



**BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN SUBCOMMITTEE
OF THE TRANSPORTATION SAFETY & ADVISORY COMMISSION
CITY OF HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA**

TO: Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee Members

FROM: Thanh Dang, Public Works Planner

DATE: February 3, 2012

RE: Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee Meeting Summary for Monday January 23, 2012

The Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee met on Monday January 23, 2012 at 6:00pm in the Community Development classroom, 409 South Main Street, Harrisonburg. Meetings are always open to the public and citizens are encouraged to attend.

Members present included: Thomas Jenkins, Charlie Chenault, Len Van Wyk, Paul Johnston, and Carl Droms.

Advisory members, and guests present included: Thanh Dang (Public Works), Drew Williams (Public Works), Dan Fudala (Parks & Rec), Adam Fletcher (Comm Dev.), Ofc. Daniel Claxton (Police), Rhonda Cooper (Rockingham Co Comm Dev), Rich Harris (Rockingham County Bicycle Advisory Comm.).

Welcome

1. Task from Transportation Safety & Advisory Commission: Bicyclist, Pedestrian, Motorist Education and Enforcement, and Harrisonburg-Rockingham MPO funding availability for Education

Mr. Jenkins will invite Harrisonburg Police, JMU Police, and others to get together to discuss education and enforcement programs focused on the JMU community, particularly students. Ms. Dang added that the Transportation Safety & Advisory Commission has also been discussing the need for education and enforcement programs in the community. Rather than working separately, the Commission voted to officially task the Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee to lead the work on Bicyclist, Pedestrian, and Motorist Education and Enforcement.

There was discussion that unless the universities required student attendance at an event then student attendance was low. Last August, JMU was involved in "Block Party in the 'Burg" in Downtown Harrisonburg and the university required all freshmen to attend. There were plans for Harrisonburg Police and the Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition (SVBC) to be present to provide tips for safe

bicycling. Unfortunately, the event was cancelled due to Hurricane Irene. Event organizers rescheduled the event for October, but freshmen weren't required to attend, and volunteer turnout was low.

To reach other demographics, it was suggested that a display booth could be set up at Fund Fest.

Ms. Dang presented that the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Metropolitan Planning Organization has an annual budget dedicated to bicycle and pedestrian safety education that could assist the efforts of city departments and local organizations. The funds could be used for bus and newspaper advertisements, helmet and bike light giveaways, printed materials, etc. See Attachment A for a list of ideas. Anyone with new ideas or interest in helping with implementing suggested ideas may contact thanh.dang@harrisonburgva.gov.

There was a suggestion made to meet with James Madison University's new president, Mr. Jonathan Alger, about the need for a campus bicycle plan, education and enforcement initiatives.

2. Cale Trail

Mr. Johnston presented that Dr. Bill Cale and Mrs. Susan Cale have generously donated more than 6 acres of land to the City of Harrisonburg for the construction of new trails to connect Thomas Harrison Middle School and Westover Park. Additionally, the Cales wish for this land and the wooded area to be preserved. Rich Edwards, volunteer and IMBA trail specialist, had assisted with delineating a path concept through the property that would be 10-ft wide and meet ADA Accessibility Guidelines.

On January 23, Thanh Dang, Drew Williams, Lee Foerster, and Rich Edwards met to discuss next steps for the project. Steps included having the new property boundary surveyed and marked, and to develop concepts for the trail extending into Westover Park and the Community Activities Center. Additionally, hard, but natural looking trail surfaces will be explored. Funding sources will also need to be identified, although there may be some preliminary work that can be done by volunteers associated with the Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition. The group will develop a plan to be presented to stakeholders before moving forward with any physical modification on the property.

Mr. Johnston was thanked for all of his work in helping to facilitate communication between city staff and the Cales and for helping with other aspects of developing the trail concept.

