

Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force Minutes, October 20, 2022

Introductions & Administrative Details

Introduction of all attendees:

Randy Warren, Anna Sexton, Colin Kinton, Hannah Bagli, Ken Putnam

Minutes: Scott

Review/accept [August Minutes](#)

Agenda Review and adjustments

New Business

Bike Lane Maintenance Discussion – Ken Putman

Street sweeping function is driven by keeping drainage clear, City storm water division. 3 street sweepers, freezing inhibits use during winter. NCDOT Div 13: one or two sweepers, similar

DOT willing to add shoulder and or bike space on Meadow from Amboy to railroad bridge completed except waiting on signage

Bike lane obstructions, plant growth, removal? Discussion on pavement and drainage grating issues orientation and level, and effective street cleaning.

Anna is working with various city departments on bike lane issues.

Colin started discussion on Asheville app issues, Anna followed up

Combine greenway and bike ped task force?

Some discussion followed

The Greenway Committee is inviting Bike/Ped to attend our Nov meeting, which is the First Thursday of November, Nov 3rd at 3:30PM in the Fire Station across from Pack Tavern downtown Asheville. Go up one flight of stairs turn left and go to the end of the hallway. We will be discussing Wayfinding signs for the Greenways, and how the two committees can work closer together on bike and ped facilities. Specifically, how to connect the Reed Creek and Glens Creek Greenways down Broadway to the French Broad River facilities. Also, the bike lanes downtown connecting with College St. and Patton and other connections such as to South Asheville. I am also wondering whether the two committees should join together. There is a lot to do to connect our facilities and I think we need a united voice on these facilities and the city staff is having difficulties being about to work with both committees.

Claudia Nix

Thursday, Nov 3rd at 3:30PM – Downtown Fire Station Meeting Room

Live Meetings starting again? November 17, 2022 to be in person, Anna to setup location

Old Business

September Bike-Ped Counts Report.
Walk Friendly application update, Dan Gelinne, UNC Highway Safety Center.
Discussions postponed until November meeting.

Regular Updates (brief updates/announcements and input from Task Force)

Merrimon Ave re-pave, and road diet, project issues, work to be complete by November 30, 22
Staff and City staff are evaluating how it is working, not well so far, but incomplete.

French Broad River MPO, Buncombe County
Hannah Bagli:

Safe street vision zero money, local match funded local match
Hellbender regional trail relaunching
how do we get people of cars cars meeting
Asheville on Bikes/BRBC/AARP/Street Tweaks/other groups

Announcements/Events

Next Bike/Ped Task Force meeting is in November 17th

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The following is Anna Sexton's report, included in lieu of an attachment _____ .

Because the links are broken, here is a link to the source document:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1EUI5ZpHqCG8nbya5V1-WK88A7h6FouJFX-JIJZ4yfgl/edit>

Asheville Bicycle/Pedestrian Task Force - October 2022 Updates

TO: Asheville Bicycle/Pedestrian Task Force
PREPARED BY: Anna Sexton, Urban Planner II
DATE: October 18, 2022
SUBJECT: Staff update to BPTF on relevant City projects and initiatives

City-led Projects

Close the GAP

The GAP Plan is on the October 25th City Council meeting agenda for adoption. The final draft can be viewed on the [project page](#).

College Patton Bike Lanes

This project is close to 100% design. The updated design that incorporates feedback shared by the public during the City's public engagement efforts can be found on the [City's project page](#). Staff is working with project consultants Traffic Planning & Design to make some final tweaks, but these tweaks are not going to materially impact the updated design. Staff plans to return to the Downtown Commission in November to present updated design plans based on input received.

NRADTIP Wilma Dykeman Greenway

Staff is negotiating with the selected firm on the scope of work.

Biltmore Avenue re-striping and bike lanes

The most current project information can be found on the [City's project page](#).

AVL Unpaved

The City has a neighborhood meeting scheduled with East End Valley Street, Oakhurst, and Kenilworth neighborhoods next week to address their specific concerns related to the [Mountainside / Memorial Stadium / Beaucatcher Mountain site](#). The entirety of AVL Unpaved is currently unfunded; however, Asheville on Bikes is pursuing a TPDF grant for construction of the [Bacoate Branch](#) and [French Broad West](#) alignments.

