



**Burlington
Walk | Bike
Council**

Burlington Walk / Bike Council Agenda

www.burlingtonwalkbike.org

Wednesday, September 1, 2021, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Meeting Options:

- 1. In-person - small DPW conference room at 645 Pine Street, Burlington**
- 2. Virtually - using Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88225473951?pwd=YzFFQ1Q3Y3J4bzczR2VNYWRFWnhtUT09>

Passcode: 091788 Or iPhone one-tap : US: +13017158592,,88225473951#,,,,,0#,,091788# or 13126266799,,88225473951#,,,,,0#,,091788#. Or Telephone: Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location): US: +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 669 900 6833 Webinar ID: 882 2547 3951 Passcode: 091788

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88225473951?pwd=YzFFQ1Q3Y3J4bzczR2VNYWRFWnhtUT09>

Previous Meeting — The meeting notes from the August 8 meeting and the presentation from Laura Jacoby of Old Spokes Home and the Equity Coalition can be found on the [new BWBC webpage](#).

AGENDA

1. Introductions, brief BWBC overview, review agenda (5 min)

2. Announcements and Public Comments (10 min)

3. Draft DPW Work Plan for 2022 Walk-Bike Projects (40 min)

Elizabeth Ross and Nicole Losch from the Department of Public Works will present the projects proposed for improvements over the next year for discussion and feedback.

4. Next Steps (5 min)

Identify any follow-up actions and items to discuss at the next meeting.

Next Month: BWBC Meeting, Wednesday, October 6, 2021, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

The BWBC is an all-volunteer advisory council to the City of Burlington. We work closely with and advise the Department of Public Works and the Department of Parks, Recreation, & Waterfront on infrastructure improvements and policy changes for walking and bicycling. The council also leads advocacy efforts and organizes events and activities that promote and celebrate walking and biking in Burlington and beyond.

BWBC Community Liaisons

Erik Brown Brotz, Ward 5, erik@burlingtontelecom.net, Chair

Greg Hostetler, Ward 2

Faith Ingulsrud, Ward 6

Peter Keating, Ward 6

Justine Sears, Ward 3

Karen Sentoff, Ward 4

Jason Stuffle, Ward 1

Kerry Swift, Ward 4

Allegra Williams, Ward 3

Draft 2021/2022 Transportation Workplan

Bikeway Projects: 2021 – 2022

North Champlain 2-Way Protected Bike Lane + Manhattan Drive improvements

- Preliminary plans under review
- Begin curb work 2021? Finish construction spring 2022
- Grant award will reduce local costs

North Winooski Ave Bikeway (VTrans)

- PMP Committee meeting 7/22
 - Survey launching August 9 – 29
- Intending to coordinate layout changes with VTrans but haven't given direction yet

Mansfield Ave Sidepath

- Construction plans underway
- Coordinate construction with traffic calming 2022

ONE Greenway quick-build conversion

- 2-year project to replace quick-builds with constructed curb extensions

Other bikeway projects in design

- Main St Great Streets
- University Place design
- Lake St sidepath – connect Burlington Greenway to Depot St
- Intervale Rd sidepath
- Under consideration with paving:
 - Walnut St Greenway
 - Saratoga Ave / Van Patten / Rivermount Greenway

Traffic Calming

New equipment in 2021 to collect traffic data in-house. New DPW Engineer to oversee program.

