

**TOWN OF FARMINGTON
Bicycle Advisory Committee
Minutes of Meeting Held
Thursday December 10, 2015
Engineering Conference Room**

Attendance:

Voting Members

John Vibert (Chair) – Present
Deanne Born – Present
Neil Kelsey – Present
John LaForest-Roys – Excused
Andris Skulte – Present
C.J. Thomas - Present

Five voting members present. Quorum met.

Non-Voting Members

Matthew Blume (Town Liaison) – Present

The Bicycle Advisory Committee Chair, John Vibert, called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Public Comment:

Mr. Vibert noted that there was no public comment.

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes:

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the October 8, 2015 meeting, and was unanimously approved.

New Business:

1. UConn Medical Area Transportation Study

A summary of the upcoming UConn Medical Area Transportation Study was presented to the Committee. The study area will include Farmington Avenue, South Road, Birdseye Road and will be generally bounded to the north by the West Hartford Town Line, the South by Pilgrim Path, and to the east by Two Mile Road.

The project will involve a comprehensive, multi-modal study of the area described. The study will evaluate the transportation needs and opportunities related to major upcoming investments in study area. Future improvements will be identified using the “Complete Streets” model to protect community character, ensure local business access, promote safe, orderly movement of vehicles through the corridor, facilitate pedestrian and bicycle mobility and promote public transit.

2. Summary of Discussions with UConn Physician/Bike Commuter

Matt summarized a discussion between himself and a UConn Hospital Physician and bicycle commuter, who shared his concerns with bicycling to and from the UConn Hospital Campus. Suggested improvements included creating bicycle/pedestrian connectivity between area buildings, creating multi-use paths in the vicinity of Route 4, and creating dedicated bicycle/pedestrian access points to the UCHC campus away from the congested vehicular access points. As the UConn Medical Area Transportation Study advances, these suggestions will be discussed and evaluated.

It was suggested that the members of the Bicycle Advisory Committee consider survey questions for our next meeting that can be used to solicit citizen input to guide the committee’s future efforts.

It was also suggested that the members of the committee begin to develop short-, mid-, and long-term goals for the committee to help guide future efforts.

Old Business:

1. Bicycle Friendly Signage.
Bicycle friendly signage as discussed during the September meeting of the Bicycle Committee has been delivered, and will be installed.

2. Bike Trail Maintenance.
It was noted that the town has installed Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) at four locations including:
✓ Farmington Canal Heritage Trail at Brickyard Road
✓ Farmington River Trail at Coppermine Road
✓ Farmington River Trail at Oakridge
✓ Farmington River Trail at River Road

In addition to installing RRFBs, the Town has repaired a section of failing pavement along the Farmington River Trail just west of Oakridge.

Collapsible bollards have been installed at several locations to replace the aging removable bollards.

It was noted that Bicycle Friendly Farmington should advertise some of the improvements that have been recently made.

3. Farmington Canal Heritage Trail, Project Update.
The design of the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail from Red Oak Hill Road to Northwest Drive in Plainville is progressing, and it is anticipated that the DOT will grant design approval at the end of January.
4. Connectivity to Trail.
No update
5. Bicycle Friendly Business Designation
The Town will continue to pursue this designation for the Police Department.
6. Complete Streets.
The Town of Farmington has recently hired an Assistant Town Planner. It is the intent that this staff member will review existing complete streets policies within the state and develop a policy for the Town.
7. Review Sharrows and Bike Routes
Matt will discuss the status of these items with staff and will report at the next meeting.

Next Meeting:

The Bicycle Advisory Committee is scheduled to meet on February 11, 2015.

cc: Bicycle Advisory Committee	Kathleen A. Eagen, Town Manager
Paula Ray, Town Clerk	Russell Arnold, Director of Public Works and Dev. Svcs.
Deb Bull,	Paul Melanson, Chief of Police
Matthew Blume, Chief of Eng. Svcs.	Dawn Grayson, Transportation Coordinator, BOE
Bill Warner, Town Planner	