

Meeting Minutes

Salem Bicycling Advisory Committee

Tuesday, January 15, 2019 6:30 p.m.
City Hall Annex, 98 Washington Street
First Floor Conference Room

Members Present: Joe O'Neil (Chair), Dan Shuman, Kylie Sullivan, Eric Papetti, Michael Williamson, Jayne O'Leary, Ray Swartz

Members Absent: Richard Frank, Michael Jaros

Also Present: Tom Devine, Senior Planner

Call Meeting to Order

Papetti calls the meeting to order.

Bicycle Master Plan Implementation Update

Devine states that he is prepared to execute a contract with Toole Design Group to begin preliminary design and cost estimating on the following projects: Fort Ave., Bridge St. Neck, North St., Washington St. between New Derby and Mill Streets, Jefferson Ave., and West Ave. Toole's scope allows for 8 projects, so this would be the first 6, allowing for two more. The Mayor has interest in doing pop-up pilot bike lanes somewhere in the City, and work on those may account for the other two projects under this scope.

Papetti asks for an explanation of including West Ave. Devine states that it could be better tied into the complete streets project at the Lafayette and West Ave. intersection. Papetti wonders why that tiny project would be a priority among the many major projects that need to be done. Devine says it would receive the neighborhood greenway treatment, which is simply signs and sharrows, and other traffic calming. Papetti suggests the project would have value if it could be a model for other neighborhood greenway treatments throughout the City. Swartz agrees that this isn't a high priority at this time. Devine thinks it is appropriate to exclude West Ave. from the scope.

Papetti notes that the Washington Street project doesn't bring the network all the way to the train station. He thinks the two sections must be designed together to really work. Devine states that this overlaps with the upcoming bike lane painting on Washington Street. Papetti says the long-term solution is more intensive and would likely require some construction, compared to the more temporary bike lane striping. Devine sees the value in designing the whole corridor, but is concerned that Toole would charge the City for two projects. Sullivan recognizes that, but sees so much of the network depending on what is done with Washington Street. She thinks it is important to begin designing the whole corridor even if it counts as two of the 8 projects under this scope.

The Committee asks if the projects are in any priority order. Devine replies that they are not. However, we could choose to fast track any project to include in the upcoming capital requests or in a MassTrails grant application.

O'Neil arrives.

Bike Share Update: Selection of dock locations for spring expansion

Devine says that he wants to continue their discussion of locations for 6 additional Zagster hubs and Zagster needs the City's selections by February 15. Devine distributes a map of all 2018 Zagster routes and locking events. The Committee had suggested the following locations in their previous discussion:

- Salem Common
- Bridge Street
- Salem State University
- McGrath Park (though not a priority)
- Northern end of Canal Street bike path
- Winter Island
- At or near North Shore Medical Center
- Boston Street
- Castle Hill
- Old Salem Greens golf course

Devine says he feels strongly about adding a station at Salem State, Salem Common, and the northern end of the new Canal St. bike path. Jaros advocates for the Boston/Essex Streets area. Members suggest a station to cover the Collins Cove area. Members discuss options for places a dock in the Derby Wharf and Pickering Wharf area, as well as at the new Community Life Center. The group discusses whether a dock needs to be placed within the Common. Papetti stresses that currently the system is focused on destinations rather than origins. Sullivan suggests obtaining pedestrian data that MassInMotion has collected.

Sullivan notes that there is a lot of space available for a dock in the vicinity of the Bridge Street Bike Path and Collins Cove. Members see Bridge Street neck as a good place to include in the system. O'Neil suggests that good coverage could be achieved by placing stations at parks throughout the city. Devine reports that the final locations have to be approved by the Mayor or her Chief of Staff.

Review of Essex Street Redesign (North St. to Washington St.)

Devine presents project plans. He states that a stakeholders group of business owners has reviewed that project and advocated for maintaining parking. They rejected an earlier plan that would have removed parking from the south side of the street. Sullivan states that she and Madore had hoped for a less conservative design. She is surprised that the sidewalks can't be wider now that the bike lane is removed. Papetti asks whether parking counts were done, but they were not. He thinks that it would be useful to do this not only for the project design, but also

to anticipate the impact of parking disruptions during construction. Sullivan states that it is understood that this is a high demand area for parking and everyone desires high turnover here. It is meant to be short term parking. Members suggest having raised traffic tables at both the Sewell Street and Washington Street intersections. Devine notes that Sullivan has asked before that the City be sure to replace any bicycle parking lost when parking meters that have racks attached to them are eliminated.

Miscellaneous Updates

Devine states that the Szetela Lane Path project is a strong candidate for the upcoming MassTrails grant application. He suggests that a support letter from the Committee would strengthen the application. Devine will draft it and provide it to O'Neil to sign.

The Committee reiterates its wishes that parking no longer be allowed within the bike lane on Harmony Grove Road, where customers at ATG have been directed to park.

Devine notes that seven out of the nine members are being reappointed now and the other two, who were first appointed later than the others, will be reappointed at a later date. Shuman says he plans to take a break from the Commission. Connor Ryan, in the audience, expresses interest in serving on the Committee and will follow up with Devine.

Meeting Minutes—October 16, 2018

Papetti motions and Williamson seconds to approve the minutes and all vote in favor.

Adjourn

Shuman motions and Papetti seconds to adjourn at 8:02 p.m. and all vote in favor.

Approved by the Bicycling Advisory Committee on April 30, 2019.