

Capitol Region Council of Governments

241 Main St., Hartford, CT 06106

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Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Committee Meeting 241 Main Street, 4th Fl. Hartford, CT, CRCOG Board Room Tuesday, December 11, 2018 12:00 p.m.

Name

Carl Gandza
Chris Squires
Amy Watkins
Sandra Fry
Bruce Cyr
Michele Lipe
Emily Kyle
Jerry Ledger
Patrice Carson
Andrew Armstrong
Todd Sealy
Kathleen Maldonado
Jen Rodriguez

Affiliation

New Britain
East Hartford Bicycle Advocate
Watch for Me CT
Hartford
Farmington
South Windsor
Canton
Granby - FVTC
Bolton
Newington
Windsor
Transport Hartford
Windsor Locks

CRCOG Staff

Tim Malone
Emily Hultquist
Mike Cipriano
Hannah Casey
Raul Irizarry

Roll Call

1. **Call to Order:** Tim Malone called the meeting to order at 12:06pm. Attendees were asked to introduce themselves.
2. **Public Forum**
Nobody chose to speak.
3. **Approval of Minutes of the September 18, 2018 meeting**
Tim Malone mentioned a motion to approve September minutes
Motioned by Patrice Carson; Seconded by Chris Squires.
Motion was approved.
4. **Updates and news**
CRCOG Staff gave an overview of recent updates and news.
Updates included:
 - Demonstration Projects
 - Manchester Parklet
 - Jubilee Street

- Trail News
- Long Range Transportation Plan
- People for Bikes Grant
- CRCOG Awarded CDC grant
- Related
 - CRCOG recently had a workshop to determine best practices for completing Complete Streets Policy
 - Emily and Tim presented at various conferences on complete streets, including on How Women Travel

5. Presentation on 2018 Bike/Ped Count and Audit Results

Mike Cipriano gave a presentation of the bike/ped count and audit results on the new website. The website includes methodology, results, gender breakdown, age breakdown, helmet use, maps, and data tables.

Committee members had questions about how data was collected and if older data would be available, laws about riding bikes on sidewalks (state v. local laws), Jerry Ledger asked about the gender variance, specifically about women counts on trails, Kathleen Maldonado questioned whether traffic congestion had an impact on riding on sidewalks data. Committee members discussed how to deal with helmet use. They also discussed doing a press release about the data once multiple rounds of counts with same locations had been done.

6. What's New in My Town

Individuals used this time to update the committee on news in their town:

- Bolton
 - East Coast Greenway: finished project November 29th – end of contract date with the state. Ramp closed signs are still up so it has not been turned over to the town yet. Ribbon cutting and grand opening ceremony will likely be in the Spring.
 - Applied for a Community Connectivity Grant for center of town
 - The state is seeking funding for all those that didn't get funded on the bond commission agenda
- Windsor
 - Mill Brooke Open Space – trail plans, mission statement to the public have been created and will be presented to town council in January
- Granby
 - 9 repair stations on the Farmington Valley Trail, 2 are vandalized; looking for vandal proof hoses
 - Completed 2.5 miles of sidewalk; consider for pedestrian count
 - New bistro/café at corner of route 10/Floydville
 - Trail is plowed in Simsbury 2-3 miles along Ironhorse Boulevard - 1 mile in E. Granby/Suffield by volunteer
 - 6 counters are on the trail –East Granby, Simsbury, Avon, Canton; data is available
- Hartford
 - Very close to finishing bike plan – can serve as a resource, will be on website
 - South branch of Park River Trail is on the bond commission agenda; terminates to Newfield Ave; getting thoughts on how to link to West Hartford

- Study of North Branch riverfront trail with River Trails Conservation Assistance
- Bike share – lime bikes throughout winter; planning for a regional RFP for bike share to enable a successful bidder to expand into interested towns
- Investigating safety of scooters
 - Considering separate RFP for scooter sharing
- Canton
 - Cooperative efforts between town, lions club and boy scouts to create educational flyers for using crossing buttons
 - Working on a Trail Safety Awareness Plan
 - Question: about why CT Statewide targets for fatalities and injuries increased
 - Staff answered that part of the reason is that there are penalties for not meeting targets within the allotted time, so a realistic target was set
 - Discussion: Boston has zero-fatality target; as soon as there is a fatality, they put everyone in place to make sure a similar fatality doesn't happen again – feds say we cannot set aspirational targets, and we do not know whether we were under the target for 2018 thus far.
 - Discussion: according to Policy and Planning at CTDOT we are a vision zero state – this conflicts with the targets. Sandy plans to ask at the Strategic Highway Safety Plan Bike/Ped Section Meeting next week.
- Transport Hartford (Kathleen Maldonado)
 - Working with Blue Hills Civic Association – Road to Zero
 - BiCi Co: hosting Youth Events – build your own bike; children learned bicycle and helmet safety; got free helmets
 - Expressed concern about lack of Lime Bikes in North End of Hartford
 - Suggestions: education on how to take care of the bikes; more outreach in North End for LRTP; free events to promote bikes; utilize “Know Thy Neighbor” organization
- Windsor Locks
 - Route 75 near airport - 1 mile of sidewalk that connects to airport property; going out for a bid as soon as possible
 - Montgomery Mill is at trailhead – grant funding to create actual trail head with park
 - Created pedestrian plaza through Montgomery Mill
 - 2 Complete Streets Grants (LOTICIP Phases 1 & 2)
 - Community Connectivity (extend to East Windsor)
 - Montgomery Mill pedestrian plaza was part of a development proposal from the DOH/EPA Brownfields and DEEP recreational trails grant
 - Using school early development indicator data from the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, which suggests the need for more active transportation
- Farmington
 - Done with trail construction for a while
 - Focusing on on-road improvements and transitions into downtown areas
 - Extending sidewalk by health center
- Newington
 - No comments
- Watch for Me CT (Amy Watkins)
 - 60 pedestrian fatalities

- 10 from Hartford; 5 Danbury
 - 9 on highways
 - 0 bike fatalities
- East Hartford (Chris Squires)
 - Goodwin College opened a new trail in November
 - Discussing a sidepath on Silver Lane for the East Coast Greenway
- New Britain
 - Complete streets phase 5 – on schedule, Beehive Bridge under construction
 - Phase 6, 7, 8 various design stages
 - Working on community connectivity around Central's campus
 - Stanley Loop project received Transportation Alternatives money
 - Submitted application for design for East West Gap Closure study – DEEP Rec Trails application
 - 4 lane road to 2 lanes with Buffer bike lanes

7. Other Business

Tim Malone mentioned CT Bike/ped plan is back up, will be releasing a draft and the link will be posted.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45pm.