

**Binghamton Metropolitan Transportation Study
Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee
Zoom Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2021**

In attendance:

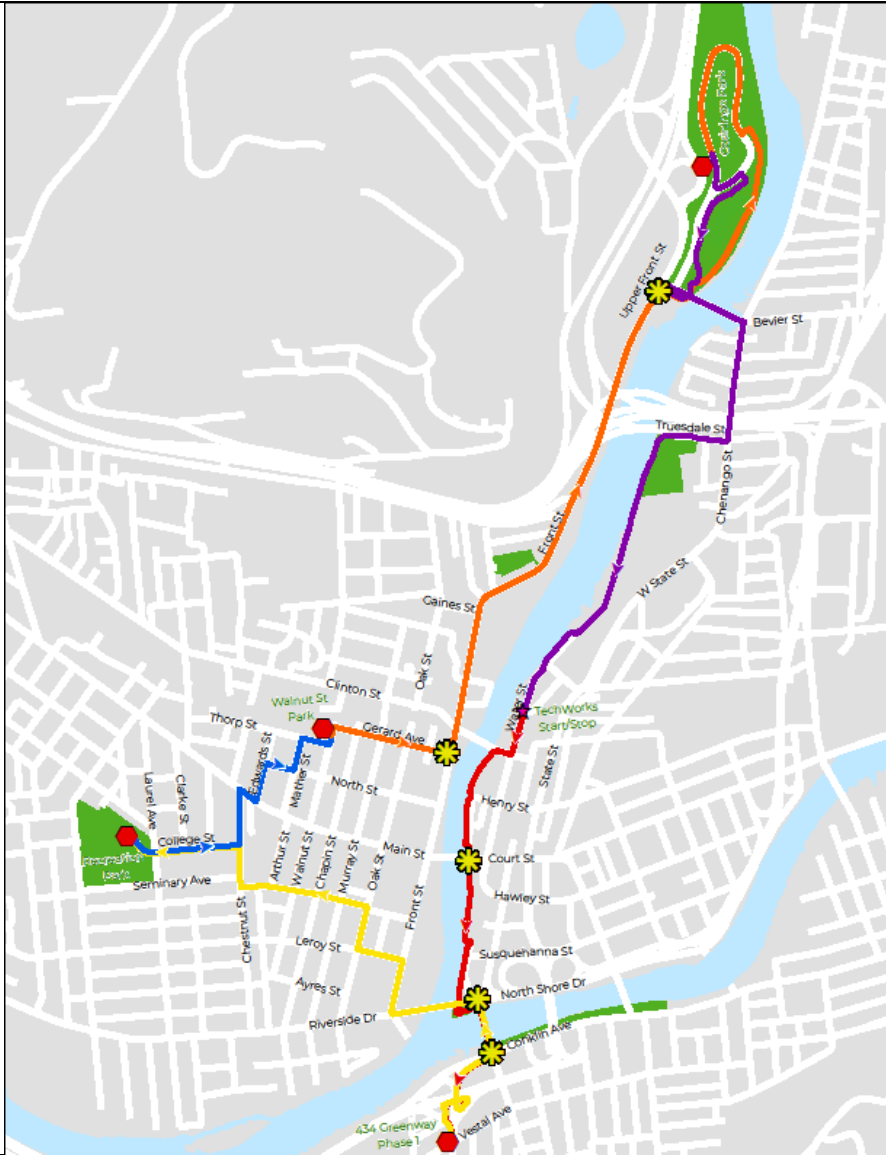
Scott Reigle, Susan Pitely, Nick Cecconi, Elizabeth Woidt, Steven Bard, Ashley Seyfried, Jennifer Yonkoski, Susan Link

Convened at 1:35 p.m.

February 8th minutes accepted as written.

