

## **Hanover Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee Meeting Draft Minutes of November 7, 2013**

**Present:** Tim Cox, Scot Drysdale, Doug Deatt, Kelley Dole, Mike Lewis, Barbara McIlroy (temp scribe), Hugh Mellert, Carolyn Radisch, Janice Starkey, Bill Young. In David Dostal's absence, Scot chaired the meeting.

### **Action items from December Meeting:**

- Carolyn R – send Bill and Tim URL / information about the Bike Repair 'station'.
- Carolyn R – prepare draft sidewalk policy based on our discussion today, to circulate in advance of Jan meeting where it will be agenda item.
- Bill Young – investigate Hanover Improvement Society interest in bike repair stand(s) for school(s).
- Bill Young – talk with new neighbor named Jonathan Schwartz.
- Dave Dostal – make final revisions to the funding letter to Select Board.
- Tim Cox – share the Bike Friendly report with Roger Lohr, and see if he'd like to help with planning bike education event(s).
- WHO? Doug? – investigate more or keep track of DOT work on S Main and lane drop on 120.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **November Action Items:**

The Bicycle Friendly Community feedback report pointed out one clear weakness in our proposal: education. Since we all agreed with the criticism, discussion followed:

- It is clear that this effort will require another 'subcommittee' to develop any education projects.
- A Bike Rodeo at Middle School, where safety and use of the 'road' is taught and practiced. Perhaps coordinate with 'walk/bike-to-school' day. Possible tie in with Hanover Recreation Committee and Police Dept. It was noted that this is an annual event in Lebanon, and we may get some tips there.
- Talk with Richmond gym teacher who has small unit on bike use / safety to see how we can coordinate efforts with her. [WHO will do this?]
- Don't forget to include bike shops – for example Omer N Bob have a 'bike mechanic' class and instructor for this sort of thing. [Don't forget to touch base with HBPC member Sam Burdick at Bike Hub either!]
- It would be wonderful to install a permanent bike-repair stand/station with attached tools (Cost: \$1000 +/-) These are found in Boulder CO and Portland OR. Place them where students can be taught bike maintenance and the stand can be used by all community (if outdoors).
- Ideas for placement of several of these repair stations: HHS, Richmond, the new transit Hub in front of Hanover Inn, Storrs Pond (BUT – bikes aren't encouraged at Storrs – it is complicated, according to Hugh).
- Carolyn will send Doug, Tim, others a link to manufacturer of this stand
- Bill will investigate potential of funds for this sort of thing with Hanover Improvement Society, since he will soon be meeting with some of the board.
- Bill will consult with his new neighbor Jonathan Schwartz on this, a potential committee member or helper with education effort; Schwartz is keen on bikes.
- Talk to Roger Lohr, explain what we are thinking so far, and see if he would like to help brainstorm ideas.

Letter to Select Board about a Regular Source of Funding: Doug Deatt reported that he has incorporated the comments from committee members and the letter is now awaiting David Dostal's input. Dave hopes to have it ready for circulation/submission next week.

Sidewalk Policy and Status Tracker: see below.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Meeting with Peter Kulbacki:**

Dave, Doug and Carolyn met with Peter to discuss priorities for work on Bike/Ped matters. Peter indicated that a top priority is for the HBPC to set a new sidewalk policy statement, so that the town can set its funding priorities for pedestrian and bicyclist improvements. They also reported that work is also starting on S Main, to place utilities underground, so this may be of interest to our proposals for that area. Also, there is some notion of engaging the DOT in a discussion of lane drop on Rte 120, so we should be ready for action should that happen.

### **Streetlight at Black Arts Center Sidewalk Crossing:**

It seems that when utilities went underground, the college (?) was expected to install lighting at the crosswalk. Carolyn really likes the new pedestrian light at Valley Road, a bright solar-powered light on full time for a few hours. This crosswalk seemed like a high priority to group, since so many folks gather at the Black crossing to for events in Hop and Black Center. It isn't clear that a proper streetlight pole is necessary as well, but special pedestrian-related crosswalk lighting of some sort seems urgent, particularly at this season since daylight is so limited (and some people wear really dark clothes).

