

## **Minutes of the PBAC meeting of October 23, 2014.**

400 Witherspoon Street  
Municipal Meeting Room A, 7.30 p.m.

### Present:

Steve Kruse, Sam Bunting, Carolyn Sealton, Laurie Harmon, Anita Jeerage, Lisa Seryiessol, Liz Lempert (Mayor).

### Visitors

Jerry Foster, GMTMA. Hunter Labovitz, Fay Reiter, Dan Rappoport, Misha Semenov, Tammy Brunet

### Absent:

David Cohen, Deanna Stockton

## 1. Comments from the public

Hunter Labovitz requested that the committee consider safety improvements for cyclists on Washington Road (CR571) between Princeton and West Windsor. Ideally, he would like flexible bollards all along the shoulder of Washington Road to demarcate it as a space for cyclists.

Jerry Foster advised the committee that in 2010, West Windsor asked for creation of a bike route along 571. It went in the County Plan, and every year this road gets a little better. There are now narrower 11ft lanes, and wide shoulders. Bike route signs would be the next step. WWBPA would like the shoulders

The committee agreed to discuss the possibility of PBAC adding support to WWBPA campaign to upgrade bike facilities on Washington Road at next meeting.

Mayor Lempert said that the 'Mayor's Coalition' was discussing the Route 1-Washington Road intersection and the local Mayors had a consensus that there ought to be a bike-ped overpass, which is much cheaper than a car overpass.

## 2. Resolution on Washington Road crosswalk.

Laurie proposed a resolution to support the T&T resolution passed on Monday night. The motion is appended as Appendix A to these minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

### 3. Goals

The committee discussed goals for 2015. Each committee member contributed what they considered to be the most important 3 or 4 projects that PBAC should be working on (See Appendix B). Based on the discussion, a draft list of goals for 2015 was proposed (see Appendix C).

The committee agreed that Sam Bunting would make a list of the goals discussed (see Appendices B-C) and the committee would review them and consider ratifying them at their meeting in November.

### 4. Discussion of municipal engineering projects

Steve presented a list of planned engineering projects from Deanna Stockton, stressing the importance of implementing Complete Streets on future projects after several opportunities to implement Complete Streets were missed on recent engineering projects such as Park Place / Vandeventer.

Sites of construction projects anticipated for 2015:

- Hamilton Ave
- Prospect Ave
- Mt Lucas Road
- Edgehill St
- Poe Rd
- Bank St

Sites of projects to be designed in 2014-15 timeframe:

- Valley Rd
- Capital projects from Engineering update

Sites of Mercer County engineering proposals

- Culvert replacement on Cherry Valley west of Great Road
- Alexander St bridge and culvert replacement.

### 4. Poe Road Sidewalks

The Mayor invited the members of PBAC to attend Council on October 20 and speak on Poe Road sidewalks. The proposed sidewalks on Poe Road are part of the municipal sidewalk Masterplan, but have attracted opposition in the neighborhood.

#### 5. Paper Bike Map project

The committee agreed that it would be desirable to extend the scope of the map to include Plainsboro center. This extension would require a small amount of additional funding and approval from the Transit Trust Fund trustees. The trustees will be meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> October, and Mayor Lempert will propose the additional request at that time.

#### 6. Review of Mayor's Ride

Turnout was down. Estimates were that there were around 30 – 35 participants. Cold weather likely contributed but the committee agreed that the publicity operation is still not as effective as it could be.

Next meeting: November 20, 2014 at 7.30 p.m.

Appendix A: Text of Motion endorsing pedestrian safety improvements at D&R canal towpath crossing of Washington Road. (Approved by PBAC 10.23.14)

**PRINCETON PEDESTRIAN AND  
BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

October 22, 2014

Dear Mayor Lempert and Members of Council,

As you are aware, a father and his son were struck by a vehicle on the shoulder of Washington Road at the D&R Canal towpath crossing Saturday, October 19th. Serious injuries were sustained by both individuals. The D&R Canal State Park is a treasure in our community, and the towpath is enjoyed by many pedestrians, runners and cyclists every day. The D&R towpath also serves as a 30 mile off-road section of the 3,000 mile East Coast Greenway trail network which spans from Canada to Key West.

