



**CITY OF ESSEX JUNCTION
BIKE WALK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT**

Online &
6 Lincoln St. (Kolvoord Room)
Essex Junction, VT 05452
Thursday, March 13th
2025, 7:00 PM

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1. **MEMBERS PRESENT**

John O'Brien, Russ Miller-Johnson, David Achee, Lauren Philbrook, Phil Bieber

2. **OTHERS PRESENT**

Jack Evans (Local Motion), Daniel Liguere (Local Motion), Michael Giguere (staff representative), Justin Zakorowitz

3. **CALL TO ORDER**

a. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

4. **DETERMINE WHO WILL TAKE MINUTES**

a. Lauren Philbrook volunteered to take minutes.

5. **AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES**

- a. Add Park Street memorial event to Staff updates
- b. Add discussion of Safe Routes to School guide in regards to bike bus to Business items

6. **MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

- a. February 13th, 2024. David motions to approve, Russ seconds.
 - Approved 5-0

7. **PUBLIC TO BE HEARD**

- a. Justin introduced himself and said he was interested in attending BWAC meetings and volunteering as needed.

8. **BUSINESS ITEMS**

- a. Determine rotation for meeting minutes
 - Michael showed his spreadsheet for a rotation for who will take minutes for future meetings.
 - John O'Brien will take minutes at next meeting.
 - Russ motions to approve, David seconds. Approved 5-0
- b. Wayfinding signage
 - Identified locations where signage could be placed including:
 - 1. The bike path at Countryside Dr and Beech St
 - 2. Brickyard and Main
 - 3. Brickyard and Countryside
 - 4. Juniper Ridge Rd and Hubbell's Falls
 - 5. Main St and Fairview or nearby across from Athens Dr. CCRPC could advise on which of two options has highest bike traffic
 - A curb cut on Brickyard where the asphalt multiuse path ends and the sidewalk begins would make it easier for bikes to enter the roadway and continue
 - Locations of interest that could be referenced on signage, discussed that specific businesses can't be referenced:
 - 1. Essex Experience
 - 2. Five Corners
 - 3. Maple Street Park
 - Could include signage in the Fiver Corners with a map
- b. Bike Bus

- Discussion of plausibility of bike bus to Hiawatha Elementary for Fall 2025
- Vermont State has a guide for how to set up safe routes to school
- Michael will send the guide to an interested community member from February meeting
- Michael will check with schools in Essex Junction to see if anyone is currently involved in registering them as “partner profiles”

9. **MEMBERS UPDATES**

- a. Bike Friendly Community Task Force
- Acknowledgment of some communication difficulties within the group, will divide the categories and work on it.

10. **STAFF UPDATES**

- a. Lincoln Terrace traffic calming project
- After community outreach, one-way traffic is not feasible at this time
 - A bulb out at Lincoln Terrace and School Street will be built
 - Stop sign at School St moved a little South to increase visibility
 - More pedestrian signage
 - Will go before City Council on 3/26 meeting
- b. Spring bike rack/RRFB installation updates
- Met with Jake, owner of several businesses in Five Corners and he is amenable to installing some of the City’s bike racks. Racks will be installed outside of Bespoke and Nest in the Spring
 - RRFB at Main and Athens will be installed around same time as bike racks
- c. Pearl Street road diet preview*
- A revival of an old project, between Susie Wilson and West Street Extension.
 - A new consultant has been picked to do a scoping study. Previous scoping project was done in 2018.
 - This time considering a smaller-budget project but also including public transit considerations. There are some westbound bus stops on Pearl Street that don’t have counterparts on the eastbound side, making access difficult for riders.
 - BWAC will be involved during the design process and closer to implementation.
 - This section of road is commonly brought up by members of the public who attend BWAC meetings.
 - Need to consider messaging so that people are aware of this project and communicate how it fits into Connect the Junction, a larger Transit-Oriented Development planning project.
- d. Park Street/UVM engineering capstone dates
- Students met with city engineer and public works, they remeasured the road and discovered there is more width than they previously thought.
 - Design Night Presentation: April 24th, 4 – 7 PM, UVM Davis Center
 - Russ plans to attend this presentation.
 - Final Design Presentation: May 7th, 9:30 AM – 3 PM
 - Final Report Submission: May 10th
- e. Park Street Pedestrian memorial events
- A pedestrian was killed on Park Street Near Silverbow terrace
 - Police are looking for security cameras if anyone has footage of the incident
 - VPOP (Vermonters for People Oriented Places) is organizing a memorial event.
 - Saturday March 15 1:40 pm from Pomeroy Park in Burlington.
 - Putting together a memorial at 47 Park St
- f. Amtrak station redesign was funded
- Michael Baker International selected as the consultant for the project
 - Station redesign project is separate from Amtrak’s platform accessibility upgrade project
 - May have a design by this summer with wayfinding and connections to the bus

11. **READING FILE**

- a. Safe Routes to School (SRTS) MiniGuides*

12. **ADJOURN**

Lauren motions to adjourn, David seconds. Passes 5-0.

* attachments included in packet

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