

# Burlington Walk-Bike Council Meeting Minutes

August 24, 2017

5:40-7:00pm

**Presiding:** Erik Brown Brotz

**Minutes taken by:** Sarah Goodrich

**Others present:** Steve Norman (BWBC), Serrill Flash (implementation committee), Elizabeth Gohringer (DPW), Tony Redington, RJ Lalumiere, Paul Sisson (AARP), Cindy Cook, Keith Schuler, Greg Hostettler, Karen, Eric, Cleary Buckley, Ibanar, Zach Pensak (Open Streets coordinator)

## Agenda Item: Announcements

- Tony updates Pine Street Coalition.
  - One purpose: Open a new design process that includes everyone to create a safe street for all.
  - They've hired a lawyer.
  - They'll be looking for more membership.
  - Could save \$8M and use some of that money for bike connection through Railyard.

## Walk-Bike Plan Implementation and Feedback Committee

### Agenda Item: DPW updates

- There was miscommunication about what DPW would cover tonight, so North Ave. and Riverside updates dropped.
- Adding curb extensions (6 of them) at unsignalized crossings on Pine Street. This will be "quick build" with paint and bollards only. See "Pine St Curb Extensions.pdf" and "Bollards used for curb extensions.pdf."
  - Kilburn, Marble, Howard, Jackson Terrace, Locust, Lakeside (considering whether bollards are feasible at Lakeside given lots of truck traffic)
  - Comment: Why no curb extension on north side of Howard? Elizabeth will find out. Perhaps because ped crossing moved to the south side.
- Austin Drive bikeway
  - Originally planned as 2-way bike facility on north side of Austin Drive.
  - Concern about removing more parking close to Oakledge Park so reevaluating options.
  - One possibility is a greenway on Oak Beach Drive.
  - This is now pushed to next year.
  - How many parking spaces would be removed? A lot.
  - Comments:
    - What about reverting Flynn Ave to how it was? It's worse now than it was before (bike lane too narrow and poor condition, car lane too wide). Rather have Austin Dr. path than Flynn Ave. advisory lane.
    - There is no sidewalk on the south side of Flynn. Possible to have a quick build pedestrian space on Flynn to make the street narrower and increase space for bikes and peds?
    - The Austin Drive path would be an important connection between the Burlington and S. Burlington bike paths.
    - Why was the original plan a 2-way facility? Bike lanes on both sides of the street would be better for an on-street facility.
- King and Maple traffic calming
  - Repaving will happen this year, and along with that there will be curb extensions. See "KingStNeighborhood.pdf."
  - King & Battery and King & S Champlain (this year)
  - Maple and Battery part of Railyard Enterprise Project. Adding curb ramps and pedestrian signals this year or next year; other changes possible in future.
  - Maple and King at Pine St will have curb extensions through the Champlain Parkway project. (future)
  - Maple and King at St. Paul will have curb extensions through the Great Streets project. (next year)
  - Maple and South Champlain waiting to reevaluate once designs for Railyard Enterprise Project are complete.
  - Comment: What about mini roundabouts at some of these intersections?
- Booth and North traffic calming
  - DPW attended neighborhood meeting last month
  - Mostly concerns about North St. traffic. Some concerns relate to park, stormwater, etc.
  - Comment: The intersection at School is also related and the two should be looked at together.
- Ward Street traffic calming
  - Speed hump has been there and is well received.
  - Community meeting on Sep 12.
  - Comment: Bikers like the speed humps on Ward St.
- Bikeway markings on College connecting Prospect
  - There are concepts in review for engineering merit.

## **Agenda Item: Resolution at City Council about implementation of DPW projects**

- Is this slowing down DPW? Are you waiting for the public process to be developed?
  - There's been internal pushback to reach out more to the neighborhoods, especially for greenway projects.
  - DPW isn't feeling pressure to hold off on projects.

## **Agenda Item: Projects expected to be completed this year**

- Main & Champlain: Painted, waiting for bollards
- Maple & Battery: see above
- Lakeview Greenway: Chapin has encouraged more outreach; they're planning a one-day popup curb extension. At least paint on the ground this year if not materials installed.
- ONE Greenway aka Wiggle: Same situation as Lakeview Greenway.
  - How late does the construction season go? October for paint, not sure about drilled materials.
  - Request that DPW advertise on all the ONE front porch forums.

## **Agenda Item: Open Streets (Zach, Open Streets Coordinator)**

- September 17, Sunday, 5 hours
- All in South End
- Zach is working a lot to engage local businesses
- Parks serve as hubs
- Website: [openstreetsbtv.gov](http://openstreetsbtv.gov)
  - Volunteer page (intersection, biking, and info volunteers) 50 needed in all, 9 signed up so far.
- Draw for seniors?
- Get V-bikes to come and give a demonstration?

## **Agenda Item: Projects expected to be completed this year (Continued)**

- Union Street: The team has go-ahead to install bollards for the protected bikelane, and it will happen soon.
  - This is a pilot, so they will review after implementation.
- Pearl Street
  - DPW put out a bid for the paint, grinding off old paint, etc. and the one response was very expensive.
  - This may be pushed to next season. There are only two companies who do this work, and the VT company didn't bid this time.
- Riverside
  - Was also part of the bid that came in so high.
  - Elizabeth will send an email next week with more info on these.
- North Ave: What are the next steps?
  - Elizabeth doesn't know, so we'll get more info by email.
  - Any discussion of the North Ave Corridor?
  - Focusing on response to feedback on Pilot.
  - The long-term recommended design would be a much better improvement.

## **Agenda Item: Implementation Committee**

- Please enter comments on the shared Google spreadsheet.
- Folks not on the committee could send comments to Erik or DPW.
- Sign up to be a lead on projects... soon Erik will assign people.

## **Agenda Item: Right of Way**

- When cars are turning right through a bike lane, do bikers or drivers have right of way?
  - Bikers do; cars need to wait and yield to bikes. But prudence suggests that bikers shouldn't assume that cars will yield.
  - It was unclear to those present whether bikers have right of way over right-turning vehicles when no bike lane is present.
  - Public education on this point would be good.

## **Post-meeting Addendum: More project updates**

The following additional updates were provided by Nicole via email after the meeting:

- 1. North Ave pilot next steps: we are negotiating a contract with Stantec for improvements to some markings, hoping for restriping late fall. We don't have those plans yet, and any other work will be designed/scheduled over the fall.
- 2. Riverside Ave: the pavement marking bid was twice the cost we estimated, so we're going to re-bid the durable markings in the spring. The "caution" signs at driveways will be added this fall though.
- 3. Pearl Street: the pavement marking bid was twice the estimate for paint as well, but we're negotiating with the contractor to hopefully lower the price and get some work done this fall.