

## Bath Bike and Pedestrian Committee

Minutes: January 19, 2012

Present: Steve Balboni, Kevin Shute, Sharon Wilbraham, Robert McChesney, Phyllis Wolf, John Swenson, Sarah Bingham, Peter Owen, Andrew Deci, Meadow Merrill, Nancy Perkins, Josephine Ewing (guest)

Agenda Issue	Discussion	Actions
Arrowsic Bicycle Initiative	<p>Josephine Ewing, Arrowsic resident, came to fill us in on their efforts and to see where our group interests merge with theirs. They have several residents involved with their new group.</p> <p>They are working toward safer biking from Bath to Georgetown. Their goal is to establish a viable bicycling route (paths and/or shoulders) all the way to Reid State Park. (They would also like to be involved with a regional effort, establishing a bicycle route from Bath to Popham beach.)</p> <p>They have mapped out areas that need shoulders, noting that Georgetown has a significant need.</p> <p>The DOT was supposed to redo Route 127 but that fell by the wayside, as a cost cutting measure.</p> <p>The DOT does a biennial assessment to determine priority projects. Perhaps acting regionally Arrowsic, Bath, Georgetown and Phippsburg could act as a regional voice to advocate moving forward.</p>	

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Bath Bicycle Routes	<p>Andrew assembled a planning document on approaches for On-Road Bike Improvements, mindful of road conditions and safety, now that we have identified specific priority routes. What can we do to provide safe biking/driving conditions, on the designated primary bike route, at a low cost?</p> <p>The area of initial focus is from the end of the bike/ped path on Congress Ave., at the 5 corners/Puffin Stop, down North St to Front and Commercial Streets to the Sagadahoc Bridge, Train Station, through to Washington Street South to Webber.</p> <p>The identified primary routes North and West will likely be improved by signage at this time. Signage throughout will be of two types: Route Designation and Traffic Safety, for drivers, riders and pedestrians.</p> <p>The consensus of the group was to use “Sharrows” which would have automobiles and bicyclists sharing the road. There would be bicycle images and arrows painted on the pavement alerting both riders and drivers of each other’s presence. Along North Street the plan is to maintain a 10 foot lane for the shared roadway, and the painting of a fog line in key locations indicating areas where parking is permitted. Commercial Street to the Sagadahoc Bridge will also use sharrows.</p> <p>There is a major conflict area around the train station connecting North and South Bath along Washington Street. Andrew proposed north and south bound bike routing along Commercial Street to King St, again using sharrows, to Washington Street through to Webber Avenue.</p> <p>Dan Cody oversees parking at BIW. He would be good to connect with regarding painting a fog line on King St.</p> <p>Estimated cost: \$1300 annual cost (although some areas might not need annual painting) 144 painted symbols, approx. 24,000 – 28,000 ft of striping.</p>	Andy

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Bath Bicycle Route Continued:	<p>A fog line along Washington Street (from the Plant Home to the Dog park) would help with safety and speed issues. This is an expense not included in the current public works budget.</p> <p>Sharrows would need to be painted every year. Fog lines may need repainting every other year.</p> <p>Are there matching fund programs available? "Bikes Belong" may be a resource.</p> <p>Committee members should email further comments to Andy, who will then send them to an engineer for review.</p>	<p>Robert</p> <p>Andy</p>
Snow removal	<p>Budget limitations constrain efforts to clear sidewalks. There are priority sidewalks, largely around schools, which are done every snow event. Other sidewalks are done secondarily, and still others which are not done until snow removal on side streets.</p> <p>Would it be possible to designate another priority route, in or near the downtown, which would allow pedestrians to walk with some degree of confidence that ice and snow would be at a minimum? There was support for this proposal. Making just a few sidewalks an initial priority would make this a much more walker-friendly town.</p>	
Other	<p>Meadow Merrill is our new Bath City Council liaison.</p> <p>March Meeting: Dan Stewart Maine DOT will attend to talk about supporting Bicycle and Pedestrian initiatives.</p> <p>Mike Field (Police Dept) will attend the April meeting.</p>	

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 16, 2012