3. Thomas Harrison Middle School to Wyndham Woods connector

The group revisited concepts to connect Thomas Harrison Middle School with the Wyndham Woods neighborhood. Thanh will follow up with a property owner who expressed interest in donating land for the trail.

4. Recap of January 5 Bicycle & Pedestrian Information Meeting at SBC

A presentation on City bicycle and pedestrian efforts, including the Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan, was given at the Shenandoah Bicycle Company (SBC) on January 5 as part of SBC's winter bike maintenance series. About 40 people were in attendance. Representatives from Rockingham County's Bicycle Advisory Committee, the Northend Greenway, and Shenandoah Valley Bicycle Coalition were also present and gave overviews of their organizations and projects.

5. Bicycle & Pedestrian Information Toolbox

The January 5 presentation was a test run for an idea developed by members of the Subcommittee. Ms. Dang has compiled a "Bicycle & Pedestrian Education, Outreach, & Advocacy Toolbox". The contents of the cardboard box include project brochures, safety guides, maps, plan documents, and a template powerpoint presentation. Any community member can take this toolbox "on the road" to do presentations for rotary clubs, churches, youth groups, neighborhood associations, etc. Feedback on the toolbox will be solicited from those who have expressed interest and the toolbox should be ready by early March. Anyone interested in borrowing the toolbox should contact Ms. Dang at thanh.dang@harrisonburgva.gov.

6. Recap of January 9 Alta Planning & Design walking tour and presentation

Charlie Denny and Fionnuala Quinn of Alta Planning & Design visited Harrisonburg on January 9. There was an afternoon walking tour of the downtown area with city staff, Rockingham County staff, SVBC board members, Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee members, Rockingham County Bicycle Advisory Committee members, New Community project representatives, and Rich Edwards. The group discussed road designs challenges and opportunities, and also reviewed concepts for the extension of the Northend Greenway into downtown via the Federal Street alley.

Later that evening, Mr. Denny and Ms. Fionnuala gave a presentation to a room of nearly 60 people about bike facility design and advocacy. More details and the powerpoint presentation can be found at: <http://svbcadvocacy.blogspot.com/2012/01/alta-planning-and-design-comes-to.html>.

7. Bicycle Counts & Survey Project

Ms. Dang will be engaging with interested community members to conduct bicycle and possibly pedestrian counts utilizing the National Bicycle & Pedestrian Documentation Project guidelines, <http://bikepeddocumentation.org/>. She plans to meet and coordinate with a core group of volunteers who will help train and direct a larger group of volunteers to conduct counts this May 2012 and in September 2012. Anyone interested in participating in this effort as a core volunteer or "day of" volunteer should contact Ms. Dang at thanh.dang@harrisonburgva.gov.

8. Update for projects under design/construction and 2012 Paving Schedule

Refer to Attachments B and C.

There was discussion about the Bluestone Trail and a suggestion to restructure city bonds to include projects like the Bluestone Trail.

Changing Garbers Church Road from 4-lanes of vehicular traffic to 2-lanes of traffic, 1-center turn lane, and 2-bike lanes was discussed. City staff noted that the change would result in the loss of road maintenance dollars that the City receives from the Commonwealth. Maintenance funds received are calculated based on the number of vehicular travel lane miles, not on road pavement width. In VDOT's formula, turning lanes, center turn lanes, and bike lanes do not count as a travel lane. Therefore, the City would lose half of the funding received for Garbers Church Road annually if the number of vehicular travel lanes were changed from 4 to 2. City staff does not support this change.

There were questions as to whether bike lanes or a shared use path was preferred on Garbers Church Road. There have been shared use path concepts discussed in the past. There was also some discussion about the Hillandale Park to Harrisonburg High School trail that would connect with facilities on Garbers Church Road.

9. What's been done since 2010?

Attachment D provides a snapshot of "What's been done since 2010?" (between the period of summer 2010 through December 2011). It was noted that although no shared use path projects have been completed yet in the City since 2010, that there are several major projects currently under design such as the Bluestone Trail, Northend Greenway, and the Cale Trail.

