

**WALKBIKE SPRINGFIELD**  
**SEPTEMBER 11, 2019 MEETING NOTES**  
**Make-It Springfield, 168 Worthington Street**

**Updates**

We reported on the meeting with Springfield's new Chief Economic Development Officer, Timothy Sheehan. He was very receptive to improving Springfield's walkability. He suggested the need to develop a Walkability Prioritization Plan and establishing a committee to meet monthly to review neighborhood by neighborhood where people are walking, should be walking, and identifying the improvements needed. ***Volunteers being sought.***

WalkBike Springfield recently sent a letter to the Mayor about the need to explore a variety of solutions to the dangerous situation of pedestrians crossing State Street to the Central Library. ***(letter attached)***

413 Wheel Park – Group hasn't met, but Parks director, Pat Sullivan is seeking funds to move forward with developing a schematic design -- the first step in creating a new park.

The "25%" Design hearing for the "X" is next Tuesday, September 17 ***(notice attached)***

WalkBike Springfield sent a letter to the Mayor requesting the Peter Shumway be appointed as coordinator of River Walk activities. ***(letter attached)***

**Mayoral & Council Election**

Betsy will resend the questionnaire to the candidates now that the Preliminary is over. To date have received responses from Sarno, Cook, Ryan, and Lederman (also Gaines in Ward 4, but he lost in the Preliminary.) ***(responses to date attached)***

**Roadway Projects, Street Repavings & Complete Streets**

We discussed the summary of the Complete Streets projects completed, funded, pending, etc. to date. ***(summary attached)*** Hector will be starting to develop a next five-year Prioritization Plan. We will update the Bicycle Network Map (Hector to send GIS layer). A small group should meet to discuss what are the missing links and projects that should be part of the next Plan. ***(volunteers?)***

We will contact the new City Engineer, Andy Krar, to request that the four-foot shoulders on Central Street be marked and signed as a bicycle lane. Even better if the travel lanes might be reduced to 10.5 feet, enabling a five-foot bicycle lane.

Bicentennial Highway is being paved this week. It will have a six-foot bicycle lane and two-foot buffer.

### **Speeding, Ordinance Signage and Publicity, Bicycling Education**

These items were tabled due to awaiting next steps.

We discussed the idea of applying to MassBike PV for additional “Try 25” yard signs since we have lost 8 of 30 to date.

Betsy will be attending a meeting of the LiveWell Springfield Age Friendly initiative to see if developing a Speed Management Plan can be part of that agenda.

### **WalkBike Springfield Organization**

Encouraged all to go to the new website and make suggestions for what else to include:

[www.walkbikespringfieldma.org](http://www.walkbikespringfieldma.org)

Need to come up with some draft concepts that Jim’s daughter can improve upon.  
Will wait to create a banner and business cards to when there is a logo.

### **MassBike PV Mini-Grant**

We agreed that additional funds for additional “Try 25” signs would be good.

**NEXT Meetings: Changing day of the week to SECOND WEDNESDAY**

**NEXT MEETINGS WILL BE WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9 AND NOVEMBER 13**