2022 Construction

- Birchcliff Parkway – coordinated with 2022 paving. Construction plans complete.
- Mansfield Ave – coordinated with sidepath construction. Neighborhood survey August / September 2021.
- East Ave – anticipate September neighborhood meeting
- 2 additional streets will follow East Ave schedule (September meeting, 2022 construction) – consultant led
- 3 additional streets will receive quick-build traffic calming – new Engineer

Draft 2021/2022 Transportation Workplan

Bikeway Projects: **Under Consideration**

	STATUS	OPPORTUNITIES	RISKS
Pearl St Bikeway Request to continue the westbound bike lane in place of several blocks of parking	• Parking counts and inventory fall 2021 • FY23 potential project • Consider in context of Main Street project (see below)	• Continuous bike lanes connecting UVM campus / Winooski to downtown and waterfront	• Strong opposition from businesses near Union St • Opposition from residents • Perceived redundancy with ONE Greenway and Main St PBL (see below)
Main Street Protected Bike Lanes Protected bike lanes from downtown to UVM campus	• Concept plans developed in 2017 • Parking counts and inventory fall 2021 • Install prior to Main Street Great Streets?	• Milestone for protected bikeway progress • Continuous Main St protected bikeway with Great Streets, connects UVM campus to downtown and waterfront • Likely fewer parking impacts than Pearl St	• Opposition to parking impacts • Perceived redundancy with Pearl Street bikeway
North Ave bike lanes (north of Plattsburg Ave)	• Traffic calming and bike lane requests for this section • Parking counts and inventory fall 2021	• Continuous bike lanes in NNE	• Parking impacts • General opposition to bike lanes
Plattsburg Ave	• Bike lane and 25 mph requests • Parking counts and inventory fall 2021	• Coordinate bike lane installation with paving	• Parking impacts
Convert buffered bike lanes to protected	• Pine St (sections from Lakeside to Flynn) • Pearl St (sections west of DTC)	• Expand protected bike lane network • School routes, downtown	• Winter snow management and summer quick-build maintenance of protected lanes is under debate
Home Ave bike lanes	• Pair with traffic calming request	• Expand bikeway network	• May not be well-received by neighborhood
North Ave to Ethan Allen Homestead	• Finish research into status of this route as a local road or highway	• Low-impact bike / ped connection for NNE	• Even if bikes / peds are allowed, layout could be challenging and/or exceed the available budget
Walnut St Greenway	• Pending traffic data to determine traffic calming	• Coordinate with paving • Adjacent to school, park • Connects to I27 path	• No neighborhood engagement yet
Saratoga Ave / Van Patten / Rivermount Greenway	• Pending path ownership assessment by BPRW (existing path connecting Rivermount to Ethan Allen Park)	• Coordinate with paving • Coordinate with BPRW • Connects Ethan Allen Park to Burlington Greenway	• No neighborhood engagement yet

Draft 2021/2022 Transportation Workplan

Street Seats & Parklets

- Winter 2021 / 2022 prep to phase out Making Space Initiative – resume application fees and Committee approvals?

Intersection Improvements

- North Winooski Ave mini-roundabout design & pilot preparation for 2023?
- Colchester Ave / Pearl St / Prospect St design

Planning

- Queen City Park Road Scoping
- Battery St Scoping (FY23 UPWP request; paving expected near 2024)

Burlington Walk Bike Council Meeting

September 1, 2021, 6:00- 7:00 pm via Zoom

Attendees: Jason Stuffle (Ward 1 Liaison), Erik Brotz (Chair and Ward 5 Liaison), Faith Ingulsrud (Ward 6 Liaison), Jonathan Weber (Local Motion), Kerry Swift (Ward 4 Liaison), Serrill Flash, Elizabeth Ross (DPW), and Nicole Losch (DPW), RJ Lalumiere, Michael Arnold (UVM student), and Elizabeth Curtiss. Notes by Faith, Jason, and Erik.

Meeting Notes

1. Announcements and Public Comments

Elizabeth Curtiss commented on the approach of the shorter days and the need to enforce the use of lights on not just bicycles but also on skateboarders, scooters, and other devices used on the streets to ensure safety. She explained that the police department has in the past posted signs on bike racks about enforcement of lighting requirements at this time of year. After questions raised about whether non-bike, human-powered devices are subject to the law, Nicole said she would check into it and will let Erik know what she finds and he will share with BWBC.