Other Business/ Announcements

10. May 2012 meeting rescheduled to May 21

Due to the Memorial Day holiday the subcommittee has reschedule its May meeting to May 21, 2012 at 6pm.

11. Bicycle Dreams movie

The movie "Bicycle Dreams" will be playing at Court Square Theater on Wednesday January 25, 2012.

Next Meeting: March 26, 2012 at 6pm in the Community Development Classroom, 409 South Main Street

Adjourn

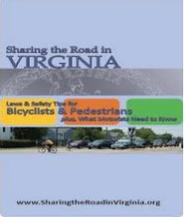
ATTACHMENT A: HRMPO Budget Requests for FY 11-12 and FY 12-13

Last updated: 01-19-2012

*\$6,000 remaining from FY 11-12 budget

“??” indicates that research on pricing still underway and will be available for consideration of the FY 12-13 budget.

Item/Activity	Details	Funds Requested
<p>Bicycle Helmets to give away at events sponsored by HPD, Safe Kids, City, etc. during Bike Month, etc.</p> 	<p>Quantity: 400+ (Suggest: about 200 small, 150 medium, 50 large) Model 08 Premium Bike Helmet, Blue, \$5.45 each + S&H</p> <p>https://www.helmetsrus.net/</p> <p>County has storage space for helmets.</p>	<p>\$2,500</p> <p>*Recommendation order helmets in FY 11-12</p>
<p>Blinking Rear Red and White Front Bike Lights to give away at events during bike month.</p>	<p>Quantity: 160</p> <p>Order through Shenandoah Bicycle Company, \$6.25/each</p> <p>In 2011, we ordered lights to give out as part of the “Ride of Silence” event.</p>	<p>\$1,000.00</p> <p>*Recommendation order lights in FY 11-12, for May</p>
<p>Newspaper advertisement in DNR during Bike Month (May) with bike and ped safety tips*</p>	<p>Size 21x10”. Format PDF.</p> <p>Will need assistance from community members to come up with messaging.</p>	<p>½ page color - \$1820.48 ½ page B/W - \$1325.48</p> <p>*Recommendation place ½ page color ad in FY 11-12, for May</p> <p>Full page color - \$2907.30 Full page B/W – \$2412.30</p>
<p>Newspaper Advertisement in EMU’s Weather Vane in March/April*</p>	<p>Limited color availability, requires at least 2 weeks’ notice</p>	<p>½ page color (10”x6.5”): \$229 Full page color (10”x12.5”): \$529</p> <p>B/W options available</p>
<p>Newspaper Advertisement in JMU Breeze in March/April*</p>	<p>Finished page size 11” wide x 22.5” high. Printable area 10.125” wide by 21.5” high.</p>	<p>??</p>
<p>Newspaper Advertisement in Bridgewater’s Veritas newspaper in March/April*</p>		<p>??</p>
	<p><i>*Thank will need assistance from a committee of volunteers to develop messaging for newspaper ads</i></p>	

