



PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY • CITY OF NORTHAMPTON

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Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee Minutes 7:30 AM, Wednesday October 20, 2021

MEMBERS

Debin Bruce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Maggie Chan (DPW)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Michael DiPasquale	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wayne Feiden (Plan)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eric Boudreau	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	James Lowenthal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Nick Horton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brett Constantine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

The subcommittee met remotely (on Zoom) because of Covid.

1. Approve September 8, 2021 minutes: By unanimous vote (motion by Nick Horton, second by Eric Boudreau)
2. Public Comments: Randy Sailer suggested mapping all crashes. Elena Huisman suggested addressing gaps in the Elm Street bicycle lane. Nick Horton suggested a holistic approach to complete streets including community education. Kristen Sykes suggested using the PTO’s survey for high school safety to inform the Elm Street safety discussion. Jes Slavin suggested strengthening references to Vision Zero in a City Council ordinance. Lilly Lombard suggested looking carefully at on-street parking by the High School that creates a bicycle lane gap and having a joint meeting with Transportation and Parking Commission.
3. Complete streets prioritization plan: Feiden introduced the city’s intention to update its Complete Streets Transition Plan to plan future projects potentially with MassDOT assistance. The city will host VHB, its project consultant, at an upcoming Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee meeting as the project kickoff workshop. Jas Slavin and Elena Huisman suggested looking at traffic counts for all modes, with volunteer help, to inform the process.
4. Shared paths feasibility study: Feiden reported that VHB has started a study of shared path extensions at the former state hospital, along the Connecticut River, connecting South Street to the New Haven and Northampton Greenway, and filling gaps on the Rocky Hill Greenway.
5. Updates: Contracts have been signed for Pleasant St, Leonard St, Main St-Florence complete streets projects and design and or conversation is advancing on Picture Main St., soft surface access, Bridge St safe routes, PVTA bus stop at Bridge St., future ValleyBike expansions, and future Bridge St bicycle access improvements. Jess Slavin suggested a ValleyBike station at Damon Road/MassCentral and safety improvements for bicycle lanes on Elm Street. Eric Boudreau suggested connecting Picture Main Street bicycle lanes with the MassCentral trail.
6. Complete streets policy/ordinance: There was a brief suggestion of adding street trees to complete streets to calm traffic.
7. Next meeting dates-November depending on complete streets prioritization plan work flow
8. Transportation and Parking Commission liaison: Brett Constantine will provide this role
9. Adjourn: 8:45 AM

