



Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee  
Of The Transportation Safety & Advisory Commission  
City of Harrisonburg, Virginia

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**TO:** Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee Members

**FROM:** Erin Yancey, Public Works Planning Manager

**DATE:** January 5, 2017

**RE:** Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee Meeting Summary for Monday, November 27, 2017

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The Bicycle & Pedestrian Subcommittee met on Monday, November 27, 2017 at 6:00pm in City Hall, Room 011 (lower level); 409 South Main St. Meetings are open to the public.

Subcommittee members: Carl Droms, Alleyn Harned, Matt Hassman, Dastan Khaleel, Stefanie Warlick

Staff: Tom Hartman, Ian Pike, Erin Yancey

Guests: Tom Benevento, Keefer Hensel-Smith, Kyle Lawrence, Laura Mack, John Mar, Dave Stringham

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*Welcome*

*Business*

**1. JMU Capstone Project**

Three students from the JMU Engineering program discussed their plan for a greenway-related capstone project. Their stated goal is an 80% plan for a greenway connection from Skyline Middle School to surrounding communities that the city could use and implement.

The group questioned the students' intent and reasoning behind selecting Skyline Middle School as a focal point. The students' responded that they had checked the city's recent Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan as well as the Master Transportation Plan for a suitable capstone project. They said they talked to Tom Benevento, who shared with them the need to connect Skyline Middle School to Spotswood Trailerhomes on Country Club Road and to communities on Old Furnace Road.

Mr. Hartman noted that 80% plans would be an extreme undertaking for students in such a short amount of time. The group suggested scaling back the scope of the project to a 15-20% plan and to focus on the right-of-way and environmental review needs for a greenway in that part of the city.

## **2. Safe Routes to School – Thomas Harrison Middle School pop-up report**

Matt Hassman gave a presentation to the group about work done by community members to improve a gravel path connecting W. Market Street to the track at THMS. Many students walk and bike to school using W. Market Street. Truly a community effort, materials were donated by Frazier Quarry, equipment by Appalachian Equipment, and numerous volunteers from JMU, Eastern Mennonite School, and others help to constructed the path. Safety improvements to commercial entrances along W. Market Street were also explored with temporary treatments. Staff informed the group that detectible warning surfaces are required at all newly constructed commercial entrances. And while it's not reasonable to retrofit commercial entrances across the city, staff agreed to look into installing permanent detectable warning surfaces at these entrances to make the route to school safer.

## **3. Follow up items**

- Bicycle parking downtown – Staff shared they would like to build upon the previous inventory of bicycle parking downtown by doing a parking usage study. Staff will inquire about JMU student resources to support this study.
- Yield to Pedestrian sign – Staff conducted a study at several candidate intersections for the installation of the this sign, which has not been used anywhere in the city, as it the MUTCD intends for it to be use, on the centerline of the roadway. The study indicated that Mason Street intersections south of E. Market Street in the commercial area had the highest levels of pedestrians, and would benefit most from these signs. Staff agreed to mark the perimeter of this area with the signs, at the Mason/Water St. intersection and the Mason/Franklin St. intersection.

## **4. Project Updates (see updates attached to agenda)**

- Review of Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> Garbers Church Rd. Shared Use Path public meeting – 70+ members of the public attended the public meeting, with a similar number of written comments received. Several affected property owners were in attendance to express concerns. Many positive and encouraging comments were also received.

## **5. New Subcommittee member selections**

This was the last meeting for members Alleyn Harned and Carl Droms. They were recognized for their service and invited to keep in touch with the Subcommittee. The Transportation Safety and Advisory Commission will appoint new members at its December meeting.

### *Announcements / Other Business*

- Add 2018 meetings to calendar

### *Adjourn*

*Next Meeting:* January 22, 2018 6pm – City Hall, Room 011 (lower level), 409 South Main St