### **Sidewalk Policy Discussion:**

Carolyn had prepared a map for discussion purposes, where she had superimposed on the town's sidewalk map (from 2003 Master Plan) all streets needing (or having existing) sidewalks according to the guidelines outlined in the 2010 DRAFT of Hanover CIP (Capital Improvement Plan). This means that based on ADT (Average Daily Trips – of vehicles) the streets with highest traffic get two sidewalks, others get one and some get none. This approach triggered a lot of observations:

- Some other 'pedestrian magnets' need to be added to the map, such as Wheelock Terrace, CoOp(s), and the other major condos on Verona Rd (Brook Hollow, Courtyard).
- The use of ADT is not a good starting point. Better to think about where pedestrians want to go, and who lives nearby (not just school kids).
- Policy for sidewalks appears in initial section of the Jan 2010 draft CIP – titled General Assumptions & Policies. This list needs re-thinking.
- Hanover trails and trailheads should be factored into the picture. Signage may be needed.
- The old CIP list should reflect our list in the 2012 HBPC Plan.
- Thought should be given to handicap accessibility to some of walkways / trails: sewer line is ideal since it is fairly level and wide; sometimes parking is a factor as well. Need to coordinate with the Hanover Trails Committee on this topic.
- We need to think about school bus and Advance Transit stops, in parallel with this discussion.
- We think the CIP shouldn't have a 'sidewalk' chapter; it should be more like a 'pedestrian infrastructure' chapter, to include crosswalks, lighting, and the other issues that arise at our HBPC meetings.
- We should be thinking about some sort of pedestrian desire as motivation for work, design, priority.

- The sidewalks projected for Trescott Road seem unnecessary.
- Greensboro is good candidate for MUP, and the sewer line should be examined as potential route. This could be handicapped accessible, for at least a part of the pathway.
- Etna Village could use better pedestrian safety: crosswalk(s), and/or sidewalks. Some felt that more informal trails might serve too. [This topic did come up at the Etna Neighborhood discussion held December 3, but we don't have the details as yet.]
- We will need some way to prioritize pedestrian projects, but also to be able to take advantage of opportunities for action -- like the current work on S Main Street, the CoOp upgrade or bike route discussion for Rte 120.
- It would be great if an off-road route for bikes and pedestrians to the CoOp could be mapped), say from end of Conant Road.
- The current approach doesn't mention the alternatives such as MUP or Advisory lanes that we've discussed as alternatives to sidewalks, where less traveled streets can accommodate safer pedestrian passage-ways.
- Carolyn will prepare a draft policy to circulate to HBPC for discussion at the Jan meeting.

### **Status Tracker Discussion:**

To help address Doug's concern about lost threads in the HBPC discussions of our Master Plan projects, Doug and Janice have developed a spreadsheet to be used to track progress on each of our various projects. Approximately 20 will be listed in final version of Tracker. Each project would have some background about what has been observed, describe problems, constraints, steps that have been taken or need to be taken, key contact person(s), status of project. They had drafted sample sheets for Rte 120, S Main, Rip Road, and N Park Street. It was observed that the Tracker would require regular updates, but it should be much easier now that all the information is in one place, rather than spread out over all past minutes.

### **Agenda Items Postponed until January:**

- Dave - draft annual report for HBPC
- Sharrow, skateboard stencils, Verona demo advisory lanes and other spring-time.
- Followup from Bike Summit
- Dead bike turn-signal at Greensboro – Scot wondered if the turn signal got turned off at Centerra and not Greensboro. Mike had left meeting by the time we got to this topic, so we aren't certain about this.
- Bike Summit followup, thankyou's, subcommittee, etc
- UVLSRPC (food? No one knew what this is about)
- Joanna suggests we look at the results from the W Wheelock community planning meeting since many bike/ped suggestions arose there – a report should soon be ready.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4pm, Howe Murray Room