

**City of Norwalk**  
**Norwalk Bike/Walk Taskforce**  
**Meeting Agenda**  
**May 2, 2016, 6:00pm**  
**Health Department, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Library**  
**137 East Avenue, Norwalk CT 06851**

**Attendees:** Christine Bisceglie, Tim Callahan, Jim Carter, Bruce Chimento, Colin Grotheer, Tilly Hatcher, Kevin Kane, Kaitlin Latham, Peter Libre, Mike Mushak, Ian Ray, Nancy Rosett

1. The April 4, 2016 minutes were unanimously approved.
2. Bruce Chimento shared that DPW is bringing the recommendation for a “No Parking” zone on lower Gregory Boulevard to the Traffic Authority, and will notify residents of the changes being made. Additionally, Eversource plans to remove the misplaced shoulder line on lower Gregory Boulevard and the shoulder will be painted correctly by DPW.
3. Fairfield’s free bike share is up and running at Zane’s Cycles on the Post Road. The bike share has 10 bikes and helmets are provided. Those interested in ‘renting’ a bike must provide a valid credit card (to be charged if the bike is not returned). For more information, visit <http://www.fairfieldct.org/BikeShare>.
4. Kaitlin Latham has the Bike/Walk Taskforce’s Facebook page up and running. Please “Like” the page and share with friends and family. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/NorwalkBikeWalkTaskforce/>. Please send Kaitlin bike/ped photos and/or content to upload.
5. The Healthy for Life Project is launching its new and improved NorWALKER Routes program on Saturday, June 4th from 10am-1pm at Veteran’s Park. BWTF members are invited to have their own table at the event to promote bike/pedestrian safety using materials donated by the Injury Prevention Center at the Connecticut Children’s Medical Center. If you have questions, please contact Kaitlin Latham at [klatham@norwalkct.org](mailto:klatham@norwalkct.org).
6. Jonathan McMenamin-Balano shared that Norwalk Community College is interested in promoting sustainability and the “Go Green” perspective, and would like the Bike/Walk Taskforce to help engage students in sustainable/active transportation in the fall semester. Mike Mushak and Nancy Rosett will work with Jonathan on this.
7. Bike Walk CT is hosting a meetup at BANC House at 6:30pm on Tuesday, May 10. Appetizers will be provided and there will be a cash bar. Mike Mushak noted that a schedule of the evening would be helpful so attendees know what to expect at the event. Kevin Kane asked to spend some time updating attendees about current/past projects. Kaitlin Latham will contact the event coordinator to make sure these requests are communicated with Bike Walk CT.
8. Bike Walk CT is hosting a summit on Friday, June 3 at Central Connecticut State University. The event costs \$40 for members and \$50 for non-members.
9. The Norwalk Health Department purchased a membership to Bike Walk Connecticut for the Norwalk Bike/Walk Taskforce.

10. Kevin Kane will take notes during the June, July and August meetings because Kaitlin Latham will be working at a Health Department program at this time.
11. The Taskforce discussed Mayor's Challenge Areas 4&5:
  - a. *Challenges and Successes in Developing Walking and Bicycling Networks: What are some of the challenges and barriers you're facing regarding pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure design and maintenance? What are you doing well related to designing, maintenance and resurfacing related to pedestrian and bicycle facilities? Does your town have existing pedestrian/bike infrastructure mapped in a usable format such as GIS? Does your town have a pedestrian and bike plan? Do you plan to do one in the future? What design and maintenance issues do you need help with?*
    - i. Challenges and barriers: implementation, lack of funds, lack of real estate to install these facilities
    - ii. Need a complete streets policy in place as a starting point
    - iii. Resistance at state level, ConnDOT
  - b. *Design: What resources do you currently turn to for pedestrian/bicycle design needs? What types of new resources or tools would be helpful to you?*
    - i. The best resources are AASHTO guides, NACTO's urban bikeway/street design guide, and the Institute of Transportation Engineer's Design guidelines (all above).
  - c. *Maintenance and Resurfacing: How are pedestrian and bicycle facilities maintained, and how could you improve upon those plans? What partners are needed to implement this plan and regularly check in?*
    - i. Street sweeping 2x/yr; pavement management, including new roads, resurfacing, reconstructing; concrete sidewalks/curbs, including pavement management and capitol sidewalk projects
  - d. *Safety Treatments: FHWA is promoting the use of medians and pedestrian crossing islands, roundabouts, pedestrian hybrid beacons and road diets for improving safety of pedestrians and bicyclists. Do you regularly include any of these treatments in your safety projects? Do you have a policy for putting them in place? What is your experience with separated bike lanes? Do you have particular successes or challenges related to pedestrian and bicycle access to transit stops?*
    - i. Mid-block crosswalks; flashing lights on at crosswalks on Strawberry Hill and Flax Hill; speed flashing/indicator
    - ii. Challenge – enough space for installation, shared use
12. Kaitlin Latham and Nancy Rosett will work on the Mayor's Challenge Survey on the Taskforce's behalf.
13. The Taskforce reviewed the suggested changes to the strategic plan and agreed on the following changes:
  - a. Vision Statement will now read: Safely connecting people.
  - b. In goal 1, remove the subcommittees and move our goal of understanding government structure to the top of the list.
14. DPW will paint a shoulder stripe connecting Seaview Avenue to the bike lanes on Stroffolino Bridge.

15. Colin Grotheer will circulate the details of the proposed North/South and East/West bicycle routes so the Taskforce can discuss how to implement them at the June meeting.
16. Nancy Rosett will talk to the WestCOG about striping sharrows on Route 136/East Coast Greenway.
17. Bruce Chimento provided the following update on Calf Pasture Beach Rd: The proposed plan includes 2 10' travel lanes 1 4' curb lane (including catch basins and gutters) on both the north and south sides of the street. Sharrows will be placed in the travel lane, giving extra room for bikes along the curb lane. The islands along the street will be re-painted in yellow paint. Some Taskforce members wondered if the sharrows in the travel lane next to a 'bike lane' would be confusing for cyclists.

Mike Mushak requested bike friendly grates along the road. Ten of the 18 grates are already bike friendly, so he suggested flipping the bike friendly grates that are along the islands with the bike unfriendly grates along the curb.

18. Mike Mushak wrote a statement on behalf of the Taskforce in support of the SoNo Collection. Taskforce members read the letter and agreed to send it to Nancy on Norwalk and The Hour.
19. Peter Libre discussed Wall St and West Ave. He stated that traffic will still flow if the lanes were reduced from 3 to 2 under the 95 overpass on West Ave, and that on most of West Ave there is room for both parking and bike lanes.

On Wall St, the Taskforce discussed the combination of back in angled parking and bike lanes on the west bound side, as well as having a bike lane against the curb with parking and a door zone next to the travel lane. Sharrows will most likely line the east bound side of the street. Also discussed was the potential for a roundabout at the Wall-West-Belden intersection.

20. The NRVT is through its first wave of design. The budget for the missing link is in place, and hearings will be taking place soon. Construction will most likely start next year. Engineering RFPs will be released for the section from Grist Mill to Wolfpit within 30-45 days.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:40pm.