French Broad River West Greenway

The official City ribbon cutting event was on September 15th.

Reed Creek Greenway Feasibility Study

This project will complete a feasibility study for Section 3 of the Reed Creek Greenway to determine alignment and cost estimate for design and construction. The City had its first internal kickoff meeting this week to review necessary documents, is currently forming a project selection committee, and should be posting a RFLOI soon.

Eco-Counters

The City has purchased and received nine automated bicycle/pedestrian counters for installation on City greenways, primarily in the RAD. Staff is currently coordinating with Public Works to schedule installation.

Coxe Avenue Complete Street

Informed by the South Slope/South Side Vision Plan concept for a redesigned ["Green Main Street" for Coxe Avenue](#), the City is moving forward with contracting with a design and engineering firm on the

redesign process. A contract is anticipated to be considered by City Council in early 2023. Public engagement will be conducted as part of the design process. Construction is anticipated for 2025.

The City recently applied for [Tourism Product Development Funds \(TPDF\)](#) to help fund construction of the redesign. More information about the projects that the City submitted for consideration of TPDF funds is [available here](#) from the May 24, 2022 City Council meeting.

Carter/Ann/Patton Stormwater and Accessibility Improvements

A new stormwater drainage system will be installed on Carter Street to Patton Avenue, along Patton Avenue from South French Broad Avenue to Ann Street and down Ann Street to tie into an existing public drainage system near Pearl Street. Pedestrian safety improvements will also be made to the intersection of Patton Avenue and Clingman Avenue in coordination with NCDOT, and along Patton Avenue.

The City hosted in-person and virtual information sessions on the project in June of 2022. [A contract for construction](#) with TP Howard's Plumbing Company was approved by City Council on August 23, 2022. Work will begin on November 7th, 2022. Areas at Pearl Street and S. Ann Street will be worked on first, with the work likely to be at Patton Avenue by mid-January at the earliest. More information is available on the [project page here](#), including the opportunity to sign-up for updates.

Engagement - Your Voice, Your Choice

The City is taking additional steps to connect with people whose voices are often missing from decision making processes. [Your Voice, Your Choice](#) is an opportunity to sign up to receive invitations to participate in the matters most important to you. There is a short questionnaire for you to indicate the topics of most interest to you. Responses will populate a contact list that will be used to invite community members to contribute viewpoints, experiences and input. More information is available [here](#).

[List of City projects](#)

NCDOT-led projects

Haywood Road

This is project #HL-0003 in the STIP. NCDOT will be resurfacing Haywood Road and will be making some bicycle and pedestrian improvements during the resurfacing project. NCDOT is aiming for a public meeting sometime in early December. It will be structured as an informational drop-in session where

NCDOT will be gathering input on what people want to see where. Resurfacing is anticipated to occur in late spring 2023 / early summer 2023.

Amboy Bridge pedestrian improvements

NCDOT has completed the design plans and is currently working on a let date for the project. The existing two-foot sidewalk along the bridge will be expanded to a five-foot sidewalk and will tie into the sidewalk/greenway at Lyman Street. NCDOT anticipates a 1-2 month construction timeline will require elaborate traffic control and closing one lane of the bridge. NCDOT is looking to let the project in December 2022 with a construction availability date in March 2023. Because the project primarily involves concrete work, due to weather, the contractor most likely won't be able to start until March at the earliest.

The project will shift the two vehicle travel lanes over toward the south side of the bridge and be reduced to 11.5' each. NCDOT will extend the existing raised concrete strip on the north side, making a 5' sidewalk. The existing rail will be preserved, and NCDOT will affix a barrier (chainlink, either powder coated or painted) to extend the rail height to 42". Extending the rail height this way was chosen because removing and replacing the railing entirely presented issues and this is temporary until the bridge replacement included in the Amboy/Meadow project can be implemented. See [linked PDF](#) for an overview.

Meadow Road Bike Lane striping

The overall completion date for this project is December 10th of this year. Surfacing and striping is done. All that remains are the addition of the bike lane pavement markings.

Swannanoa Road project timeline

This project is back on the STIP. The City has received a Golden Leaf Foundation grant to do a hydrologic and hydraulic (H&H) study of the corridor.

[NCDOT 2024-2033 Draft STIP](#)