



Watertown Bi-Ped Committee

Monthly Meeting August 7, 2012



Attending: Steve Engler, Sheila Fay, Janet Jameson, Robert Van Dyk

Guests: Eric Scheier (MBTA), Michelle Moon (Intern Watertown Planner), Vinnie Piccirilli (Town Rep), Tracy Linheart (VHB), Pam H (Resident)

Next Meeting
Monday Sep 10 7:30 PM
Administration Building

#1 Minutes Accepted

#2 Greenway Issues

Bike Racks in the area behind Target have been vandalized. Transfer of maintenance to DCR is taking longer than it should. Issues should be handled more efficiently when DCR assumes control. Tracy to talk to Dan Driscoll. Janet can follow-up on this.

#3 MAPC Wellness Grant

Michelle Moon is still in an information gathering phase. Wellness survey is ready to launch. Watertown Walks website is expanding into "Any Fun Thing You Can Do in Watertown" with new Watertown Community Foundation grant. Patty Moran, who is leaving her post this month, gets a lot of credit for this.

#4 Hubway

The biggest roadblocks for Hubway in Watertown is (a) the network is expanding/growing at a slow, but steady pace, and (b) funding from public/private organizations is needed to jumpstart stations. Estimate is \$90,000 to run a single Hubway station for 2 years. After that costs drop-off somewhat but are still in the \$10's of thousands of dollars range (maintaining bikes, operating the stations, et cetera...). The time is now to plan future Hubway sites and get funds earmarked for a 2014 roll-out of Hubway in Watertown. Sheila to follow-up w/ Tab/Newspaper to spread awareness.

#5 Arsenal Ave Charles River Greenway Connector

Michelle gave a presentation with initial ideas to summarize different options. Discussion included tiered options (a) paint solutions, (b) adding traffic signs, (c) adding traffic signals, (d) minor reconfiguration of existing geography (while working with site owners), (e) major reconfiguration of existing geography (with drastic site plan updates (i.e. trading 4-6 car parking spaces for a separated multi-use path connection). Bike Boxes (at lights) are popular. Reconfiguring Arsenal Street is not popular. Target customers for these enhancements are NOT seasoned, experienced cyclists, but rather children and adults who ride recreationally.

#6 New Business

Nothing discussed.