

**Binghamton Metropolitan Transportation Study
Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee
Zoom Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2025**

In attendance:

Scott Reigle (BMTS), Hadassah Mativetsky (Binghamton City Council), Nick Cecconi (Getthere), Devin Link (BCDOH), Carlos Basualdo (Public), Jacob Rotary (Broome United Way/Fresh Cycles), Susan Pitely (NYSDOT Region 9)

Convene: 1:33 PM

January 13 minutes accepted with corrected spelling of Mativetsky.

Topic	Discussion/Follow Up	Action
<p>Roadway Needs Report:</p> <p>Follow Up to Previous Meeting Items:</p>	<p>Follow-up Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <u>Memorial Bridge Transformation Project – Binghamton</u>: Scott shared that the City of Binghamton has submitted this project for BMTS Transportation Improvement Program’s (TIP) funding. Project submissions are now being evaluated and a decision will be made during March regarding which projects to fund. Will report on the results potentially at the March 10 Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee meeting. If the Memorial Bridge Project is funded, Scott will request City Engineer, Ron Lake, for concept drawings and any details he has on the Bridge design. <p>New Needs Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● None 	<p>Action Items:</p>
<p>Announcements and Status Reports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Newspaper Articles/Notices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No new articles or notices. 	<p>Action Items:</p>
<p>Education and Outreach</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2025 Binghamton Bridge Pedal –Saturday, August 9th, 9am-12:30pm. Scott shared a proposed bike ride route including possible stops at Cutler Gardens, the Lee Barta Community Center, the VINES building, and the MacArthur Park Trail Head. The route will be about 11 miles long. Will promote the ride to be from 9 – 11:30AM. There will be no rain date, but if there is heavy rain, registrants can come to TechWorks! to pick up their shirt and tour the museum. A Facebook LIVE interview with Visit Bing has been set for August 4 at 2PM. Last year’s interview generated a significant number of registrants. The librarian from Your Home Library in Johnson City has asked Scott to do a community talk during July on biking in the local area. That will be another opportunity to promote the Bridge Pedal. 	<p>Action Items:</p>

	<p>Devin asked if there is interest in the BC Health Dept. having a water and sunscreen handout. It was popular last year. Scott will put Susan Sherwood in touch with Devin to arrange that for the 2024 event.</p> <p>The next planning meeting is on Tuesday, March 4 at 9:00AM via Zoom. Let Scott know if you'd like to be a part of the Planning Committee.</p>	
<p>Projects/ Reports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>The Pedestrian and Bicycle Counter Report: Monthly reports available on the BMTS website and specific count data is available upon request. BMTS is considering focusing on quarterly reports that will be in a similar format to the Annual Counter Reviews. Scott reviewed the Two Rivers Greenway 2024 in Review Report. It's in the same format as the previous year. For count data to be most informative, each counter has a summary report that shows monthly total counts as well as the pedestrian & bike count split, an annual comparison of counts by month, and monthly counts compared to average monthly temperature. It was noted that the COVID bump in trail use is clearly evident in the 2020 counts being the highest for each of the 12 original counters. One can also see jumps in counts associated with special events at or near the counter site such as walks & runs on the Vestal Rail Trail and Otsiningo Park, the Blues on the Bridge near the S. Washington St. Bridge, and Lights on the River in Owego. A total systemwide count is provided along with a total count of all the counters since their installation. Nick asked if there were total count comparisons by year? Scott replied that individual counter reports provide a more accurate account of trail use since some trail locations are busier than others, and there are times when counters are not operating correctly or at all. The Annual Review does show total counts of each counter, and overall percentage bikes vs. pedestrians for all counters, and compares that number to the higher bike traffic percentages seen on the Rt. 434 Greenway</p> <p>Jacob asked if there are plans to add more counters? Scott replied that BMTS is maxed-out with what we can handle with the 16 we now have. BMTS is strategizing what should be done when the counters age-out. The new counter designs address many of the maintenance issues we've experienced, but it is also an option to have a few portable counters that we can install a year or more at a time at new trail locations or at specific locations where counts are needed.</p> <p>Friends of the Two Rivers Greenway (TRG) Group –</p> <p>A meeting was held on January 30th. The main action item that came out of the meeting was to create a contact list of officials from municipalities that have jurisdiction of portions of the Two Rivers Greenway and stakeholder groups. During mid-February, BMTS will send these contacts an email inviting them to a meeting to review what the TRG is, progress made on building the trails, current and future trail plans. Additionally, the need and purpose of a volunteer-based Friends Group will be discussed along with how a volunteer-based group can assist municipalities with trail maintenance. Will look to gain buy-in from the municipalities and stakeholders to participate with and grow the</p> 	<p>Action Items:</p> <p>Download Counter Reports at: https://bmtsonline.com/data/bikeped-counts</p>