The towpath crossing at Washington Road has no marked crosswalk or pedestrian signal, and the speed limit is 40 mph on that section of the road. It is imperative for this community to make every effort to reduce the accident risk for our residents and visitors. Princeton's Traffic and Transportation Committee has passed a resolution calling for Mayor and Council to request Mercer County to coordinate with the Princeton Engineering Department and Police Safety Unit to install appropriate warning lights and signage at the D&R Canal crossing at Washington Road.

We, the members of the Princeton Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee, strongly endorse the T&T resolution and urge Mayor and Council to contact Mercer County to request these needed safety improvements. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Princeton Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee:

Steve Kruse, Chair

Carolyn Sealton

David Cohen, Vice Chair

Sam Bunting

Laurie Harmon

Lisa Serieyssol

Anita Jeerage

CC: Mayor and Council, Princeton  
Mercer County Freeholders  
County Executive Brian Hughes

Appendix B: Goals identified by committee members

Priorities identified by individual Committee members:

(this list is intended to capture the top 3 or 4 things that each committee member would like to see done in 2015 or some time in the future as resources allow.)

Steve Kruse (chair)	Advance Complete Streets through engineering
	Win grants to fund improved trails and bike facilities
	Advance the 'Crosstown Bike Route'
	Implement 'SafetyTown' education effort as currently done in Hamilton
	Build the Community of cyclists within Princeton
	Deepen ties with regional advocacy groups working on trails and cycling
	Improve street lighting
	Develop wayfinding signs for pedestrians
	Improve links with Princeton University staff and students
	Develop better 'Safe Routes To Schools' programs
	Attend NJBWC Bike Summit
Laurie Harmon	Advance Complete Streets through engineering
	Get more bike racks downtown
	Develop better 'Safe Routes To Schools' programs
	Education efforts including bilingual education efforts.
Carolyn Sealton	Data-driven education efforts
	Cycling advocacy through teaching
	Incorporate bike education into K-12
Anita Jeerage	Improve Bike infrastructure
	Develop a bike masterplan
	Increase awareness of the committee's work in the community
	Education on 'Share The Road'
Sam Bunting	Develop a bike masterplan
	Build connections and support in local community
	Connect with Les Leathem to take / analyze LAB bike skills class.
	Develop connections to other advocacy groups regionally.
Liz Lempert	Develop a bike masterplan, using guidance from GMTMA on getting planning assistance from NJDOT
	Develop a network or organization of advocates that are not part of the committee, similar to 'Sustainable Princeton', so that the committee can be seen primarily as advisory instead of advocacy.
	Distribute the paper bike map

Appendix C: Draft list of objectives and key results for PBAC in 2015

Overall goals selected by committee for priority action in 2015:

(this list is intended to capture the things that we will actually attempt to do, and is based on the previous list of overall goals)

Note: This list is a draft and is subject to further amendment or ratification by the committee.

<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Key Results</b>
Improve facilities for walking and cycling through engineering	Produce a municipal bike masterplan.
	Provide advice on Complete Streets for municipal engineering projects
Build a cohesive community of local residents who are interested in walking and cycling	Distribute paper bike map
	Participate in ‘Communiversality’
	Repeat Ciclovía
	Repeat ‘Ride of the Falling Leaves’
Develop links to other organizations working to advance walking and cycling in the local region.	Attend NJBWC ‘Bike Summit’ in February
	Identify contact person(s) in Princeton University (student community and staff)
	Work with GMTMA to improve ‘Safe Routes To Schools’ programs
	Reach out to community groups including Pipeline protestors.
Provide education on cycling matters	Research best practice on education and outreach efforts that are effective.
	Participate in ‘Wheels Rodeo’
	Contact Les Leathem to find out more about LAB ‘Bike Skills’ class, and see if it could be offered through Rec Dept.