

CRCOG
BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLANNING COMMITTEE
Tuesday, October 5, 2016
MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

CJ Gandza
Lon Hultgren
Stuart Popper
Abby Kenyon
Wendy LaMontagne
Rob Phillips
Michele Lipe
Craig Minor
Neil Pade
Bruce Donald
Amneris Torres
Matt Blume
Pete Salamone
Steve Schiller
Ken Shooshan-Stoller
Sandy Fry
Mark Moriarty
Patrice Carson
Tom Roy

TOWN/ORGANIZATION

City of New Britain
Town of Mansfield/Bike Mansfield
ECG, Bike Walk CT
Town of Windsor
Town of Suffield
Town of Southington
Town of South Windsor
Town of Newington
Town of Canton
ECGA/CGC
CCMC – Injury Prevention Center
Town of Farmington
Plainville Greenway Alliance
City of New Britain
FHWA
City of Hartford
City of New Britain
Town of Bolton
Town of Simsbury

STAFF

Emily Hultquist	CRCOG
Mike Cipriano	CRCOG
Tim Malone	CRCOG
Lynne Pike DiSanto	CRCOG

GUESTS

Bill DeSantis	VHB
Mary Embry	Mobycon
Dan Burden	Pott Townsend, WA
David Head	VHB
Kemar French	CCSU Student
Timothy Wendeborn	CCSU Student
Tim Garreau	CCSU Geography/Planning
Gabriel Guevara	CCSU
Jim Cassidy	Town of Plainville
Bruce Miller	Bike New Britain
Mark Hoffman	Bike New Britain
Chris Hansen	FHWA

The meeting was called to order by staff members Emily Hultquist at 12:00 pm.

Public Forum: No comments were received from the public.

Approval of Minutes: Stuart Popper made a motion, seconded by Michele Lipe, to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2016 Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee Meeting. The motion passed.

Presentation on Farmington Canal Heritage Trail Gap Closure Study & Complete Streets Best Practices

The Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG), the Connecticut Department of Transportation (Department), the Town of Plainville (Plainville), the Town of Southington (Southington), the City of New Britain (City) and the Plainville Greenway Alliance (PGA) have initiated this study to evaluate the feasibility of potential alignments and infrastructure needs for the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail (FCHT) through Plainville and into Southington and a connection to New Britain's bicycle network and CT**fastrak** station. This segment of trail represents the last big gap in the East Coast Greenway in the Capitol Region. Consultants from VHB presented on the status of this study which just completed its first round of public input meetings.

Dan Burden, an internationally known expert on biking and walking infrastructure as well as Mary Embry, a consultant for the internationally acclaimed firm, Mobycon gave presentations on best practices. Dan Burden's presentation highlighted examples of communities across the country that have implemented policy and infrastructure changes to ensure more active transportation options for their citizens. Mary Embry gave similar examples from abroad, but also focused on more advanced infrastructure techniques that are not seen as often in the United States.

Updates and News:

Emily Hultquist of CRCOG gave the following updates:

The 2016 CRCOG Bike Ped Count was a success. The count was conducted from September 13 – 18. CRCOG staff continue to complete some locations. As of the date of the committee meeting, 44 volunteers count 58 counts out of 63 desired. This year, some changes were made to the counting process to improve consistency. Fewer locations will be counted each year and each count location will be counted on a three year rotation. AM counts were eliminated and only 4 PM – 6PM counts at intersections and 11 AM to 1PM counts on weekends at trails will be counted going forward. Active Transportation Audits were conducted once again To rate the bike ped infrastructure and environment for cycling and walking at each counted intersection and trail segment. The audit data can be used in comparison with the counts to really get a sense of how the design of the intersection is playing into the number of cyclists and pedestrians.

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is accepting proposals for Connecticut's Recreational Trails Program Grants. Proposals are due December 15, 2106. More information on the program can be found

<http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?A=4808&Q=585608>.

CRCOG is now soliciting applications for funding through the Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside program. Applications are due by 4 PM, Tuesday, November 8, 2016. Eligible project types are:

- on- and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities
- infrastructure projects for improving non-driver access to public transportation and enhanced mobility
- community improvement activities
- multi-use trail projects
- safe routes to school projects

The Statewide Bike Ped Plan Update team has scheduled public input meetings. The meeting scheduled to take place in the Capitol Region is on November 14, 2016, 5:30 PM – 7 PM at the Elmwood Community Center, 50 South Main Street, West Hartford, CT.

"What's new in your community?":

The following summarizes the discussion:

Patrice Carson stated that the Town of Bolton had conducted a Road Safety Audit with CTDOT.

Mike Moriarty reported that the Discover New Britain Bicycle Tour which took place in September was a success.

Abby Kenyon stated that over the summer the Town of Windsor acquired easements from 8 property owners to construct a path along a portion of Day Hill Road. Paving began this fall and they recently finished. Eventually the path will run the length of Day Hill Road. The path is part of the town's pedestrian circulation enhancements program in the Day Hill Corporate Area. Over the past few years sidewalk sections, multi-use path segments, and bus shelters have been installed.

Michele Lipe stated that South Windsor installed four bus shelters as part of our regional bus shelter program. A ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for later in October.

Update on the CRCOG On-Road Bicycle Facility Map

Other Business No other business was brought to the attention of the committee.

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.

Next Meeting December 13, 2016