	<p>Friends group. A Doodle Poll will be used to determine the best date and time for a meeting during the weeks of March 10 or March 17. The meeting will likely be held in the 6th floor conference room in the Broome County Office Building, and there will be a Zoom option to help maximize attendance.</p> <p>Trail cleanup event opportunities were also discussed. Hadassah is leading a trail cleanup team through the Binghamton University Alumni Global Day of Service program. The cleanup of the Rt 434 Greenway will be on Friday, April 25 from 1:00 – 3:00pm. More information will be shared with the Committee as the date gets closer.</p>	
<p>Agency/ Dept. Updates</p>	<p>NYS DOT Region 9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Susan shared that a turning movement and bike/pedestrian count has been ordered for the Frederick St. and Brandywine Hwy. intersection, which will help in understanding the levels of traffic for each leg of the intersection as well as the pedestrian and bike presence, and therefore, provide information needed to devise a safety treatment. <p>Broome County Health Dept.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devin stated that Creating Healthy Schools and Communities funds could be used for a pedestrian safety education campaign. She is working with Christine Marion to determine the most effective way to reach the populations using the Frederick St. and Brandywine Hwy. intersection with a pedestrian safety and pedestrian signal education campaign. One option could be the use of lawn signs. 	<p>Action Items:</p>
<p>Other</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nick shared information about the Binghamton 2 Degrees initiative, which aims to highlight the urgency of climate change and inspire practical, local solutions. Rooted in the principles of action research, the initiative will take meaningful steps to engage the community in a collective scientific exploration of a future that may differ drastically from the present, charting a path forward, leveraging our brightest minds, strongest voices, and most capable hands. Along the way, discoveries will be documented and this knowledge shared to empower others. See https://sites.google.com/view/binghamton2degrees. Nick stated that they may be applying for a BUILD grant that would include elements of bike and pedestrian infrastructure. • Nick shared that he/Getthere participates in the Transportation Work Group within the BC Food Council that addresses lack of access to healthy food and related transportation issues. BC Food Council Coordinator:, Theresa Krause who works with the Foodbank of the Southern Tier leads the Work Group. Nick has a meeting about this on February 12. • Hadassah informed the Committee that the Binghamton Traffic Board meets monthly on the second Thursday of the month at 9:15am in the Council Chambers. The next scheduled meeting is on February 13th. The meetings are open to the public and a public comment opportunity is a part of each meeting’s agenda, so Committee 	<p>Action Items:</p>

	<p>members are encouraged to attend to bring up transportation safety issues in Binghamton, which may be more effective than filling out the Traffic Board Application at https://www.binghamton-ny.gov/government/boards-and-commissions/traffic-board.</p>	
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- Jacob Rotary shared that the Fresh Cycles group rides are being reinstated! The rides will be once a month from April – October. Please feel free to share ride route and informational destination recommendations.

Adjourn: 2:47 PM

Next Meeting: Monday, March 10 at 1:30PM