Topic	Discussion/Follow Up	Action
Roadway Needs Report: Follow Up to Previous Meeting Items:	<u>Follow Up:</u> Plaza Dr./Oxford Pl./Murray Hill Rd. – Scott reported that he contacted the Town of Vestal Engineer, Vern Myers, as he requested to remind him about installing crosswalks to Plaza Dr., Country Club Rd., Oxford Pl., and Murray Hill Rd.. Vern responded that he will speak with the highway department but they are a ways off in the thought process on that. Stephanie recommended that a crosswalk be installed across Murray Hill Rd. at the location of the pathway that was installed by Newman House that accesses the Binghamton University Campus. The pathway is in line with the Mercer Pl. intersection so it looks like it would be a good location for a crosswalk. Like recommended for the proposed crosswalk at the Oxford Pl. intersection, a portable mid-road yield to pedestrian sign would further enhance pedestrian safety. Newman House could be approached to see if they would manage putting the sign out and taking it in as needed. Scott will add this crosswalk request when he contacts Vern again with a reminder.	Scott will add the additional crosswalk request when he contacts Vern again with a reminder.
Newspaper Articles/ Notices	Nothing in addition to the Article Digest.	

Educational & Outreach



Binghamton Bridge Pedal

Scott, reminded the Committee that the bike ride route will be the one planned for use during the 2020 Bridge Pedal that was cancelled.

Nate Miller of the Binghamton Police Department, was emailed on Friday, March 5 to inform about the Bridge Pedal and was asked to confirm the Police Department's participation. Scott hasn't heard back yet. **EDITORS NOTE: Nate has since responded and the Binghamton Police will participate once an event permit is obtained.**

The Bridge Pedal Committee's next meeting is Friday, March 12.

Scott, Stephanie, and Susan Sherwood of TechWorks will continue planning for the Bridge Pedal.

<p>Project/ Events</p>	<p>Ashley presented the February update on the Pedestrian & Bike Counters: The February 2021 Counter Report is also available at http://bmtsonline.com/node/46. Typical of winter months, counts are at the low end for pedestrians & cyclists, but there is a small indication of some counts beginning to rise. BMTS is still working with Binghamton to secure the counter post that is near the Court St. Bridge. The post anchors have come loose.</p> <p>Vestal Road Trail Feasibility Study Ashley presented a summary of the DRAFT Vestal Road Trail Feasibility Study. The Study proposes an off-road trail section from African Rd. to Shippers Rd., and then from Shippers Rd. to the Susquehanna River, primarily using a former rail bed. Ultimately, the trail is planned to connect with the planned JC Rail Trail. An on-road section with sidewalks (5 ft. – 7 ft. wide) and bike lanes is proposed from Shippers Rd. to Bunn Hill Road. Intersections will have improved crosswalks and upgraded pedestrian signals. Where lanes narrow and a left turn lane exists at the Commerce Rd. and University Plaza entrance/exit intersections with Vestal Rd., sharrows will be installed since bike lanes won't fit. After the Committee asked several questions that Ashley answered, the Committee submitted the following comments for the consultant to consider:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contiguous bike lanes are important for cyclists. It is requested that intersections where sharrows are currently recommended be analyzed for the feasibility of design changes such as narrowing travel lanes or turning lanes that would enable 5-foot or a short section of 4-foot wide bike lanes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bike lanes are particularly important in areas of steep grades such as at the Commerce Rd. intersection. 2. Note that the Broome County LWRP is being updated. The trail connection to Harold Moore Park is important as this park has potential for enhance river access. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LWRP update should also take into account the importance of the trail connection to Harold Moore Park, which provides more access to the park with river access and potential improved river access. <p>Broome County Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan (LWRP) Update – www.broomewaterfront.com The Broome County Planning Department is working with a consultant to update the Countywide LWRP. Two public information meetings were held via Zoom to gather input. Follow the progress of the update on the project website. There will likely be more public information meetings, which will be publicized on the website and media. Scott will inform the Committee when BMTS becomes aware of a public information meeting.</p>	<p>Scott will inform the Committee when BMTS becomes aware of a public information meeting.</p>
<p>Agency/ Dept. Updates</p>	<p><u>NYS DOT Region 9</u> – Susan Pitely reported the following:</p> <p>US 11/Front St. Bridge over I-81 – Work will start soon on this project.</p> <p>2021 Construction Season Scheduled Closures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The intersection of US Route 11 (Front Street) and Bevier Street will require the closure of Bevier Street to vehicular traffic at that intersection for two days near the end of March. Bicyclists and pedestrians will continue to be allowed through the intersection. The entrance to Otsiningo Park on Bevier Street will accessible to vehicular traffic from the east. Signed detours will be in place while the intersection is closed to vehicular traffic. 	<p>Editor's Note: Scott sent the Committee the work start</p>

