

WalkBike Springfield January 11, 2024 Meeting Notes

The meeting was spent reviewing the goals we identified at the December 2023 and assigning follow-up. If you were not able to attend, please Email walkbikespringfield@gmail.com to volunteer to help with any of these goals or others.

1. Reduce existing 30 mph signs to 25 mph (new: "Once a written request is received by MassDOT Highway's Traffic and Safety Engineering Department, MassDOT will have 90 days to respond with an approval or denial to the request. These requests do not require a speed study, but justification for the request can help MassDOT with its evaluation.")
Betsy will get Liz contacts at MassDOT to get clarification how a community can now change existing speed limit signs. New flexibility is supposedly now allowed as part of the April 2023 Vulnerable Road User legislation. Betsy will continue to work with WalkMassachusetts to get clarification as well.
2. Add School Zone signs to middle and high schools
Betsy will contact Tori with Safe Routes to School and others to get clarification about this. Initial new signs are needed on Roosevelt by the three high schools (Sci-Tech, Putnam, and Central.)
3. Get more (especially the larger signs for the greater than 30 mph roadways) 4-foot passing signs.
Deb is following up with Hector Velez at DPW about the placement and installation of signs.
4. Determine if PVPC could help with projects such as evaluating the feasibility of a round-about for Roosevelt and Wibraham Roads.
5. Pursue getting Chuck Marohn of [Strong Towns](#) for a Springfield Public Forum
Todd will contact the Public Forum and determine their selection process.
6. Continue Roosevelt Ave. project.
 - **Todd will host a session to go through the rolls of maps and compile the suggestions.**
 - **Betsy and Deb will further summarize the results of the survey and the audits**
 - **We will then schedule a presentation with City and State officials**
 - **Deb will confirm what final report is necessary to AmericaWalks and Safe Roads Alliance**
7. Volunteer again for the [Iron Man race](#) on June 9, 2024.
Jim will find out and get WBS signed up again to volunteer
8. Snow clearance for River Walk and elevator working
Betsy will ask Sheila about pursuing
9. Revive relationships with City Councilors and educating about action for pedestrian and bicycle safety
Malo Brown is the new chair of the Council Maintenance & Development Committee. Liz will have an initial meeting towards his scheduling WBS to present at a Committee meeting. Betsy will raise as an issue at the Metro Center Jan. 18 meeting with City Councilors. (all invited!)
10. Be involved with the design of the Bike/Skate Park at Gurdon Bill Park.

Betsy will contact Yolanda to pursue with Laura Walsh & Pat Sullivan of the Parks Dept. Betsy will pursue resubmitting a Community Preservation proposal for identifying additional sites. Todd mentioned the possibility of advocating for a pump park (*a pumptrack is a small track for wheeled sports equipment that, when ridden properly, does not require pedaling or pushing, but a “pumping” action to maintain momentum.*)

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024 AT 6 PM BY ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88960334380?pwd=MVlyT3AySzJ2MEJ2dzVFUVFRNnVrQT09>

Phone: 309-205-3325 Meeting ID: 889 6033 4380 Passcode: 765450