

Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee Meeting Agenda
Mon Apr 26, 2021

PRESENT

Neil Bettez	Hans Gutknecht	Daniel Lipson
Judy Mage	Shanna Marie	Michael Reade
Steve O'Shea		

Meeting called to order at 7:09pm.

AGENDA ITEMS:

Approved minutes from Mon Mar 22, 2021. You can find the official, approved minutes at our town website (townofnewpaltz.org/bicyclepedestrian-committee) on the right menu.

1. Dan will send a letter to town and village boards about all-stop request at the new Stewart's shop and no-right-on-red at Ohioville Road and Putt Corners Road.
2. Michael left a phone message with the retired New York State Department of Transportation administrator who had also served on the Kingston Complete Streets group recently. Kingston has had some success with securing no-right-on-red and all-stop traffic signaling.
3. Michael worked with Michele to complete a logo for our committee.
4. Updates about Henry W. Dubois Drive project?
Alta Planning is still waiting for New York State Department of Transportation approval for easements and other approvals for the Henry W. Dubois Drive project. The key point person is the person in charge of real estate matters at the New York State Department of Transportation. The village, town, and Stewart's Shop are all in agreement and in favor of this easement. It looks like the gears are moving now. The Henry W. Dubois Drive project is still on pace to be completed by the end of 2022.
5. Any updates about the request for more information from the county officials about speeding up the construction of shoulders on Route 299 from Butterville Road to Route 44/55?
At the last quarterly meeting in December, the New York State Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations asked for the federal government to pay for the cost of installing shoulders on New York State Department of Transportation roads.
6. Any updates about the initiative to request that the New York State Department of Transportation make all Empire State Trail crossings (i.e. Putt Corners Road, Ohioville Road, South Street) No Right On Red intersections? About the request for the New Paltz Police to step up enforcement at these intersections?
Judy convinced Erin Quinn to write a story in Hudson Valley One about this project. Erin told Judy and Steve that Pat Ryan is in conversation with House Representative Delgado to divert some of the federal infrastructure funding (should it pass Congress) to secure remaining funding for this project. We'll know more once [Erin's article](#) is published [see tinyurl.com/NewPaltzBikePed for PDF of this article].

7. McDonald’s installed curb cuts on its sidewalk section as part of its major renovation.
8. Proposed apartment development south of campus:
Mike Moriello is proposing to [develop apartments near Bella Terra apartments on Route 32 South](#) [see tinyurl.com/NewPaltzBikePed for PDF of this article]. He wants the village to annex this land. Then he proposes to build several hundred units. Tim and Neil stipulated that there must be a bike/ped connection from this complex to the practice soccer fields. The path would be open to the public. There would also be a shuttle service. Mike Moriello had also developed the Harvest Hills neighborhood. It may be that there needs to be a fire safety access road like at the Ridge Apartments, and this could provide the access for Harvest Hills to have access route through campus.
9. Access routes: New zoning regulations in the Gateway district (Zero Place, etc.) require paths/roads from one business to another (so that vehicles don’t have to exit the first business, enter the main road, and enter into the second business – this reduces traffic congestion and collisions).
10. Neil will ask to make sure bike racks are installed at the new police station.
11. Neil recommends Strong Towns podcast called “dangerous by design”:
podcast.strongtowns.org/e/beth-osborne-americas-roads-are-dangerous-by-design
people began driving even faster during the pandemic because there was less traffic and people could drive faster.
12. Dangerous grates need to be pointed out to New York State Department of Transportation. Take pictures. Write a letter. Send to New York State Department of Transportation and say it needs to be addressed. Send it also to the town and village too.
13. Let’s approach New York State Department of Transportation again for a crosswalk at Prospect now that Sunoco has a proper curb cut. New York State Department of Transportation will be doing improvements on Main Street, but not until around 2024. We can ask Tim and the Village Board to revisit New York State Department of Transportation about this crosswalk.
14. Cuomo keeps extending the suspension of open meetings laws, and that has allowed us to have these live video meetings. If Cuomo stops suspending this law, we will need to return to in person open meetings. At any point we could meet outdoors at Hasbrouck Park. We don’t even have to live stream. We just need to give advanced notice. Ask Ariana if that’s possible.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31pm.

Next meeting:

Mon May 24, 7–8:30pm

Future 2021 meetings:

Mon Jun 28, 7–8:30pm

Mon Jul 26, 7–8:30pm

Mon Aug 23, 7–8:30pm

Mon Sep 27, 7–8:30pm

Mon Oct 25, 7–8:30pm

Mon Nov 22, 7–8:30pm

[no meeting in Dec 2021]