	<p>2022 Construction Season Scheduled Closures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exit 5 northbound exit and entrance ramps will require closures, although through traffic on US Route 11 (Front Street) will be maintained. • The intersection of Exit 5 southbound ramps, Old Front Street and US Route 11 (Front Street) will require a full closure to all traffic. Traffic from Old Front Street will be maintained to US Route 11 (Front Street) north of the intersection during that closure via a temporary access road. <p>Route 434 Greenway – Work has started. Some lane closure is needed where trees are being cleared.</p>	<p>notice for US 11/Front St. Bridge over I-81 once BMTS received it on March 11.</p>
<p>Other</p>	<p><u>Complete Streets Workshop</u> – Scott shared that Dan Suraci of Urban Cycling Solutions informed him that the NYS Dept. of Health has funded more Complete Streets Workshops like the one Dan led in Endicott during 2019. The Committee was asked to provide BMTS with ideas of municipalities and specific locations that would be a good candidate for a Workshop.</p> <p><u>Intersection Action Program</u> – Dan Suraci is also launching a new free program in NYSEDA called the “Intersection Action Program.” The goal of this program is to work with interested community stakeholders to identify specific intersections and/or corridors, clearly articulate issues and develop/document design solutions that can be presented to local officials. This is set to launch in April and is both free and open to members of the public. Each program location will consist of three webinars with instructions and provide one-on-one mentoring.</p> <p><u>NYS Complete Streets Legislation</u>: S5130 has been referred to the Senate Transportation Committee. PURPOSE: To include, when possible, complete street design features in resurfacing, maintenance and pavement recycling projects and further enable safe access to public roads for all users. SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS: Section 1: amends subdivision (a) of section 331 of the highway law to include complete streets design features in resurfacing, maintenance and pavement recycling projects that are subject to the department of transportation's oversight. See https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2021/S5130?utm_content=in_senate_comm&utm_campaign=bill_alerts&utm_source=ny_state_senate&utm_medium=email</p> <p><u>Federal Complete Streets Act</u>: , Senator Edward J. Markey (MA) and Congressman Steve Cohen (TN-09) re-introduced the Complete Streets Act, a bill that promotes safer and more accessible street design across the United States. The Complete Streets Act does three basic things:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets aside federal funds to support Complete Streets projects (five percent of annual federal highway funds) • Requires states to create a program to provide technical assistance and award funding for communities to build Complete Streets projects • Directs localities to adopt a Complete Streets policy that meets a minimum set of standards to access that dedicated funding <p>The Complete Streets Act requires that states set aside a portion of their federal highway funding to create a grant program that</p>	<p>Scott will follow-up with Endicott regarding progress made since their 2019 Complete Streets Workshop</p>

	funds Complete Streets projects to make transit routes safer and more accessible. Through this program, eligible local and regional entities can apply for technical assistance and capital funding to build safe streets projects, such as sidewalks, bike lanes, crosswalks, and bus stops.	
--	---	--

Adjourn: 2:40 PM

Next Meeting: Monday, April 12, 2021 at 1:30 p.m.