



Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee

Town of Watertown
Administration Building
149 Main Street
Watertown, Massachusetts 02472
Tel. (617) 972-6417
Fax (617) 972-6595

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ANDREW COMPAGNA, CHAIR
ETHAN DAVIS
SHEILA FAY
JESSE HAMMOND
TRICIA HOPKINS
JANET JAMESON
AMY PLOVNIK
OLIVER RICK
MARIA SAIZ

MEETING MINUTES

The **Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee** met via Zoom on **Monday August 3, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.** Present: Andy Compagna, Ethan Davis, Sheila Fay, Jesse Hammond, Tricia Hopkins, Janet Jameson, Amy Plovnick, Maria Saiz; Staff: Laura Wiener; Visitors: Colleen Treacy, Susan Flint, Hannah Rakoff

Following are the meeting minutes:

1. Minutes of July 7 approved unanimously.
2. Bike-Ped Plan update: Consultant added "Action Plan" to summarize recommendations. Laura will get input from Steering Committee, and then distribute to Bike-Ped Committee for input at September meeting. Need to have final public meeting and presentation. McMahon would do the presentation. One option is to present to TC sub-comm on Economic Development or Public Works.
3. Oliver announced he is moving from Watertown and therefore leaving committee end of August. Need replacement on Bike-Ped Steering Committee, Site Plan Review Committee, and Wayfinding Sign Committee.
4. Street Space working group. Amy gave report:
 - a. Shared streets: not much interest in closing streets from Town staff. Staff would consider a proposal for closing a specific street with support of abutters/residents.
 - b. Outdoor dining: so far only on sidewalks. Police expressed concern about public safety of dining on the street, DPW said barriers are difficult to get.
 - c. Greenough Blvd: DCR without warning reopened to cars because didn't think it was used much. Sen. Brownsberger suggested online petition to close the street to cars. Amy & Hannah wrote short petition for Change.com, and will send to everyone. Need to get signatures. Post link wherever can.
5. Residential Snow Clearance update: Bob Shay not present. Postponed to next meeting.
6. Bike & Ped access at new schools" draft letter to School Building Cmte from Bike-Ped Cmte requesting that bike and ped access be considered. Send comments to Andy, Ethan & Laura by Friday.
7. Development Projects—Oliver and Laura:
 - a. 202 Arsenal St: resubmission: originally had a grocery store, now Lab space. Good amount of indoor bike parking, and some outdoor surface parking on Arsenal St. Have done more than minimum, plus shower/locker space. Will improve access road between the site and Elan Union Market. Could include Bluebike station.
 - b. 66 Galen St: next to bus yard. 2 phases to development. 1st phase: significant park space connected to Charles River Path (DCR), spread out bike parking for access to whole site; possible BlueBikes site. Possibly put traffic signal in front (at Aldrich St), possibly dedicated bus lane. Transit-oriented development.

8. New business:
 - a. BlueBikes launching: first station in Coolidge Sq, already in place as of 7/31. 7 stations should be in place by end of next week. 2 year contract, then reassess. Bikes stay out all winter except the one on N Beacon St because in street.
 - b. DCR Watertown-Cambridge Greenway: construction is stopped while new drainage is designed and funding identified. Will not open in 2020. Might be done late next year.

Next meeting September 14, by Zoom.