

## Meeting Minutes

### Salem Bicycling & Shared Path Advisory Committee

Wednesday, December 7, 2022 | 6:30 p.m.

98 Washington Street, First Floor Medium Conference Room  
and via remote participation

**Members Present:** John Wathne (Chair), Cat Seiferth, Matt Caruso, Alex Maranto, Annie Wolf, Michael Jaros

**Members Absent:** Eric Papetti, Connor Ryan, Walter Morrell, Josh Gillis, Colleen Downie

**Also Present:** Tom Devine, Senior Planner

#### Call Meeting to Order

Wathne called the meeting to order.

#### Public Comment

Wathne opens the meeting to public comment and there are none.

#### Staff Update

New member Annie Wolf introduces herself to the Committee.

Devine reports that staff will be creating an interactive map documenting the status of all the recommendations from the 2018 Master Plan. It is expected early in 2023.

Staff are updating the citywide inventory of bike parking to inform decisions about where to add bike racks. Caruso asks and Devine confirms that this includes racks attached to parking meters.

The City will be updating its complete streets prioritization is used to support grant applications for complete streets projects.

#### Bluebikes Bikeshare Program Data, Promotion, and Expansion

*Document reviewed: Salem Bluebikes Data through 11/30/2022*

Devine presents ridership data for November. Ridership as expected peaked in September and October. The ridership then dropped mid November, but exceeded November 2021. Ridership per bike per day is similar to Everett, higher than Chelsea and Revere, but lower than systemwide. Stations that serve downtown and Salem State

continue to have the highest use. The group discusses the possibility of relocating the Community Life Center station.

Devine says marketing and promotion will ramp up in the spring. And when the next three stations are installed, there may be a celebratory event. These stations will be at Bridge Street Neck, Derby Street, and Vinnin Square. Devine displays these locations on Google Maps.

### **North Street Implementation Update, Volunteer Monitoring Opportunity, and Committee Communication**

Devine reports that the project is completed except for green paint that will come in the spring. In addition, the corridor's traffic signals need to be tweaked to improve traffic flow. A crosswalk will be installed at Garden Terrace. The city is looking at adding another crosswalk at Dearborn Street in response to some additional feedback. The City also had a study done of options for bringing the path off street in the one block between Osborne and Foster Streets where it is currently on street. The Committee will review this at an upcoming meeting.

The City is responding to calls, emails, and See-Click-Fix requests and has put out some information online. Devine has suggested that because the Committee has been involved in the design and public outreach, that it participate in the ongoing public dialog. Caruso states that he believes it takes time for roadway users to adjust to a new pattern. Devine states that the City does listen and learns from public feedback. One example is how the intervals between flexposts is now wider on Willson Street that first contemplated, to allow space for drivers to pull over for emergency vehicles.

Wathne asks Devine to show the City's project FAQ on screen. Caruso asks if the cause of the recent crash is known. Devine states that he only knows what is in the police statement that noted one driver was cited for reckless driving. The group discusses its role and methods for communicating publicly about the project. Wathne wonders whether a letter to the editor would be effective. Seiferth suggests spring would be a better time for that. Wolf suggests that the letter would be more likely to be published and be more effective if it comes from a North Street neighborhood resident. Caruso suggests the letter could also promote a group ride.

Devine states that the City could still use volunteers to collect bike ridership data on North Street.

### **8/3/2022 Meeting Minutes**

Caruso motions, Seiferth seconds, and all vote in favor to approve the 8/3/2022 minutes.

### **Adjourn**

Jaros motions, Seiferth seconds, and all vote in favor to adjourn at 7:37 P.M.

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Approved by the Bicycling & Shared Path Advisory Committee on 3/1/2023.