

## WalkBike Springfield Virtual Meeting August 13, 2020 Notes

Again thanks to Becky Basch, PVPC for hosting the Zoom

### I. Complete Streets Prioritization Plan

Becky Basch of PVPC indicated that she is currently compiling the list of projects added to the wiki map, as well as from the walk audits, a list of from McKnight/Bay (chart attached), and from attending the Indian Orchard neighborhood council. She is still trying to attend other council meetings.

The wiki map will continue to be live through August:

To see projects listed to date, go to:

<https://tinyurl.com/2020-SPFLD-CS-PUBLIC-WIKI>

<https://tinyurl.com/2020-SPFLD-CS-WIKI-WORKING>

We discussed the need to revisit needed bicycle accommodation to complete a full bicycle network in Springfield. We want there to be a viable route from all neighborhoods to downtown and from the surrounding communities across Springfield in various directions. We agreed that Roosevelt and Berkshire discussed at the July meeting should be included. Betsy raised the issue of the Liberty/Armory/1291 “rotary” that is problematic for both pedestrians and cyclists. The Boland and Zanetti schools are at this site.

A project to add is the addition, at least on one side, of a consistent sidewalk on Lang St. to better enable walking to Marshall Roy Park.

Many of the projects are related to sidewalks needing repair or missing and needed crosswalks. These will be included in the overall list of projects, but may need to be funded through other means than Complete Streets funding. Projects within a mile of schools and senior centers should get priority.

### II. DPW Project Updates

Hector Valez of DPW reported that the application for MassDOT Complete Streets funding of the projects remaining from 2019 was submitted in June. Fort Pleasant and Breckenridge will still need to be included in the future (other construction prevented adding at this time.)

The 6 Corners round-about is to be completed by the end of August. Preliminary work on Central/Hickory has begun. Berkshire/Bay intersection is underway. Berkshire/Cottage will begin in spring 2021. Design work is underway concerning repaving of Dwight and Chestnut Streets. We will reach out to Andy Krar about this, as well what is being done related to Cooley St.

We raised the issue of travel lanes of more than 12’ wide being left rather than adding the extra road width to the bicycle lanes (even if there are no funds for painting an actual buffer.) Bradley Rd. was raised as an example.

Other DPW concerns: the bicycle lane on Memorial Bridge needing to be repainted and painted where it has been paved over. The misplaced sharrows on Worthington St. still need to be corrected. Also raised was the accumulation of debris and lack of sweeping in bicycle lanes.

Hector indicated that Deputy Director of Operations and Maintenance, Vinny DeSantis is who responsible for these issues.

### **III. September (Virtual) Bike Month**

Becky reported that there will be a special Facebook Page to post events: rides, webinars, “why I ride” stories, etc. Events to date are in Northampton and Holyoke. Post events to Baystate Bike Month

[https://www.baystatebikemonth.org/?utm\\_campaign=bike\\_month\\_2020&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=massbike](https://www.baystatebikemonth.org/?utm_campaign=bike_month_2020&utm_medium=email&utm_source=massbike)

We discussed that we’d prefer using bicycling or cycling rather than “bike” because of the confusion with bikes referring more to motorcycles.

There will be a zoom meeting about the Bike Month on Monday, August 17 at 5 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87874706264?pwd=V1NDUWhTb3BSZWRORWhKNTYvcGQ2QT09>

Meeting ID: 878 7470 6264 Passcode: 586855

Phone: +16468769923,,87874706264#,586855#

### **IV. Speeding – new NACTO guidance**

The national “bible” for designing urban streets has just released new guidance on setting city speed limits. This has been shared with DPW and City Councilors.

<https://nacto.org/safespeeds/>

In September, the City Council Maintenance & Development Committee will hold hearing about speed limits. WB Springfield has also shared our correspondence with DPW that has received no responses with the Council – who indicated they would help us get responses.

### **V. WBS Logos**

Only a few folks responded – options attached. All preferred #3. Deb will further check with Ami about making some modifications.

### **VI. Other Updates**

-- **413 Wheel Park:** \$80,000 for site assessment and design was approved by the Community Preservation Committee. This now awaits City Council approval. Will post to 413 Wheel Park Facebook to encourage folks to reach out to Councilors.

-- **WalkBoston Annual Celebration & Golden Shoe Awards (virtual) -- Consider attending**  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/30th-annual-virtual-celebration-and-golden-shoe-awards-registration-114705960616?aff=widget>

-- **McKnight Trail:** Liz Stevens has indicated that all is looking good. The second half of construction funds award from the Mass Trails funds was recently publicized. See page 8: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/2020-masstrails-grant-awards/download>

-- **Valley Bikes:** wrote to Helen Caulton-Harris of the Springfield Health Department advocating opening in Springfield (as all the other communities). No response!

-- **East Springfield Neighborhood Council:** holding a "Check Your Speed" event on Page Boulevard. Deb will also put out the WBS "Try 25" signs.

-- **Small Victory:** A clarification about "Thickly Settled" has been added! See attachment.

**NEXT MEETING (VIRTUAL)**  
**Thursday, Sept. 10 @ 6 PM**