

AGENDA Announcements, Cambridge Health Alliance, Stop & Shop, Subcommittees, Undercarriage, Tour du Somerville

ATTENDEES Joel Bennett Turil Cronburg Jim Gallagher
Greg Palmer Bhupesh Patel Andy Rubel
Jeff Levine and Tuck O'Brien, Office of Housing and Community Development (OHCD)
Todd Blake, Traffic and Parking (T&P)

MEMBERS
Police Bob Ankenbauer
T & P Todd Blake
Vice-Chair Darren Carlton
Turil Cronburg
Jim Gallagher
Adam Kessel
OHCD Jeff Levine
Ron Newman
Chairperson Greg Palmer
Secretary Bhupesh Patel
Carl Razzaboni
Andy Rubel

1. The meeting is lacking a quorum of seven and was an unofficial meeting.
2. Jeff Levine will be the official referral person on the Somerville website.
3. Greg Palmer had Christi Wrigley of the Planning Department add SBC officers to mailing list for notifications
4. Announcements
 - **Joel** announced "Spice of Life" will be Sunday Sept. 23 from 12:00pm to 5:00pm. The rain date will be Sunday Sept 30. "Art bikes" will be on display. Jim and Joel will volunteer the first shift. The second and third shifts still need volunteers. Please inform Joel Bennett if you can volunteer. Community Police or Traffic & Parking will also register bicycles 12:00pm to 3:00pm. The SBC Banner will be displayed.
 - **Greg** announced asked the Committee to support the Cochituate Rail Trail in Framingham by sending a letter to Rep. David Magnani and the Mass Dept. of Environmental Management, asking them to support the entire transfer of the entire Mass Pike right-of-way to public ownership, retaining the current generous 60' to 80' width. The MassPike would sell off a half mile section of the trail which extends from Route 30 north to the Turnpike in Framingham. Greg will draft the letter and circulate to the Committee for approval.
 - **Bhupesh** announced the need to support the conversion of the B&M Railroad freight spur to a trail after touring the right-of-way with others. B&M Railroad Spur runs from Sullivan Square running parallel to Medford street in Charlestown towards the Mystic wharf. The rail line curves around the Charlestown High School Park and continues along the edge of the large water inlet. The recreational path would help fortify and connect to the potential Somerville Recreational path along Mystic River at the assembly Square site. **Bhupesh** will follow up and determine to whom to address the letter.
5. Cambridge Health Alliance (CHA) proposal for expanding parking lot along railroad tracks off Central Street between Vernon and Albion Street
 - **Traffic and Parking** feels they should do more to provide for the abutters and the community including the Community Path.
 - According to **Jeff** (OHCD) the neighborhood also has a lot of outstanding concerns.
 - **Bhupesh** will inquire about potential for other alternative developments that can be feasible outside of the parking.
 - Paul Smith, at Rizzo Associates who completed the feasibility study for the Community Path will be contacted by **Bhupesh** to enquire about any minimum requirements Rizzo finds necessary to ensure the implementation of the future Community Path.
 - The commitment by CHA to the Community Path on their site could be a contingency for the neighboring abutters to approve.
6. Stop & Shop Proposal (S&S) for new store in East Somerville located near the corner of Mystic Avenue and McGrath Highway.
 - Proposed Architectural drawings were reviewed.
 - Several issues were raised concerning bicycle amenities
 - **Bhupesh** to write a letter to Planning Board to list "recommendations" as well as "concerns"
7. Traffic Regulations Subcommittee (**Jim, Adam, Andy**)
 - Traffic Regulations were passed as of Tuesday August 21st.
 - Consensus reached that several recommendations were not implemented that would be necessary for bike safety
 - Focus will shift to amending of passed regulations and working closely with **Bill Lyons** and **Todd Blake** in Traffic and Parking.
8. Infrastructure Subcommittee (**Greg, Jim, Ron**) – areas of concern
 - Existence of "Linear Park improvements" funds from Cedar to Alewife need to be determined. **Greg** to contact Tuck O'Brien in OHCD to locate project file/history.
 - "Pavement Maintenance" should include a mechanism for the public to report maintenance issues effecting bicycles.
 - "Bike parking Inventory" to be completed and program for implementing new racks to be started
 - "Bike Ordinance" needs to be updated. Refer to Article 9 of Zoning Ordinance – "Off street parking and loading" to allow a requirement for minimum bicycle parking for proposed developments based on use, area, and/or bedrooms.
9. Communications/Volunteers Subcommittee (**Turil, Adam, Bhupesh**)
 - **Turil** presented a seven part outline which consisted of Mission statement, Contacts, History, Official Position, Subcommittees, Reference Materials, and Map.
 - **Bhupesh** will forward the first draft attempt of mission statement to **Turil**
 - Out of pocket expenses should be submitted to **Bhupesh** to allow a record to be kept for justification for next years operating expense request. Please submit food receipts for last two meetings.

"Advocates for Pedestrians, Bicyclists, and other environmentally sensible transportation"

10. "Bike Routes" subcommittee - **(Todd (T&P), Darren, Bhupesh)**
 - **Bhupesh** submitted a bike lane study with three street plan layouts - The ideal layout, the existing "quasi" layout implemented in several locations, and a blank third layout for members to make critical suggestions by the next meeting. The third layout is concerned with a solution to address the fact that a majority of the streets cannot provide for the ideal layout, and the present "quasi" layout has its own shortcomings. Note please present pros and cons to your suggestion and if possible email to **Bhupesh** suggestions before next meeting for efficiency sake.
 - College Avenue (Powder House Circle to Medford line) is the most pressing since it is first in line to be redone. Note a new traffic light will be installed with bicycle sensitive loop detectors.
 - Beacon Street (Somerville Ave to City Line) will probably be the next street to be redone.
11. Undercarriage funding for passage under Fellsway (Route 28) at Mystic River connecting Ten Hills to Assembly Square has survived the house budget. The amount is \$150,000 for design? May not survive the next round.
12. Tour de Somerville/Events Subcommittee – (no members designated?)
 - Tour de Somerville on October 13th will be routed by Brian McKellan
 - **Greg** suggests making new poster to be handed out at the "Spice of Life".

Please notify SBC at Bhupes@msn.com of any discrepancies, within **seven days** of release date below and JLevine@ci.somerville.ma.us for any inquiries.

cc. all community and public members stated above, City of Somerville web site, and list of documented other generous "active volunteers" and community subscribers