Radio Ads	Work with radio company to put out PSAs for the months of May (Bike Month) and September (Back to School/ Pedestrian Awareness Week)	??
Bicycle & Pedestrian Toolbox	This builds on the presentation given on Jan 5 th at SBC on local bike and pedestrian projects and advocacy. Thanh is putting together a portable "Toolbox" of materials. Contact Thanh Dang for more information.	??
<p>"Look For Me" Bus Ads</p> <p>Rear Bus Advertisement – 16x48¹</p>	<p>http://bikewalkvirginia.org/current-projects/</p> 	<p>Graphic Design: In-kind Production Charges: 1 Ad, \$200 Monthly rate: \$210/month value (we can ask if Transit could provide in-kind)</p>
<p>"Look For Me" Bus Ads</p> <p>Side Bus Advertisement (curb side) - 30x98¹</p>	<p>http://bikewalkvirginia.org/current-projects/</p> 	<p>Graphic Design: In-kind Production Charges: 1 Ad, \$200 Monthly rate: \$210/month value (we can ask if Transit could provide in-kind)</p>
Support Bicycle Rodeos hosted by Harrisonburg PD ???		Need to contact HPD to inquire about their funding needs, if any
Expand Bike Like Ike Campaign ???	<p>The City has plenty of flyers, but there has been limited time available to attend events to give out the flyers. New bus ads can also be designed, but we need volunteers to help come up with new ideas/slogans for the bus ads. Here are sample slogans/campaign materials,</p> <p>http://www.cspdc.org/bikeva/campaignmaterials.html.</p> <p>We resized the same slogans for bus ads.</p>	??
Reprint Sharing the Road in Virginia pocket guide and bookmarks (in English & Spanish)	 <p>5,000 guides currently available at CSPDC as of 1/9/2012. May wait to print more until after new version of guide is available.</p>	\$??

Attachment B: Update on City Projects under design and construction

From the January 23, Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee meeting:

PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION, OR SOON TO START CONSTRUCTION

- East Market Street Sidewalk Phase III – Construct a 5-ft wide sidewalk with 3-ft grass strip on south side of East Market Street between University Boulevard and Evelyn Byrd Avenue. Estimated cost: >\$212,000. Funded by VDOT Highway Safety Improvement Program.
 - UPDATE: Project to bid released January 19, 2012. Bids due February 15, 2012. Construction to begin April 1, 2012 and to be completed August 31, 2012.

PROJECTS UNDER DESIGN/ PLANNING

- Bluestone Trail Phase I – Construct a 10-ft wide shared use path between Port Republic Road at Bluestone Drive to Wellness Center Drive off Berry Road. Estimated cost: Being developed. No funding for construction yet available.
 - UPDATE: City Council endorsed the alignment at the December 13, 2011 meeting ([video streaming](#)). On call engineering consultant, McCormick Taylor, will be tasked to work on engineering design for the Bluestone Trail and is currently developing a scope of work. Anticipated engineering to be completed by Fall 2012. City is also working on application for VDOT Recreational Access Program grant for potential grant award of \$75,000 with \$15,000 match.
- Chicago Avenue/ Mt. Clinton Pike/ Park Road Roundabout– Public Works is working on engineering design of the roundabout at this location. Previously, a study was conducted on the Chicago Avenue and Mt. Clinton Pike corridors. Public involvement documents and more information at www.ChicagoAvenue.org.
 - UPDATE: Property owners in vicinity have been mailed letters informing them that surveyors will be in the area doing field investigations. The City has also applied for funds from the VDOT Revenue Sharing Program.
- Chicago Avenue/Mt. Clinton Pike Walking Path (Temporary Improvements) - construct and delineate a level, hard-surfaced walking path on the west side of Chicago Avenue from Greystone Street to Mt. Clinton Pike and on Mt. Clinton Pike from Park Road to the Common Grounds shopping center. The walking path will be between 3-5 ft wide. Construction anticipated to begin 2012.
 - UPDATE: Deeds for easements from private property owners on Chicago Avenue for the walking path are being secured now. There are 1-2 property owners are not willing to support the project and easement, but the City will work around them. Work for walking path on Chicago Avenue to begin in Spring/Summer 2012.
- Safe Routes to School: Waterman Elementary School – Sidewalks on west side of Chicago Avenue between 2nd Street and Rockingham Drive, bike lanes on Chicago Avenue between Gay Street and Rockingham Drive, sidewalk on south side of 3rd Street between Collicello Street to Stuart Street, sidewalk on east side of Stuart Street, sidewalks on both sides of Virginia Avenue from about 2nd Street to 5th Street. Estimate cost: >\$500,000. Funded by VDOT SRTS Program and city funds.

