies of the draft spreadsheet with fifteen items in bold to be discussed and updated, as prepared by the CHaMP. Ms. McCormick led a discussion of the complete streets policy, community outreach, and other projects were included. Councilor Below noted that outcome 7, action 2, regarding bicycle stations fit within

Ped/Bike's domain. The members reviewed and commented on the items. Ms. Owens shared the status of a number of area programs. There will be future meetings focused on metrics. It would be important to note that Lebanon received the Bronze Level Bicycle Friendly Community designation. There was a discussion of parking capacity within the city and recommended bike lane width requirements and recent accomplishments. The committee also discussed bump-outs on School Street and Bank Street and examples of where the City has provided bike sharrows/shoulders when suggested by the Committee.

4) OTHER BUSINESS: Postponed

- **Lebanon-Hanover Coordination for DHMC projects.**
- **TAP Project Updates: Lahaye Path 2016 and 2018 Debrief**
- **Road Resurfacing Projects**
- **Communications: VNews, reflective souvenirs, social media**
- **Education/Encouragement: Bike Rodeo, Curb the Car Day volunteers needed**

5) FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- **Mall Tunnel Preliminary Design review (May)**
- **Streetlights vs. Crosswalks Walkabout (plan a date)**
- **Friends of the NRT/long-term maintenance and coordination**
- **Community Ped/Bike Conditions, Plan, and Mapping**
- **Bikeshare Programs**
- **State Ped/Bike Plan DRAFT**
- **Bike Rack Mall Location**
- **Local Street Speed Limits (tentative)**

6) OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None present

5) ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED by Erling Heistad to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 PM.

Seconded by Marie McCormick.

**** The MOTION passed (7-0).***

Minutes created from audio recording and respectfully submitted,
Holly Howes, Recording Secretary