

**Binghamton Metropolitan Transportation Study
Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2010**

Attendance: Scott Reigle, Greg Patinka, Matt Roman, Zhiyang Liu, Cathy Lin, Gail Domin, Amelia LoDolce
Convene: 1:35 p.m.

Topic	Discussion	Action Plan
<i>Snacks and Needs Report</i>		
<i>Approve January 13th meeting minutes</i>	Approved	
<i>Announcements and Status Reports</i>	<p><u>Newspaper Articles/Notices</u> – <i>nothing to report</i></p> <p><u>Report</u>- Broome-Tioga Greenride</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently there are 202 users <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ BU will kickoff their portal for staff & students on March 1st. <p><u>Report</u>- Owego Riverwalk Grand Opening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photos from the February 9th grand opening of the trail were passed around. Very interesting treatments with the cement were done to make portions look like blue stone slate and like wood boardwalk planks. <p><u>Subcommittee Reports:</u></p> <p><u>Bike Rodeos</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JC Bike Rodeo/Giveaway will take place on Saturday, May 8th. <i>VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.</i> <p><u>Binghamton Bridge Pedal</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New bike route being planned. Stops will be at City parks. Event date is Sunday, July 11th from 9 – 11 AM. <p><u>Safe Routes to School – local efforts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possibility Jennifer Clunie (NYBC) & Lois Chaplin (Cornell Local Roads Program) will organize training for teaching bicycle safety for area P.E. teachers. 	<p>Remember to bring events fliers for distribution.</p>
<i>Discussion/Action Items</i>	<p><u>Advisory Committee Officers:</u> Chairperson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion tabled until March 17th meeting. 	
<i>Transportation Improvement Program/Project Comments</i>	<p><u>Draft Design Report – Susquehanna North Bank Multiuse Trail:</u></p> <p>Scott summarized the trail design alternatives and the Committee provided the following comment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trail user amenities such as benches and trash receptacles, and plantings 	

(low maintenance) along the trail are important components of this project. Detailed landscaping and planting plans should be included in final design even if the budget does not allow for the installation of all the items. The plans will be useful when opportunities arise to install the plantings.

- Scott will pass the comment on to the City of Binghamton Engineering.

Draft Design Report – Susquehanna North Bank Multiuse Trail:

Scott summarized the trail design alternatives and the Committee provided the following comments:

PHASE I

Alternative F & D1 (pages 1-3 & 1-4) – Will “enhanced/improved sidewalk sections” be at least 10 feet wide, preferably 12 feet wide, to accommodate pedestrian and bicycle uses?

Width of Trail – The report and drawings indicate a trail width of 10 feet. A minimum width of 12 feet is recommended since it will be a shared use path, and due to the likelihood of significant trail use from existing and soon to be developed pedestrian and bicyclist generators. Should adding two feet of pavement width not be feasible, consider adding an adjacent jogging path of crushed stone type surface. This would aid in mitigating trail congestion by providing extra space an option for walkers and joggers to use for a portion of the entirety of their trail use/trip.

Regarding shared use path width, the NYSDOT Highway Design Chapter 17 refers to the ASSHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities, which states, “Under most conditions, a recommended paved width for a two-directional shared use path is 3.0 m (10 feet). Under certain conditions it may be necessary or desirable to increase the width of a shared use path to 3.6 m (12 feet), or even 4.2 m (14 feet), due to substantial use by bicycles, joggers, skaters and pedestrians, use by large maintenance vehicles, and/or steep grades.”

Section 4.2.4 School Districts (second paragraph) – The Susquehanna School is no longer in operation.

Bridge – The pedestrian bridge shown in the photo simulation is not aesthetically pleasing. The metal girders give the view shed with the bridge

an industrial feel. Are there affordable options for a more aesthetically pleasing bridge?

Plantings (low maintenance) along the trail and on the bridge are an important component of this project. Detailed planting plans should be included in final design even if the budget does not allow for the installation. The plans would be useful when an opportunity arises to install the plantings.

Trail user amenities such as benches and trash receptacles are also important components of this project. Therefore, they should also be included in final design even if the budget does not allow for the installation. The plans would be useful when an opportunity arises to install the plantings.

Recommend installation of Distance Markers for every 1/10 mile. Install them using a permanent/durable manner, such as imprinting in the asphalt or with signs.

PHASE II

See Width of Trail comments above.

See Plantings and Trail User Amenities above in Phase 1.

See Distance Markers above in Phase 1.

Is it possible to keep the trail, along Vestal Ave, on the north side of the road rather than on the south side?

PHASE III

See Width of Trail comments above.

See Plantings and Trail User Amenities above in Phase 1.

See Distance Markers above in Phase 1.

Need eastbound/westbound pedestrian signals at Starbuck's entrance ramp and at University Plaza entrance.

	<p><u>Starbuck's Crosswalk</u>: Bring crosswalk back as close to the east end of the entrance ramp as possible. Also, consider a raised crosswalk to slow traffic.</p>	
<i>Other</i>	<p><u>Projects for 2010:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bike Route Map update has begun. Printing quotes are being obtained for a contract to be signed by the end of March. Graphics and map updates should be complete by the end of March. Printing of the map should be done toward the end of April or during May. • Ped/Bike Plan Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ They will be made into two distinct plans as their needs are different. The Ped. Plan update will be first and will likely start toward the Fall of 2010, after the Transportation Tomorrow: 2035 long range plan update is completed ○ Scott asked that we look for any pedestrian plans by other MPOs that we can use as a guide. ○ The Ped. Plan will make a sign design guide and plan for the GB Greenway and high priority. The sign design guide and plan will likely be a task for a summer intern. They will look at sign design plans and possibly hold a logo contest. <p><u>Change regular meeting day:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The idea of switching the Committee's regular meeting day back to the second Monday of each month was discussed. • This change would be fine for everyone in attendance. • Will take formal action on day change proposal at the March 17th Committee meeting. 	
<i>Next Meeting</i>	Wednesday, March 17, 2010 1:30 p.m.	NOTICE – 3rd Wednesday of March.

Adjourn: 2:45pm