- UPDATE: Engineering design continues by city staff. Request for right-of-way and temporary construction easement donations continue. Project construction start date hoped for Summer/Fall 2012.
- Thomas Harrison Middle School to Wyndham Woods shared use path – Construct a path from Wyndham Wood Drive to Thomas Harrison Middle School and West Market Street. This project is in the planning phase and is not yet funded.
 - UPDATE: To be discussed at this meeting
- Trail Locator System Signage: City staff from Public Works, Parks & Rec, Fire, Police, Emergency Communications Center, IT, etc. working on a system for emergency locator signage for existing and new trails.
 - UPDATE: Dan Fadula and Rich Edwards will install flexible fiber posts at Rocktown Trails as time permits. A prototype of trail signage has been created and will be shared at the meeting. Thanh Dang is working on a standards document.
- University Boulevard Sidewalk: Construct sidewalks along the north side of University Boulevard between East Market Street to Evelyn Byrd Avenue, and a portion of Evelyn Byrd Avenue on the west side between University Boulevard and the existing sidewalk.
 - UPDATE: Right-of-way with half of the property owners has been cleared. Public Works staff continues discussions with other property owners for right-of-way.

ATTACHMENT C: ANTICIPATED 2012 PAVING SCHEDULE

Anticipated 2012 Paving Schedule

Street	From	To	Proposed Action for 2012
Mason St (N)	E. Market St.	N. Main St.	Add sharrows
N. Main St.	Elizabeth St.	Rock St.	Add sharrows
Sterling St.	Wolfe St.	Gay St.	
Kelly St.	Broad St.	Simms Ave.	
Acorn Dr.	Virginia Ave.	N. Liberty St	
Mt. Clinton Pike	College Ave.	W.C.L.	
Noll Dr.	N. Liberty St.	Kratzer Ave	Add bike lane, pending discussion with stakeholders
W. Washington St.	N. Main St.	N. Liberty St.	
E. Market St.	S. Mason St.	#765 E. Market St.	
E. Market St.	#765 E. Market St.	Country Club Road/Vine St.	
Fairview Ave.	S. Main St.	Moffett Ter.	
Fairview Ave.	Moffett Ter.	Hillcrest Dr.	
Hillcrest Dr.	Port Republic Rd.	Maplehurst Ave.	
Monument St.	S. Main St.	Butler St.	
S. Main St.	Pleasant Valley Rd.	1920' South of Pleasant Valley Rd.	
Garbers Church Rd.	W. Market St.	Heritage Oaks Entrance	
Garbers Church Rd.	Joint south of HHS	Erickson Ave.	
Laurel St.	Central Ave.	80' Cul-de-sac E.	
South Ave.	Railroad crossing	South High St.	Add bike lanes
Court Square	N. Main St.	S. Main St.	

Pavement Rejuvenation

Garbers Church Rd.	Heritage Oaks Entrance	Joint south of HHS	
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Other Pavement Markings Proposed for 2012 – No re-paving

Street	From	To	Proposed Action for 2012
South Ave	S. High St.	S. Dogwood Dr.	Add sharrows

Requires Further Evaluation – No repaving

Street	From	To	Action to be reviewed.
North Liberty St	Rock St.	S. Main St.	Add sharrows temporarily until road repaved in future for new bike lanes
Carlton St. (2023)	Myers Ave.	Country Club Rd.	Add sharrows
Vine St. (2013)	Country Club Rd.	E. Washington St.	Add bike lanes
Mason St. (2013)	Cantrell Ave.	N. Main St.	Add sharrows

ATTACHMENT D:



What's been done since 2010?

(in miles)	2009	2010-Dec 2011	5 Year Goals
Bike lanes	4	4.32	10.1
Sharrows	0	4.05	9.4
Sidewalks	60	1.91*	4.7*
Shared Use Paths	2	0	4.05



*Total sidewalks only accounts for sidewalks constructed by the City. Does not include new sidewalks as required of new and re- developments.

