

FINAL

**PEDESTRIAN & BICYCLIST ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 51 NORTH PARK STREET &
REMOTE VIA WEBEX [LebanonNH.gov/LIVE](https://lebanonnh.gov/LIVE)
7:00 PM, TUESDAY DECEMBER 6, 2022**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Colin Smith (Chair) [7:16]; Adams Carroll; Sean Dittrich; Marie McCormick; Jake Kelleher; Dave Koch (Alt) (remote); Erling Heistad (City Council) Clifton Below (Alt); Amy Chan

MEMBERS ABSENT: George Sykes (City Council Alt); Gregorio Amaro; Haynes Bunn

STAFF PRESENT: Rebecca Owens (Associate Planner)

1) CALL TO ORDER:

Marie McCormick called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

Mr. Below was seated in place of Haynes Bunn.

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. November 1, 2022

A Motion was made by Mr. Heistad to accept the meeting minutes of November 1, 2022, as submitted. Seconded by Mr. Dittrich.

**The vote on the MOTION was approved (7-0-0).*

3) OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None at this time.

5) OTHER BUSINESS

A. Dartmouth Health Bike-Ped Facilities – *The Committee took up this item at this time*

Rich Mello, Director of Safety and Security at Lebanon Health, stated that the hospital is in the final phases of constructing a new patient pavilion. He explained that the hospital has approximately 3,000 cars coming on campus each day from employees alone. Half of a group of nearby condos are rented out for hospital staff and people are either shuttled between the two areas or choose to walk/bike. The largest problem is that the area between Lahaye Drive to Mount Support Road currently has no sidewalks and is fairly dangerous.

Chair Smith entered the meeting at 7:16pm.

In response to a question from Mr. Carroll, Ms. Owens stated that the hope is still for construction of the Lahaye path extension in 2024. The special exception district is planned for 2024 as well.

Mr. Below stated that he believes the most appropriate solution may be a connection along the northeast edge of the existing roadway between Route 120 and the existing loop pathways.

Mr. Mello stated that an extension through Mount Support will help with a connection to Hanover. The City needs to consider how this will best be utilized.

Mr. Carroll advocated for the run commuters as well. Mr. Mello noted that the e-bike community also continues to grow. These are important considerations when looking at a connection to Hanover.

Mr. Koch asked about an e-bike charging station and additional bikes racks at the hospital. Mr. Mello agreed to consider these items further.

In response to a question from Ms. McCormick, Mr. Mello stated that he does not believe the hospital currently offers any incentives for walking/biking to work. He stated that he will ask more about this.

Mr. Dittrich suggested an upgrade from sharrows to a more substantial bike lane/shoulder at the entrance into the campus on the Lebanon Street side.

Ms. Owens also noted that DOT is considering a new intersection design along Exit 18 along with a change to facilities farther south down Route 120. This would change traffic flows along with Lahaye Drive area. This is not scheduled until past 2025 and will not address the multimodal piece for the campus.

In response to a question from Ms. Owens, Mr. Mello stated that his department responds to all bike/ped accidents on campus. He stated that he does not believe there has been a bike/ped crash within the last couple of years.

Mr. Carroll asked about housing or a mixed-use environment within the hospital's property. Mr. Below stated that the zoning has changed to allow for more of these considerations. Mr. Mello stated that the hospital has considered development within the property. There are some obstacles to overcome, and the right partnership will need to be found. The hospital is also seeking partnerships within developers throughout the City for additional workforce housing opportunities.

Mr. Below suggested a playground or playing fields at some point as part of the hospital campus.

4) STUDY ITEMS - *this item was tabled to later in the meeting*

A. Updates from Other Boards

- Planning Office - Planning Staff / Planning Board / CIP Meeting
- Safe Routes to School - Planning Staff
- City Council - Erling Heistad
- Planning Board/CIP Meeting - Gregorio Amaro
- Police Reports
- Mascoma River Greenway Coalition - Colin Smith
- Class VI Roads - Colin Smith
- State of NH Updates – Vacant
- Rails to Trails - Amy Chan

Ms. Chan stated that there were 20 pilots at the end of the year for the tri-shaw project, with 44 more planned to be trained in the spring. Over 50 passengers were served during the season. A second tri-shaw will be sought in the spring.

- Communications Plan - Marie McCormick

B. Update on multimodal and complete streets implementation plan
Ms. Owens noted that \$20,000 in additional funding has been added to this plan.

5) OTHER BUSINESS

A. Dartmouth Health Bike-Ped Facilities – *This item was previously addressed*

B. High contrast crosswalks

Mr. Dittrich stated that pedestrian deaths are rising in the United States over the last 10 years. He noticed last winter, especially in January and February, that white crosswalks are naturally camouflaged in the snowy season. He found one study, which concluded that painted pavement resulted in a safer pedestrian environment. There are local examples of communities painting crosswalks to allow for a high contrast crosswalk. This opens up the possibility for personalization and customization of the crosswalk as well. The intent is not so much to make a statement, as it is to increase visibility of crosswalks to drivers, especially at night and in the winter. Lebanon could consider making a statement or adding art installations, as part of this project. There was concern from the Facilities Department as to if custom crosswalks would be aligned with federal guidelines. He spoke with Dover's engineer regarding their crosswalk installation, who stated that, as long as there are white borders along the outside, different colors can be placed within. The engineer also noted that the same grade of paint is being used for these more detailed crosswalks, but this painting can be more complicated for work crews.

Mr. Below suggested reaching out and presentation to the Arts & Culture Committee. Volunteers could collaborate with DPW on this project.

Ms. Owens suggested that this could be proposed as a pilot project through the Walk Bike Ride Lebanon capital projects list.

Mr. Dittrich stated that he would like to see these considered in high traffic areas, such as outside City Hall, Kilton Library, Hanover Street School/High Street intersection, along Hanover Street, etc.

A Motion was made by Mr. Heistad to recommend to the City Council and City Manager that the City consider developing a plan for brightly colored sidewalks next year, with facilitation through the Committee. Seconded by Ms. Chan.

****The vote on the MOTION was approved (8-0-0).***

C. Crash Data Reporting volunteer need

This item was accomplished prior to the meeting.

D. Updates on City and NHDOT Projects

Chair Smith stated that the latest meeting of the Exit 18/Route 120 Advisory Committee discussed a number of proposed projects and the details behind those. There will likely be a public meeting upcoming shortly, along with another alternatives report.

4) STUDY ITEMS - *this item was taken up at this time*

A. Updates from Other Boards

- Rails to Trails - Amy Chan

Ms. Chan stated that there were 20 pilots at the end of the year for the tri-shaw project, with 44 more planned to be trained in the spring. Over 50 passengers were served during the season. A second tri-shaw will be sought in the spring.

6) FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS & FOLLOW-UP NEEDS: *This item was not taken up at this time*

A. Bike Friendly Community Designation Renewal

B. Vision Zero Policies and NYC Safety Measures ranking

B. E-bike charging station locations

C. Bike racks/Repair stations

7) ADJOURNMENT:

A Motion was made by Ms. McCormick to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Mr. Dittrich.

****The vote on the MOTION was approved (8-0-0).***

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristan Patenaude, Recording Secretary