

**WalkBike Springfield Meeting Notes from July 16, 2020**  
**Meeting held by Zoom thanks to PVPC**

**COMPLETE STREETS.** After introductions, Becky Basch of PVPC presented the wiki map of suggestions for complete streets projects. She is still reaching out to neighborhood councils, recently “meeting” with the Indian Orchard Council. We discussed a few major projects (see attached document of possible projects from Becky):

**Roosevelt Ave.** - especially by Blount Park and access to the new Senior Center, but also to a number of schools – we agreed that a shared use path should be feasible and would be best, potentially the entire length from State St. (or at least from Gaucher) to St. James Blvd. Any turning lane at Gaucher would need to be very long because this is a main route to Mass Mutual.

**Berkshire Ave.** – intersection projects are already slated for Berkshire & Bay, Berkshire & Cottage. Discussed that the road does not need to be four lanes, so could be modified to have a buffered bicycle lane, although this will have to be integrated with the intersection projects that will have unbuffered bicycle lanes. Discussed the need to improved pedestrian crossings for access to the Dorman School, as well at Page Boulevard to Kennedy School.

**Page Blvd.** – existing bicycle lane by CRRC factory needs to be continue. Overall Page Blvd. does not need to be so wide, vehicle speed needs to be reduced and improved conditions for pedestrians and cyclists are needed (including at intersections mentioned above with Roosevelt and Berkshire.

**I291/Armoury/Liberty “Rotary”** – this is currently an impossible configuration for pedestrians and cyclists. Patrick mentioned that plans for updating a walk audit for the Boland School (also the Zanetti) which is at this intersection, is currently being planned.

**Alden St.** – existing bicycle lanes need to be extended.

The Wiki map for additional suggests is still open or suggestions can be emailed to Becky at [Bbasch@PVPC.ORG](mailto:Bbasch@PVPC.ORG).

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

Spanish: <https://tinyurl.com/2020-SPFLD-CC-PUBLICO-WIKI>

## **UPDATES**

**Problems with Complete Streets Implementation.** Because of numerous issues related to how roadway projects are being done with issues related to complete streets implementation (sharrows misplaces, parking allowed with bicycle lanes, lack of signage for vehicle/bicycle merges, etc), WBS sent a letter to DPW Commissioner Cignoli requesting a meeting and to establish the Complete Street Plan’s recommended Complete Streets Council (letter attached). We have received no response to this letter or to the February letter about speed signage and the parking in bicycle lanes. We have asked City Councilors to help us with our getting a response – Justin Hurst is working on this.

**413 Wheel Park.** The Parks Department submitted a proposal for \$80,000 for site assessment and design to the Community Preservation Committee (CPC). The proposal received the second highest support of the CPC. Although, if funded, WBS will need to advocate that Greenleaf Park is not an acceptable location.

“Try 25” Yard Signs. The signs were very effective on Meredith St. – speeding went up as soon as the signs came down. We did not discuss where they should go next. Will follow-up with Indian Orchard Council who earlier expressed interest.

McKnight Trail. Liz explain the recent discovery that Buckeye Pipeline actually purchased in 2015 a portion of the proposed trail (Armory to by the Dingell) to do some construction. They were supposed to return the property to MassDOT after the construction. MassDOT did not follow through on this. Now the company is opposing the trail. The McKnight Council is looking for a lawyer to help with this, and is expecting to be following up more with DPW Commissioner Cignoli. Trail expert Craig Della Penna is also helping.

WBS Logo. Many, many thanks to Ami Jackson for her drafts. It was agreed that we liked concept #3 best (attached) but would like the “S” to be a bit larger with a dotted line down the center so it represents a road. We discussed whether there should be an initials “WBS” alternative as well.

Valley Bike. Springfield is the only community who has not agreed to resume the bicycle sharing Valley Bikes. MassBike sent a letter to Mayor Sarno and Health Commissioner Colton-Harris to change this (attached). WBS will also send a letter, and all are encouraged to do as well.

Other. Meeting about BikeWeek in September 2020 on Wednesday, July 22 at 4:30

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87600455099?pwd=UFc1NlZ5M2N5b0xrWXhGVUN5ZCtSUT09>

Meeting ID: 876 0045 5099 Password: 036352

**Next WalkBike Springfield Meeting on Thursday, August 13 at 6 PM (by Zoom)**