

Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Committee Notes

Date:	2/28/2013
Meeting start:	7:40 p.m.

In attendance:

John Craine	Steve Harte	Wendy Muellers	George Lester
Virginia Lester	Paul Sicard	Steve Olanoff	Nora Loughnane

Routine Business

Minutes from January 2013 were approved.

Updates from Previous Meeting

1. Paul Sicard shared plans from Safe Routes to Schools for the Downey School area. Some of the sidewalk improvements involve the Strasser Avenue, Hawktree Drive, Forbes Road and Glandore Road areas as well as Downey Street in the area of Downey School. This would be funded by Safe Routes to Schools.
2. The Town may be interested in funding a design or a partial design for replacement of the East Street Bridge in order to expedite matters in the case of availability of MBTA funding.
3. Virginia Lester shared her plan to talk with Emily Parks about enrolling each of our schools in the Safe Routes to Schools program. This would need to be done before any bicycle safety education classes can take place in the schools. The benefits of enrolling are clear, especially in light of the proposed improvements in the area of the Downey School.

New Business

1. The report of our committee for the annual Town Report was approved. Steve Harte will submit the report.

2. The Bicycle and Pedestrian plan needs to be revised by MAPC to reflect DPW and Public Safety comments, approved by the Board of Selectmen and then advanced to a Planning Board hearing. Only then will it be advanced to Town Meeting for approval. Given all that needs to take place, there is a good chance that it will not be brought to Town Meeting in May. Changes reflecting our input and comments have not yet been made by MAPC.
3. The Town is investigating moving a telephone pole at the corner of High Street and Pond Plain Road. This telephone pole is presently in the sidewalk and can obstruct eastbound drivers' views of pedestrians crossing Pond Plain Road. A large number of children cross here to access the Sheehan School.
4. We discussed parking and pedestrian issues in the area of Church Street, especially in light of the new bakery that will be built on High Street. Presently there is limited parking in the area.
5. We discussed pedestrian and bicycle plans for the University Station development. Issues for both pedestrians and bicyclists are being addressed in the plans for the project.

Action Needed for Next Meeting

1. Steve Harte will email Taryn Crocker to declare our interest in having a table at Westwood Day again this fall.
2. We will need a committee member to step forward to organize the plans for our group's involvement in Westwood Day.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Next meeting will be the 28th of March at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Harte