

Meeting Minutes

Salem Bicycling Advisory Committee

Tuesday, August 21, 2018, 6:30 p.m.
City Hall Annex, 98 Washington Street
First Floor Conference Room

Members Present: Joseph O'Neill (Chair), Richard Frank, Dan Shuman, Jayne O'Leary, Eric Papetti, Ray Swartz, Kylie Sullivan, Michael Williamson, Michael Jaros

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Tom Devine, Senior Planner

O'Neill calls the meeting to order.

Presentation on the Salem Bike Share by Karl Alexander of Zagster

Karl Alexander, Account Manager at Zagster, presents. Alexander discusses the nature of Zagster, rider data, user comments, and possibilities for the future.

Review and Discussion of Proposed Essex Street Improvements

Devine presents the July 2018 plan to the Committee, which makes the following comments:

While a bike lane would be a desirable amenity on this street, it is not the only way to ensure that the street is safe and welcoming for cyclists. A street designed to limit automobile speeds along with sharrows may be sufficient. Furthermore, because of the high value of on-street parking to local businesses and their customers, the Committee suggests that it should only be removed if a compelling design proposes to replace it with even more valuable public amenities, such as even wider sidewalks and more greenspace than currently proposed.

The City should consider adding additional clear signage to direct drivers to available downtown parking, in order to discourage congestion and confusion caused by drivers seeking on-street parking. In Addition, the Committee would like to see the option of two-way cycling explored, but understands there may not be a feasible way to accommodate this, especially where Essex Street intersects with Washington and North Streets.

Review and Discussion of Proposed Forest Ave. and Clifton Ave. Striping Plan

Devine presents the January 2017 plan to the Committee which makes the following comments:

Members familiar with the roadway state that the bicycle infrastructure proposed is appropriate for the fairly low level of traffic through this neighborhood. The Committee requests an opportunity to review any forthcoming revised plans.

Review and Discussion of Proposed Striping at Intersection of Lafayette Street, Loring Ave., and West Ave.

Devine presents June 2017 plans to the Committee.

Papetti motions, Williamson seconds, and all vote to make the following recommendations:

- A striped bike lane should be added to the northbound lane of Loring Ave.
- A striped bike lane should be added to the southbound lane of Loring Ave. Appropriate markings, such as a dashed line, should be placed at the bus stop, where the low-frequency of bus service is unlikely to significantly conflict with the bike lane.
- Bike boxes should be considered within the intersection to increase accessibility and visibility for cyclists.
- A parking-protected bike lane should be considered for the Southbound lane of Lafayette Street south of the intersection.

Review and Discussion of Proposed Design of Safe Routes to School Project Near the Bates Elementary School

- Although the Committee strongly supports proposed enhancements to improve pedestrian safety, it suggests development of alternative designs.
- Future bicycle infrastructure should be considered for this area.

Tabling remaining agenda items

Sullivan motions, Shuman seconds, and all vote in favor of postponing the remaining agenda items to a special meeting on September 4, 2018.

Adjourn

Shuman motions, Sullivan seconds to adjourn at 8:22pm and all vote in favor.

Approved by the Bicycling Advisory Committee on October 16, 2018