2. Draft DPW Work Plan for 2022 Walk-Bike Projects

Elizabeth Ross presented the Department of Public Works' proposed work plan for the 2022 Walk-Bike Project. The list of draft projects with the key points that she presented is here: https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/sites/default/files/Agendas/SupportingDocuments/BikewayProjects-2022draft_BWBC.pdf

Additional notes and discussion on the 2021-22 Bikeway Projects:

- A suggestion was made to provide a biking link along Prospect St. between the Mansfield Ave sidepath and the Intervale Rd. side path project.
- In response to a comment that this list of projects were supposed to be underway already, Nicole agreed and explained that the delays are mainly due to COVID-related construction delays and budget uncertainties last year.
- Main St. Great Streets kicking off again – getting proposals on designs, updating conceptual plans to get in front of public; Currently have voter approval for 2 blocks, but want to do all.
- A question was raised whether the Main Street Great Streets project design will need to change if the new High School ends up on Main St.
- Intervale Rd. sidepath got state funding and is moving forward. Beginning design in Oct., because of state schedules construction won't start until 3 years from now at earliest

Additional notes and discussion on the Traffic Calming projects:

- A recommendation was made to consider removing on-street parking on East Ave to allow for a bike lane; better to do now while working on it instead of installing traffic calming that might need to be removed later. Nicole thought the city could present an option without parking at the public meeting. There is no money for widening.
- Have a short list of streets considering for traffic calming; each will have its own meeting, probably later in fall.
- A suggestion was made that the city council further its policy to combat climate change by directing DPW to advance bike lanes with parking removal. Nicole said they can do that; similar to what they did for North Winooski Ave - decided to install bike lanes with parking removal but also do a parking management plan to mitigate impact on parking.

Additional notes and discussion on Bikeway Projects Under Consideration:

- DPW would like help prioritizing the list of potential projects.
- Elizabeth asked for feedback on whether to advance continuous bike lanes between the UVM campus and downtown either on Main or Pearl as they can't both be done at once. There was support for each but no resolution after some discussion.
- A comment was made that there is no redundancy between bike lanes on Main and Pearl, and ONE Greenway - all three are good for different routes.
- A comment was made that bike lanes on North Ave north of Plattsburg Ave are a low priority.
- Another comment indicated that Plattsburg Ave badly needs bike lanes and there are very few cars using on-street parking so it should not be difficult. Nicole indicated they could get parking counts.
- Protection in buffered bike lanes on Pine and Pearl had support from the group but discussion centered on the on-going difficulty of getting the existing protected bike lanes maintained. DPW has not been able to make staff available so is seeking to hire a contractor but because of the high demand for anyone in construction, there hasn't been any interest in doing the work.
- A comment was made that we shouldn't let past problems with PBL maintenance prevent us from installing more; need to figure out maintenance, and maybe having more will lead to more demand, attention, and resources for maintaining.
- Nicole noted that North Ave wasn't listed for protected bike lanes on this list as there will be a planning process to evaluate land uses along the route due to opposition. NNE City Councilors have gotten conflicting feedback on whether to install PBLs so the community needs to show clear support.
- A comment was made that we already have a plan and should follow it - shouldn't need a new planning process.
- A comment was made that we should bring back the armadillos to make protected bike lanes on North Ave. - work well, not ugly like flexposts - should just do it.
- A comment was made to fix zoning to allow more mixed use.
- A comment was made that we need to highlight the successes - North Ave is safer due to the bike lanes, and reducing the number of lanes on Colchester Ave from four to two really helps. People adapt to the change quickly and forget how bad it was before.

- Further reinforcing that, a concern was expressed for the bad condition of the pavement within the bike lanes - making it hard to get to school and downtown. The New North End community has changed significantly and there is lots of support for bike lanes now.
- RJ, Kerry and Erik agreed to discuss the NNE issues and approach the City Council.
- Did not get to review or discuss all the proposed project options.

3. Next Steps

All agreed to review the list of projects and resume discussion of the options at the next meeting.

Erik thanked all for attending and closed the meeting.