

City of Norwalk
Norwalk Bike/Walk Taskforce
Meeting Agenda
April 4, 2016, 6:00pm
Health Department, 2nd Floor Library
137 East Avenue, Norwalk CT 06851

Attendees: Doug Adams, Jud Aley, Tim Callahan, Colin Grotheer, Rob Jakubik, Kevin Kane, Kaitlin Latham, Peter Libre, Jonathan McMenamin-Balano, Mike Mushak, Ian Ray, Nancy Rosett

1. The March 7, 2016 minutes were unanimously approved.
2. Colin Grotheer's op-ed piece on creating a more livable and valuable Norwalk was published in [Nancy on Norwalk](#) and [The Hour](#). It received positive responses across the board.
3. The Taskforce discussed the miscommunication between Eversource, the paving and striping contractors, and DPW that resulted in the shoulder stripe on lower Gregory Boulevard to be put back where it originally was, rather than where the Taskforce recommended. DPW is currently working to rectify this mistake.
4. Kevin Kane will reach out to Shore and Country Club for feedback regarding the "No Parking Zone" suggestion on Gregory Boulevard.
5. Kevin Kane is working on making One Note accessible for the entire Taskforce. Health Department staff is having trouble opening the link due to restrictions set by the City of Norwalk's IT department. Health Department staff and Kevin will work on a solution.
6. Tim Callahan, Kaitlin Latham, and Nancy Rosett had a conference call with Linda Tracy of the National Complete Streets Coalition about bringing a Complete Streets conference to Norwalk. The group will continue to brainstorm ways to afford the conference. The conferences are rather expensive, and without the City's support for Complete Streets, the cost and effort to host may not be justified at this time.

Tim, Kaitlin, and Nancy spoke with Doug Hausladen from the City of New Haven to hear his suggestions for getting a Complete Streets policy passed and for the City to buy in. They plan to present his suggestions at a later date.

7. Kaitlin Latham shared the Healthy for Life Project's NorWALKer launch celebration flyer. The Bike/Walk Taskforce will have a table at this event to pass out bike quick guides and safe cycling and walking information from the Injury Prevention Center at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center. Kevin Kane offered to share the event flyer with All Saints School. (*The event was supposed to be held on Saturday, April 9 but due to forecasted rain, snow, and cold temperatures, it was postponed to Saturday, June 4.*)
8. Doug Adams from GGP shared a brief update on The SoNo Collection and presented the group with the mall's connectivity plan. The plan calls for bike paths on Crescent Street (along the loading docks) and both the north and south service drives, and bike connections to Pine St/West Ave, and to North Water Street. No bike infrastructure was included on North Water Street under the overpass or on West Avenue; however, GGP is supportive of 10' driving lanes on West Avenue. The plan shows multiple

pedestrian accesses, sidewalks, and crosswalks, as well as five bike racks (with discussion of indoor bike storage as a possibility).

The Taskforce suggested reconsidering bike infrastructure on North Water Street and for GGP to provide pedestrian refuge islands on the crosswalks due to North Water Street's extreme width. Additionally, if no bike infrastructure will be on West Avenue's pavement, it was suggested to put bike symbols on the sidewalks to provide a safe place for cyclists to ride.

All plans are currently in the zoning process. A public town hall meeting is scheduled for April 13, 6:30pm in the Community Room at City Hall. Public hearings are scheduled for April 27 and May 4.

9. Kaitlin Latham will speak with Paul Sotnik regarding the Mayor's Challenge – Challenge Areas 4 and 5. The questions are technical and the Taskforce would benefit from an engineer's perspective before we discuss as a group.
10. Kaitlin Latham spoke with Brendan Harris of Bike/Walk Connecticut, who would like our help planning a happy hour / meetup for bike/walk advocates in the Norwalk area. The Taskforce recommended BANC House on May 3 or 10. Kaitlin will speak with Brendan and keep the group updated about the event.
11. Nancy Rosett shared feedback from the strategic plan vetting sessions, and asked for a handful of Taskforce members to meet separately to organize and review the feedback. Tim Callahan, Kevin Kane and Nancy Rosett will review and present the key feedback points at the next meeting.
12. The Taskforce discussed the E/W and N/S bike route plans, mainly discussing whether the E/W route should go through the East Avenue cemetery or be rerouted to avoid it. Jud Aley, Colin Grotheer, and Peter Libre will work out the details for the routes and the group will discuss them at the May meeting.
13. Kaitlin Latham will create and manage a Bike/Walk Taskforce Facebook page.
14. Jonathan McMenemy-Balano will talk with Norwalk Community College's graphic design department about a possible logo design contest for students.
15. Jonathan McMenemy-Balano will contact the Norwalk Community College Wellness Committee about sponsoring a fall event and/or ride.
16. The Norwalk Health Department will cover the cost of the City/Taskforce joining Bike/Walk Connecticut. Mike Mushak will send Tim Callahan details about the membership application process.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:30pm.