

Massachusetts Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Board Meeting Notes
Wednesday, March 20, 2019, 1:00 – 3:00 PM
Blackstone Heritage Corridor Visitor Center
115 McKeon Road, Worcester

Welcome & Introductions: Pete Sutton, ex-officio, called the meeting to order.

Update on Regional MassDOT Bicycle and Pedestrian Projects – Rick Handfield gave a presentation (attached) about projects in MassDOT District 3 region (Central Massachusetts, including Worcester) highlighting several trail projects and on-road improvements. Discussion centered around the redesign of Main Street in downtown Worcester, which includes a road diet, bike lanes, wider sidewalks, addition of street furniture and new crosswalks.

Presentation & Discussion on Walk/Bike Worcester - Karin Goins' gave a presentation (attached) on initiatives currently taking place through the local advocacy group, emphasizing the importance of better bicycling and walking throughout Worcester for people of all ages. Included in the presentation were details of the redesign and reconstruction of Kelley Square in which Walk/Bike Worcester has provided extensive input to both the City and MassDOT. Other topics covered included: car vs. bike use, community education needs, gentrification and equity, new development, incorporating public health, municipal and state consistency.

2019 MABPAB Agenda Item Prioritization - Jackie DeWolfe gave an introduction on the contents of the presentation (attached) and what kind of feedback was desired from the MABPAB. MassDOT is seeking input from the group to help prioritize potential agenda items – a list of 9 potential actions on following slides (in no priority order) taken directly from the Bicycle Plan and Pedestrian Plan (our “roadmap”). Outcome: The list of 9 potential actions were presented (see presentation). After an initial straw vote, followed by discussion, the following actions rose to the top (in priority order):

- Performance measure input – both around individual projects and plans at-large (A, I)
- Driver manual review (C)
- Promoting bicycling (B)
- Input on trainings, messaging, promotion (E, G).

Comments from discussion:

General:

- All topics are important, it's just a question of what topics we want to elevate with MABPAB throughout 2019

Topics:

- A. Provide input on how we should measure success at individual project locations. As we implement bicycle and pedestrian priority projects based on the plan, what before and after data should we collect to tell a story in 5 years when we look back?
 - Consensus among MABPAB that this topic be prioritized in order to make the case for future bike/ped project implementation
 - Particular emphasis on MassDOT conducting project before and after-studies as a major piece
 - Several members suggested incorporating performance measures (topic I below) as a logical extension to this action
 - What do we want to measure? What matters?
 - Data informs specific areas where you need to improve
 - Success: vehicle throughputs vs. crash rates
 - Priority is where to start – the critical order of operation starts with projects
 - Stand-alone projects however have been historically hard to measure
- B. Help us figure out how to implement the following action: Research effective methods and implement strategies to promote the benefits of bicycling for transportation and recreation to our customers – residents and visitors in Massachusetts.
 - Recognized as an important topic because of local opposition, and because still very small percent of the population bicycles.

- C. Help conduct a wholesale review of the RMV driver's manual and provide input on what could be updated/added to promote roadway safety through education.
 - RMV updates its driver's manual twice a year affording opportunities to educate on new initiatives and new types of facilities, such as the recent additions of the "Dutch Reach" for motorists to prevent dooring of cyclists and benefits to implementing bicycle boxes, which help cut down on right-hook crashes
 - Important to update for police
 - Driver's manual can have widespread reach, especially when paired with media, trainings, communications, and changes to license exam
- D. Help inform how we design public surveys in order to continue to learn about bicycle use and the biggest barriers to bicycling in Massachusetts in inform policy, programs, and projects. What do we want to know? What trends do we want to track as a continuation of the bicycle plan public engagement?
- E. Provide input on trainings we develop for municipalities and design consultants. For example, we would conduct a dry run of a new training and get your input on content and messaging.
 - Key audience for trainings are DOT staff and municipalities for widespread statewide implementation
- F. Provide input on policy development regarding electric bicycles to implement the following action: research and develop a policy that supports electric and pedal assist bicycle use to enable more people of all ages and abilities to bicycle more often and for longer trips.
 - Current active conversations regarding proposed legislation related to electric bicycles
- G. Help create a plan for how we promote the Municipal Resource Guide for Walkability and the Municipal Resource Guide for Bikeability. What does success look like?
- H. Provide input on snow & ice proposals in the development of a statewide plan for MassDOT-owned pedestrian and bicycle facilities.
 - Potential topic for 2020 post 2019 pilots and initial work by DOT
- I. Help shape performance measure development to track progress of plan implementation.
 - Regarding baseline data, MassDOT will invest in data collection to develop baselines and targets for measures
 - Questions about data: What does MassDOT have? What could we purchase?
 - Department of Public Health could become an even more valuable partner for tying in public health data

Other business:

- Jackie noted that work continues on project list development and Healthy Transportation Policy Engineering Directive (discussions from December and January meetings). DOT working on incorporating comments from MABPAB and 1,000+ public comments received for Draft Bike Plan and Draft Pedestrian Plan.
 - Jackie announced MABPAB Co-chair opening
 - MABPAB legislation establishes a non-government co-chair by vote of the Board
 - Expectation: 1 year commitment; participate in 1 pre-meeting call to help plan agenda and 1 post-meeting to debrief; as well as to co-chair meetings
 - Seeking nominations by May 31 with a Board vote in July
 - James noted the [AARP Community Challenge](#), which funds projects that build momentum for local change to improve livability for all residents. The grant application period is open now and closes on April 17
 - Keith extended an invitation to the [South Coast Bikeway Alliance Annual Summit](#), taking place in New Bedford, April 25
 - Paul is chairing the upcoming [Old Colony Planning Council Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee](#) being held in Brockton on March 21
 - Galen asked all in attendance to join one of hundreds of events statewide, or host your own event, for [Baystate Bike Week](#), taking place May 11-19
- Pete also urged members to check out the latest state of the art technology, interactive displays, and the chance to share ideas with peers in related fields at the [MassDOT Innovation Conference](#), Worcester, April 9-10 featuring several sessions on active transportation and sustainable mobility

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at the State Transportation Building (STB), 10 Park Plaza, Boston

- List of board members in attendance (see below)
- Other attendees:
 - Brian Pigeon (City of Worcester)
 - Christina Hernandez (EOPSS)
 - Rick Handfield (MassDOT D3)
 - Hoamy Tran (CMRPC)
 - Mateo Carvajal (Worcester CleanTech Incubator)
 - Stephanie Ramey (Discover Central MA)

MA BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN ADVISORY BOARD
Board Member Sign-In Sheet
March 20, 2019 – Blackstone Heritage Corridor Visitor Center

Member Name	Attended December 13	Notes
Tom DiPaolo MassDOT-Highway	yes	
Andy Smith MassDOT-MBTA	no	
Pete Sutton MassDOT-Planning	yes	
Kurt Gaertner EOEEA	yes	
Dan Driscoll DCR	no	Amanda Lewis attended for DCR
Jackie DeWolfe MassDOT	yes	
Ben Wood DPH	no	
Phyllis Cahaly MOTT	yes	
Jeff McCollough MARPA	no	
Betsy Goodrich MARPA	yes	
Paul Chenard MARPA	yes	
Bryce Hoffman - Lowell Bike Coalition	yes	
Angela Johnson – T4MA	yes	
Keith MacDonald - South Coast Bikeway Alliance	yes	
Galen Mook - MassBike	yes	
Amanda Chilson – Northern Berkshire Community Coalition	no	
Karin Goins – Walk/Bike Worcester	yes	
Seun Oluwole – Town of Stoughton	yes	
James Fuccione - Mass. Healthy Aging Collaborative	yes	
Cheryl Casper – Town of Great Barrington	yes	
Sam Squalia – Fitchburg City Council	yes	

Wendy Landman - WalkBoston	no	
Maureen White	no	
Morgan Drewniany – Town of West Springfield	yes	

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