

WalkBike Springfield Meeting Notes

May 16, 2024

City Council Outreach

WBS and Way Finder advocates participated at the Springfield City Council “speak outs” on May 6 and May 13. We all voiced our concern that the “speak out” is before the official meeting begins, so it is unclear which Councilors are in attendance. In person there were only 4 Councilors at the meetings – it is unknown who is present remotely until the role call that is done after the “speak out”.

WBS will continue to have speakers at the June 3 and June 10 meetings – advocating for implementation of the Complete Streets Council. We discussed the need to continue to have one-on-one discussions with Councilors and have Councilor Brown schedule additional Maintenance & Development Committee meetings with DPW Director Cignoli.

Safe Streets for All public meetings report

DPW and their consultants – Pare Consulting and Toole Design hosted two community meetings on May 7 and May 14. They presented [schematic safety improvements for 14 intersections](#) that have had the highest number of crashes – six of which are along State St. Attendees gave feedback about the designs, including suggesting for roundabouts at some of the intersections. There is concern as to how the “corridor” improvement projects that are being designed by another consultant will mesh with the intersection projects. More critical is the fact that the \$18 million for all these improvements is far too little and that lower cost changes will prevent future more comprehensive improvements

Bike Month Activities - 5/18 Pancake Breakfast; 5/19 Mural Ride

WBS will host a Bike Valet (secure bike parking) at the Berkshire Bank parking lot on Harrison Ave. and give cyclists free tickets to the “World’s Largest Pancake Breakfast” on Main St.

The third Mural Ride on Sunday, May 19 including viewing over 20 murals from the South End to Metro Center.

Ironman -- June 9 volunteers needed

WBS has a team of 10 volunteers helping with the swim start.

2024-2025 Proposed Pavings

Next step is to schedule a meeting with City Engineer Andy Krar.

Changing Speed Limits

WBS is clarifying what really is the process for getting approval from MassDOT, based on what the City has for an approval process. WBS will continue to get clarification from the Traffic Commission.

Pedestrian/Cyclist Fatalities Signs

Still to be pursued.

June and July meetings – dates and location to be determined.