



Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee

City of Watertown
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COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ANDREW COMPAGNA, CHAIR
JAMIE BURKE
SHEILA FAY
JESSE HAMMOND
DAN MCKINLEY
AMY PLOVnick
HANNAH RAKOFF
MARIA SAIZ

MEETING MINUTES

The **Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee** met via Zoom on **Monday May 2, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.** Present: Andy Compagna, Jamie Burke, Sheila Fay, Amy Plovnick, Hannah Rakoff, Maria Saiz, Laura Wiener (staff); visitors: Susan Flint, Alan Moore, Kris Surette (WorldTech, consultant to DPW), Greg St. Louis (staff), Ji Chong

1. Greg St. Louis (DPW Director) and Kris Surette (WorldTech, consultant to DPW) presented information on current status of Mt. Auburn St. project. A public hearing occurred in November, 2021 and MassDOT will distribute answers to comments. Engineering of the plans is now occurring to get to 75% design. MassDOT committed to another public meeting. Catenary lines are off, the MBTA is running temporary buses. Long term plan is to replace with electric buses.

Directions from the Council were:

- Maintain legal parking spaces
- Maintain emergency response area for access to Mt. Auburn Hospital
- Maintain bus routes and stops
- Maintain tree canopy
- Flex-posts are not recommended because of many driveways, maintenance, trash collection and snow plowing

West of Common Street there are no changes to the alignment. Space can be reallocated in the future (Common St. to Watertown Sq.) Arlington St. is very constrained, with heavy traffic volumes, buses. The city can ticket cars for blocking bike lanes.

2. Minutes for April approved.
3. Committee took a moment to remember Janet Jameson, a founding member of the Committee.
4. Discussion:
 - a. Andy and Ethan attended opening day for Little League and distributed most of the remaining helmets. Gave out 70 helmets, 2 are left.
5. New business
 - a. Laura told the Committee that the City is updating sections of the 2015 Comprehensive Plan. The sections being revised are Transportation, Land Use, Economic Development, and Open Space/Recreation. There will be a public meeting in the coming weeks to take input from the community. A Planning Committee was formed.

- b. Complete Streets—The City is going to repave Chapman Street and is looking at Complete Street design elements.
- c. Developer's Conferences were held for 104 Main St. and 560 Pleasant (former Russo's). 104 Main Street is a mixed-use project in the commercial district, bounded by Main St., Cross St., and Pleasant Street, including the post office, which will be temporarily closed and will come back after occupancy. 560 Pleasant St. is a lab/life science project.
- d. Members requested that the next meeting include time to follow up on the Mt. Auburn St. project.