

**Binghamton Metropolitan Transportation Study
Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee
Zoom Meeting Minutes
October 17, 2022**

In attendance:

Scott Reigle, Stephanie Brewer, Carlos Basualdo, Susan Pitely, Mark Goodwin

Convene: 1:33 PM

July 11 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"> • Confluence Park Interpretive Signs – Accessibility: Scott shared before and after photos of the improvements being made to the Two Rivers Greenway interpretive signs. The sign closest to the S. Washington St. Bridge was inclined more to be readable from a lower perspective that a wheelchair user would have, but the viewer is still blocked by the curb along the trail. The sign near the fishing pier was removed. A similar change to increase the incline of the sign will be made, and the posts will be cut and welded back onto the footers to lower the sign. Scott will show the Committee photos of the finished improvement at the November 14 meeting. <p>New Needs Reports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scott noted that there was a fatal pedestrian crash on NYS Rt. 26 in the Town of Maine. A 78-year old man was crossing Rt. 26 from Frank’s Restaurant to the restaurant parking lot at 9:30pm. It appears that he was hit while crossing the second half of the road. The area of the roadway near Frank’s was identified as a concern for better lighting in the Roadway Safety Audit that BMTS and Region 9 NYSDOT performed on November 15, 2019. • It was noted that the pedestrian crossing of North Shore Dr. at the north end of the S. Washington St. Bridge is not well lit. Lighting improvements along with a change of design will be a part of the Rt. 363 Gateway Project. 	<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"> • <i>REPORT</i> – Scott reported that the Complete Streets Workshop focusing on Johnson City took place on July 14 (11:30am-1:00pm). The Workshop was a free, Zoom-based training that was attended by over 30 participants. Scott thanked Stephanie Yezzi and Josh Holland of the Village for their significant 	<p>Action Items:</p>

	<p>role in planning & organizing the workshop. Dan Suraci, of Urban Cycling Solutions conducted the Workshop that began with instruction on what complete streets are, design elements of complete streets, and why complete streets policies are important to consistently incorporate & implement complete streets elements when street projects occur or when other opportunities come about. The workshop concluded with analyzing three intersections and proposing design improvements.</p> <p>A recording of the webinar is available on the BMTS YouTube channel at https://youtu.be/IZdxz84V_co. It can also be access from the BMTS website at https://bmtsonline.com/bikeped.</p> <p>In-person Complete Streets training is preferred and will be pursued for future training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>REPORT</u> – Scott reported on the Binghamton Bridge Pedal that took place on Saturday, August 13th 9am-12pm. Close to 100 bike riders participated! The involvement of the Dept. of Public Art was a key in making the ride and post-pedal party successful. Once again, the Binghamton Police & Auxiliary escorted the ride. They used a motorcycle to lead and control intersection traffic, which worked out to be very effective. Each ride stop provided interesting information and appeared to hold the riders’ attention. Pictures from the event are available on the BMTS Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/BinghamtonBridgePedal. Much thanks to Stephanie Brewer (BC Planning Dept.) and Susan Sherwood (Director of TechWorks) for their leadership and partnership in organizing the Bridge Pedal. We’re hoping that the Rt. 434 Greenway will be open so it can be incorporated into the bike ride for the 2023 Binghamton Bridge Pedal! • RRFB & PHB Videos: Scott contacted Karen Lorf, NYSDOT Main Office Bicycle & Pedestrian Program Director, who said NYSDOT did a video about how to use Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacons (RRFBs), but they haven’t done a video about PBHs. The RRFB video was viewed by the Committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>EDITOR’S NOTE:</u> The RRFB video is available for public use at the following sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NYSDOT YouTube Channel: https://youtu.be/bBs41h-wvo8 ○ BMTS YouTube Channel: https://youtu.be/kyUo1tKiLyA ○ BMTS website: https://bmtsonline.com/bikeped <p>Regarding the PHB video, NYSDOT is working on a script now and is in the process of hiring a new videographer who will produce it.</p>
<p>Project/Reports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broome County LWRP – Blueway Trail Plan: Stephanie Brewer reported that Broome County is requesting public input on the Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) Blueway Trail Plan through an online survey at https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BZVJWNF. The Blueway Plan focuses on access to and use of the County’s rivers. • Pedestrian and Bicycle Counter Reports are available on the BMTS website. 	<p>Action Items:</p> <p>Download Counter Reports at: https://bmtsonline.com/data/bikeped-counts</p>

	<p>BMTS is looking into creating reports that are more meaningful, since counters that are not working properly throw-off total numbers & trends. For July - September, we are seeing typical seasonal trends of counts that are starting to decline with cooler temperatures and less hours of daylight. It is good to see count spikes due to resumption of special events and fund raiser walks on or near the trails.</p> <p>There have been some issues with counters. The Court St. Bridge counter has been having high bike counts from 6pm-8pm. There were no people present during an evening when Scott went to the counter site. It is likely an electromagnetic interference that we'll try to track down and/or mitigate. The Confluence Tunnel counter has not been sending data automatically, despite having a newer battery. Will likely put in a new modem battery to hopefully fix the problem. Finally, The Vestal Rail Trail West Extension counter has been recording high east pedestrian counts daily from 2-3pm. Will visit site to see if there is a bug in the counter sensor.</p> <p>Eco-Counter informed BMTS that the counter loggers need to be upgraded to be 4G compatible. This is an unexpected cost of \$7897, that fortunately BMTS was able to cover. The Owego, Coalhouse, and Chugnut counters are currently affected and require manual count downloads, which BMTS is doing monthly. The 4G upgrade equipment is expected to arrive at the end of October or early November. BMTS will install the upgrades ASAP. Stephanie asked if there will be a need to upgrade to 5G and beyond? Scott replied that it is a possibility, but is an issue that is a few years away, which may even be beyond the life of the counters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bike Safety Streets/Bike Boulevards – Johnson City Recommendations: Southern Tier Bicycling Club President, Mark Goodwin said STBC hasn't begun the assessments, so it will be an effort focused on during the Spring of 2023. 	
<p>Agency/Dept. Updates</p>	<p>NYSDOT Region 9</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Route 434 Greenway: Susan P. said it is still on track to be completed next summer, 2023. • US 11/Front St. Bridge over I-81: Susan reported that the multi-use trail is expected to be done at the end of November. <u>Sidewalk Ending at Gas Station:</u> The sidewalk on Old Front St. ends at the NYSDOT ROW. The gas station planned to match-up the sidewalks when it did renovations, but did not follow through. Look for opportunities to correct this in future projects. <u>Upper Front St. Bike Lane Location:</u> The bike lane locations will stay as is even though the drainage grates take-up as large portion of the width. NYSDOT 	

	<p>prefers the bike lane against the curb with a striped buffer between motorists. Striping can be re-examined during the next time the roadway is paved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vestal Rt. 434 Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB) Signal: Susan said that Region 9's Public Information Officer did send out press release on the PHB, but there was limited coverage. There was a Press & Sun Bulletin article and WICZ-TV coverage that Committee members were aware of. • Rt. 363 Gateway Project: Stephanie asked if there was an update on this project. 	
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephanie mentioned that the State St. improvements in Binghamton are taking shape and encourages Committee members to visit the site. • Scott requested the Committee to think about ideas to make Committee meetings more beneficial and encourage better attendance. Please be ready to bring your ideas to the November 14 Committee meeting to discuss. 	Committee members asked to provide ideas of how to make Committee meetings more beneficial and encourage better attendance.

Adjourn: 2:30 PM

Next Meeting:

Monday, November 14, 2022 at 1:30PM *NO DECEMBER MEETING.*