Transportation Advisory Committee Minutes
March 10, 2021

Members in Attendance: Stephen Crane, Meryl Schwartz, Wally Johnston, John Arena, Phil Posner, Aaron Miklosko, Kate Hodges, Steve Dookran, Marcia Rasmussen, Lt. Kevin Monahan, Jane Hotchkiss (Select Board Liaison)

- 3:05 meeting called to order followed by a roll call
- Minutes for February 10, 2021 approved by a rollcall vote
- Update provided by Marcia Rasmussen on Bruce Freeman Rail Trail included that Phase 2A was completed in 2018 with the exception of a few small items, Phase 2B section from Commonwealth Ave over Route 2 is on schedule to be completed November 2021
- The final phase of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Powder Mill south to town line, will be completed by Sudbury to link to Sudbury’s portion of the trail. The consultants for both Towns are working together
- There will be some sort of bike share in lace but the previous company, Zagster, went out of business. We are working with a new company to try and get a bike share set up once again
- Public Comment for Bruce Freeman Rail Trail:
  - Mark Gailus, 62 Prescott Road: Asked whether the public would be able to make suggested improvement comments
  - Richard Fahlander, 399 old Bedford road: Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Advisory Committee been approached by abutters about adding sidewalks and walkways
  - Steve Irza, 39 cottage street, Commented that Junction Park should remain a park and a place for people first and a Bruce Freeman Rail Trail pass-through second
- Mr. Crane asked that the junction park discussion begin with public comment
- Public Comment for Junction Park:
  - Dorrie Kehoe, 51 MacArthur Rd: Junction Park is a danger due to bikes, skateboards, and more people. There are concerns from many organizations regarding Junction Park and what will happen when Bruce Freeman Rail Trail is completed
  - Patricia Kent, 18 Westvale Drive: Wheels at junction park are creating a danger, increased use of park and people do not dismount their bikes, safety issue needs to be addressed before someone gets hurt
  - Mark Gailus, 62 Prescott Road: Physical intersection in Junction Park, would like to have public hearing, possibly have the MBTA explain what is going on to have people collaborate on solutions. Another option is to have positive reinforcements for asking people to get off of their bikes, trail maps showing a “dismount zone” on the trail maps
• Phil Posner, 53 Laws Brook Road: Important for public to be able to weigh in but it is important for Select Board and Town, want experiment (temporary) to see if they can come up with a quick solution

• Ms. Rasmussen, Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Advisory Committee proposes to do a count in early May to understand the use of the trail. Ms. Rasmussen stated that she liked the idea of dismount zone and agreed that the area could use better signage. Let’s understand how the park is used and by whom before we make changes.

• Ms. Hodges talked about different types of signage used in other places that encourage dismounting with pavement painted in hi-vis paint, positive signage, encouraging people on recreational wheels to dismount, and maps with clear dismount zones.

• Education from Police has been done to help people learn rather than performing enforcement

• Mr. Posner showed a manipulated photo of using traffic cones in Junction Park to encourage people to walk their bikes

• Complete Streets update, Town received nearly $400,000 grant, have completion date for grant of September 2022. 3 projects are within the grant: Hubbard Street Improvements (~$270,000), Commonwealth Ave Improvements (~$110,000) Sudbury Road (~$20,000).

• (56 minutes in) Steve Ledoux, 89 Heathbridge Road – asked if Engineering is comfortable with the $80,000 for the Sudbury Road Crosswalk Project, Mr. Dookran responded that is was an estimate but probably a good estimate

• Josh Burgel - 39 east circle, thank you for the update

• Bicycling Sub-Committee overview: Safe Routes to School presentation, majority was spent on Reformatory Branch Trail public comment

Liaison, Public, or Other Comments:

• Tanya Gailus, 62 Prescott road- TAC-Bicycle sub-committee, state overall wants to do something to connect towns, mistake to assume that trails should be connected

• Motion to adjourn 4:03 pm after a roll call vote