

**Binghamton Metropolitan Transportation Study
Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee
Zoom Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2023**

In attendance:

Scott Reigle (BMTS), Nick Cecconi (Getthere), Susan Pitely (NYSDOT R-9), Stephanie Brewer (BC Planning), Carlos Basualdo (Public), Mark Goodwin (STBC), Margaret Opalka (AVRE)

Convene: 1:32 PM

July 17 minutes accepted as is.

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"> • None <p>New Needs Reports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Margaret shared that the Chenango St. & Henry St. southwest corner pedestrian button is not working. Scott will inform the City of Binghamton Public Works Department. It was also noted that the Henry St. crossings are very long. Scott said that it would be an improvement if the splitter islands on the west and east sides were extended out to provide pedestrian refuges and enable the crossing to be a two-stage crossing if needed. The City received funding to reconstruct and make pedestrian & bike improvements on Henry St., so that is an opportunity to improve/shorten those crossings. • Margaret shared that the pedestrian signal head at the southwest corner of Lester Ave. and Harry L. Drive was broken off and needed to be replaced. It was determined that the signal is Johnson City's so Scott will contact the JC Public Works Director. • Nick asked if feasibility was determined for a midblock crossing near the bus stop near Applebee's on Upper Front St.. Susan replied that NYSDOT determined it was not feasible due to being a short distance from both the roundabout pedestrian crossing to the south and the signalized intersection to the north. 	<p>Action Items:</p> <p>Scott will contact the Binghamton and Johnson City DPW officials to inform of the broken pedestrian signal head and the nonfunctioning pedestrian signal push button.</p>
<p>Announcements and Status Reports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newspaper Articles/Notices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No other announcements. 	<p>Action Items:</p>
<p>Education and Outreach</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>REPORT</i> - 2023 Binghamton Bridge Pedal - Saturday, August 12th, 9am-12pm. Scott shared that this Bridge Pedal, a partnership with BMTS, TechWorks!, and the BC Planning Dept., went very well. The partnership with the Binghamton Police Department is also much appreciated. This year having two bike patrol officers rode along with the Bridge Pedal cyclists stood out and was a great opportunity for the police to connect with the community. Nehemiah Jahn (14 yrs. Old) did a great job of photography using a drone. A group photo at 	<p>Action Items:</p>

	<p>MacArthur Park enabled an accurate count of 91 Bridge Pedal participants. This is similar to the amount of participation over the past few years, yet significant this year as no other media promoted the event except for Bob Joseph (WNBF radio) and no media covered the event taking place. The theme of the Bridge pedal was new trails, which generated excitement among participants. Two of the four ride stops were on new trails: Rt. 434 Greenway & US11 over I-81. Scott summarized the four stops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kelly Sullivan (Engineer with Bergmann Associates @ Confluence Park – Plans for the Memorial Bridge Transformation. She was able to have the cyclists provide input on preferred design features. ○ Susan Pitely, the Bike/Pedestrian Coordinator for NYSDOT Region 9 @ Ivanhoe Rd. access spur to the Rt. 434 Greenway. – New trail segments. Of particular importance was how Susan explained hoe safety infrastructure worked and should be used such as Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacons (RRFB) and pedestrian crossing signals. ○ Anna Warfield, Binghamton based artist @ Roberson Museum & Science Center – Talked about her “Placid Thoughts From Inside Her Eyelids” exhibit using text-based soft sculptures from fabric. ○ Scott spoke @ US 11/Front St. Bridge over I-81, emphasizing the connection this new trail created to Cornell Cooperative Ext., Cutler Gardens, the Regional Farmers Market, SUNY Broome, and other restaurant & retail. Helps customers and employees access all the Upper Front St. establishments. <p>Scott showed the Binghamton Bridge Pedal video taken by Nehemiah Jahn. A link to the video is on the BMTS website front page in the lower left corner. See www.bmtsonline.com.</p>	
<p>Project/Reports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pedestrian and Bicycle Counter Reports are available on the BMTS website. Scott shared counts from the Rt. 434 Greenway for its first month of operation from August 5 - September 5. The Normandy Ct. counter averaged 139 counts per day from opening day (August 5) to August 14. 57.6% cyclists. After Binghamton University students returned, the average daily count jumped to 266 with 42.9% cyclists. For the entire month (August 5 – Sept. 5) the average daily count was 211 with 47.1% cyclists. The total Count for the month was 6739. The Plaza Drive counter averaged 105 counts per day from opening day (August 5) to August 14. 58.1% cyclists. After Binghamton University students returned, the average daily count rose to 158 with 56.3% cyclists. For the entire month (August 5 – Sept. 5) the average daily count was 135 with 57% cyclists. The total Count for the month was 4309. ● Route 434 Greenway Grand Opening event took place on August 15th. Scott showed the Article Digest’s photo of the event. Special thanks to Mark Goodwin and the other STBC cyclists that came to the event. It was also exciting to have STBC founder Augie Mueller, 90 years old and a longtime advocate for this trail. Mark Bowers, former NYSDOT Region 9 Bike & Pedestrian Coordinator who led the way to make this trail a reality and a priority to be built. ● Discussion took place for what cyclists want in a Two River Greenway Map and a Bicycle Route Map. Scott showed examples of other NYS MPO agency digital GIS-based maps, as 	<p>Action Items: Download Counter Reports at: https://bmtsonline.com/data/bikeped-counts</p>

	<p>well as PDF versions of printed maps. The committee preferred the Ithaca PDF map due to clarity. Scott asked about biking apps that track one's current location and provide directions. Mark says many use Strava or Google maps. Perhaps a map could be an intern or new Transportation Analyst project.</p> <p>It was asked if there are plans to continue the Two Rivers Greenway north from North Otsiningo Park. Scott says it is in the 1999 Greenway Plan to continue the trail north to the Rt. 12A Park-N-Ride lot. The push for this section has started and stopped a few times. Owners of the Lowes Plaza have been reluctant to allow a trail behind their establishment. There will also be much cooperation needed with the DEC and Army Corps. Stephanie suggested that a next step for this piece is to have a Feasibility Study done as part of a future UPWP that would also include a trail design. This would make the project ready for a strong TAP funding application since an initial investment has been made.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bike Safe Streets – Rating Propose Johnson City Roads – Scott received the link to the online ArcView map of the recommended JC bike safe streets. See https://nysmpo.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/basic/index.html?appid=b77690eae0714faabc7875cee6ca. Scott did not get to but will send Mark a rating form for rating bicycle safety for the roadways. Scot will also work on a Google Form be created with the list of the proposed bike safe streets to evaluate. Mark noted that there may not be time this riding season to rate the bike safe streets. Scott said the rating is not time critical, and waiting until next spring will give him time to accomplish the above. 	<p>Action Items: Scott will send Mark a rating form for rating bicycle safety for the roadways, and will try to create a Google Form with the list of the proposed bike safe streets to evaluate.</p>
<p>Agency/Dept . Updates</p>	<p>NYSDOT Region 9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Susan shared that NYS Bike Rt. 17 course was updated upon constructing the new Rt. 79 Bridge. <p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	<p>Action Items:</p>
<p>Other</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Action Items:</p>

Adjourn: 2:55 PM

Next Meeting:

Monday, October 16, 2023 at 1:30PM – *3rd Monday of the Month.*