

# CITY OF CONCORD

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## MINUTES

### Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee of the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee of the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee met virtually at 5:30 p.m., on October 5, 2020, via Zoom.

Attendees: Craig Tufts, Ursula Maldonado, Dick Lemieux, Greg Bakos, Boyd Smith

Staff: Sam Durfee, Senior Planner, Staff Representative

#### **1. Minutes of the September 9, 2020 Meeting**

Boyd motioned to approve the minutes of the September 9 meeting, Greg seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **2. Sidewalk Priority List**

Sam provided an update on the latest revision to the priority list. Last month, Greg had recommended multiplying the traffic volume and speed scores together to get a more accurate safety score. Sam reported that this has worked well. Members of the committee will provide their scores for existing demand ahead of the next Bike/Ped meeting in November. The plan is to have some rankings by neighborhood ready for TPAC PB review at the next meeting, and a discussion about the highest ranked sidewalks city-wide. After that, the rankings would go to full TPAC.

#### **3. Transportation Alternative Program Grant Round**

Nothing to report.

#### **4. General Transportation Project Updates**

The group discussed the Loudon Road bridge project. Sam explained that Engineering is drafting a report to Council outlining the merits of various bridge deck alignments. The subcommittee discussed the pros and cons of providing a shared-use path (SUP) on both sides of the bridge.

The point was raised that while SUPs on both sides is ideal, it will be significantly more expensive. The group also discussed the possibility that if the Loudon Rd bridge had SUPs on both sides, the case for a pedestrian and cyclist bridge over I-93 and the river as part of the I-93 widening project may become less strong. The subcommittee recognized the importance of reducing crossings of Loudon Road, which SUPS on both sides would do, and the importance of providing adequate connections for the populations on the Heights without cars.

Ursula made a motion to strongly encourage SUPs on both sides of the bridge. Boyd seconded. The motion passed unanimously by roll-call vote.

## **5. CNHBC Update**

Craig informed the group that a bike swap has been tentatively scheduled for May 2021.

## **6. Private Development**

Sam shared with the subcommittee that the public hearing for the Brixmor development is being continued to the November Planning Board meeting.

## **7. Other Discussion Items**

Boyd asked the group about the policies surrounding bicycle lane striping – specifically, how minimum widths are ensured, particularly on Fisherville Road, when roads are restriped. He has noticed areas on Fisherville Road where the minimum width of 5 feet does not appear to be consistently maintained.

Several members of the subcommittee expressed that this is a chronic issue on multiple corridors throughout the City. There appears to be a disconnect between what is approved and what is striped and the group asked Sam to talk to Engineering and General Services to see what can be done to 1) fix incorrectly striped lanes and 2) ensure that lanes are not incorrectly striped in the future. Sam stated he would reach out to the appropriate staff members ahead of the next meeting.

Last meeting, Dick asked if there are any historical sidewalk condition surveys. Sam reported that he had not discovered any and was not aware of any such program. The group agreed that such a survey would be important to help fix conditions that are difficult or impassible for sidewalk users with mobility challenges. Craig offered that it may be possible to pay for such a survey through the Planning Commission's Unified Planning Work Program with the assistance of an intern. The group will continue to discuss this possibility in the future.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM