



**Melrose Pedestrian Bicycle Committee Agenda**  
**February 6, 2019 – 7:00PM-8:30PM**  
**Melrose City Hall Mayor's Conference Room**

**Guests:**

Julie Smith-Galvin, Sustainable Wakefield  
Anu Gerwick, Wakefield Rail Trail Committee  
Kristina Hanes, Wakefield Rail Trail Committee

**Present:**

Gabrielle Watson (notes), Tom Blazej, Cindy Chabot, Ted Dooling (Wakefield resident, business owner and bike enthusiast), Dan Krechmer, Julie Smith-Galvin (Sustainable Wakefield, guest), Ryan Williams, Jonah Chiarenza, Jeremy Garczynski (meeting chair), Doug Harriot, Alex Harriot, Jaime Wilson, Elena Proakis-Ellis (City Engineer), Kristina Hanes (Wakefield Rail Trail Committee), Ellen Katz.

Jeremy Garczynski, Chair

1. Introductions
2. Review/Approval of January Meeting Minutes
3. Aldermen's Meeting Bikeshare discussion (Dan, Gabrielle).

There was a presentation by the City of Melrose Planning Department, along with a regional manager from Lime Bike.

Aldermen President Lemmerman, Alderman Zwirko, Alderman Lipper-Garabedian, and Alderman Bewtra all spoke in favor of allowing the pilot program to proceed and not overly regulate an activity that is both welcomed and improving after an initial bumpy period.

After discussion, Alderman Medeiros requested that the proposed ordinance be "put on file" with the committee.

Discussion: Dan suggested that if a need for an ordinance seems important, we should come up with our own version.

4. Infrastructure Update (Jonah)
  - a. Complete Streets Projects
  - b. Pleasant/Washington/W. Wyoming (Casino Funds)
  - c. Others

Elena Proakis-Ellis. Complete streets. Jonah had suggested how to get people to pull through the HS drop off area. City is going to explore the suggestions.

Howard and Green intersection. Engineers doing final design on the roundabout. Coming in March. Construction needs to be completed by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

N-S bike route. Two public meetings in March. Main Street meeting will be in the day to meet with business owners. The “low stress” or “off-Main” route will be in the evening with local abutters. The Off-Main meeting will be held in the Aldermanic chambers. Members discussed ensuring that we have some bike enthusiasts aware of the meeting.

Ellen Katz asked if there has been investigation on street signage ordinances. Elena reported that the current signage does not comport with what is in the traffic code. There will be a special meeting of the Traffic Commission to agree to any proposed changes that make the two compatible. It may be possible to include it in the regular March meeting. This will also ensure that the proposed N-S bike lanes will not conflict with permitted parking or parking restrictions.

Corridor study on Washington, Pleasant, and Wyoming. Stantec has been doing a \$25,000 study, using Winn Casino funding. Biggest deficiencies are in handicap ramps, and sidewalk uplifting. In terms of bike facilities, they concluded that no roadways are wide enough to accommodate bike lanes. They are recommending reducing the width of the travel lane to 11 feet, which will result in approximately a three-foot shoulder. This restriping will happen in the Spring.

Ryan asked whether it would be useful if the striping changes could be extended south to the City boarder, near the Oak Grove T station.

1. Wakefield-Lynnfield Community Path Update and Collaboration Opportunities
  - a. Julie Smith-Galvin, Sustainable Wakefield
  - b. Anu Gerwick, Wakefield Rail Trail Committee (regrets)
  - c. Kristina Hanes, Wakefield Rail Trail Committee

Kristina described the planned Wakefield-Lynnfield Community Path. Former train rail bed. [photo] Starts south of Downtown Wakefield at the Galvin Middle School, and moves north through Lynnfield and to the town line with Peabody. Total length approximately four miles. Wakefield is currently doing a \$300,000 study to rethink downtown Wakefield, with VHB's support. They are also looking at biking.

The current status of the trail. Currently at 25% design. Waiting on the DOT to have a public hearing to move to the next design phase. Getting state TIP funding. Likely to have hearing in April. Lynnfield has historically opposed the trail, but it just recently passed in town meeting by one vote. There may still be a referendum on the Trail. Once get the hearing, will be working towards the 100% design. There is a National Grid high voltage line going in using the same right of way, which will be placed underground. This will result in significant cost savings because of all the brush clearing and ground work required for the high-voltage line. Local representatives Rep Brodeur, Senator Lewis and Rep. Wong are supporting community works. There is a possibility that the Trail could be completed by 2021.

They would like to explore eventual links to Melrose. There has not been any specific planning to extend the trail south from the Galvin Middle School.

Discussion on how to promote linkages between Melrose and Wakefield. Potential bike rides from Melrose to Wakefield. Ellen requested the Wakefield Rail Trail Committee colleagues to keep the Ped-Bike Committee informed of their progress.

2. Bike ride in conjunction with Bike to the Sea (Dan)

Idea from Jonah to do a Cinco de Mayo bike ride on May 5<sup>th</sup>, potentially starting from Mexico Lindo. Gabrielle reported that the idea of bike corrals was raised by Alderman at the meeting

earlier this week. Elena reports that the city is looking to designate some desirable bike parking areas. She met with Kara, Denise, Emma and XXX, to discuss this.

Ellen shares that the Annual Bike to the Sea ride is in June. She will be hosting a contingency from Melrose to meet up with the ride that is organized to traverse the whole length of the Northern Strand, including the parts that have not been built yet.

Dan will talk with Jay and Jonah. Next steps include reaching out to Mexico Lindo, and potentially reaching out to Alderman Lipper-Garabedian.

### 3. Oak Grove Update (Ryan)

Elena recently went to a meeting called by Senator Lewis and Representative Brodeur in Malden to talk about Oak Grove, and what the Cities are requesting. The MBTA is not willing to pay for anything that extends beyond MBTA property. The MBTA did agree to pay a double yellow line from the station to Main Street. The MBTA is strongly opposed to the raised crosswalk. Ryan and Elena will catch up about the details that came out of the meeting.

### 4. Off-street bike route (Doug)

Alex and Doug are at the information gathering stage to explore a potential rail trail along the right of way of the MBTA line. He has gotten some information about the line and its width, and what the regulations are. Salem has gone through this process because they have a section of rail trail that is adjacent to an MBTA line. Doug will be speaking with them, and also with Melrose Aldermen Tramontozzi and Zwirko to find out what sensitivities there may be.

### 5. Report on engaging schools in Melrose on promoting walking and biking (Ryan)

Ryan reported about efforts to connect with Melrose schools. There was a PTO meeting, and a meeting with Safe Routes to School. But the ideas of coordination seemed premature. Now thinking how it would be possible to get a SRTS program more active in Melrose. The idea is to start talking with Cyndy Taymore to explore the possibility of engaging on STRS planning and infrastructure funding to make modest SRTS improvements around school. Ryan has a child who is going into kindergarten. He recently met Cyndy and explored some of these ideas with her.

Elena shared that Cyndy tends to shy away from things that appear to be telling parents what to do after school hours. Stephen Fogerty has been very supportive of Complete Streets and SRTS activities that might happen during school hours, like trainings and activities. Kara Showers is the City contact with schools on SRTS. Elena recommended looping Kara in on these initiatives.

Elena asked if committee members have any direct link to the Hoover school, given that we have a Complete Streets project coming up. Dan has volunteered to do some counts on the number of students walking, biking or being dropped off to the school. They are looking to get that information in different kinds of weather, including when it's cold. Elena asked if the initiatives that we discussed last month were still on the table – a SRTS survey and supporting 5<sup>th</sup> graders to coach 2<sup>nd</sup> graders. Elena suggested Kara should be the person to reach out to the school

Ryan, Jonah, and Dan will reach out to Kara to explore outreach to the Hoover school.

### 6. Event participation (All – assign leader for each)

