

Pedestrian and Pedalcycle Advisory Committee Minutes

Subject: Minutes for Summer Quarterly Meeting
Date and time: June 08, 2021 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM
Location: Virtual Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 12:35 PM by Roy Gothie, Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator. Roll was taken, and a quorum was declared.

PPAC members in attendance were Nolan Richie (alternate for Senator Wayne Langerholc), Kyle Wagonseller (alternate for Representative Carroll), Jason Gerard (alternate for Senator Sabatina), Roy Gothie (alternate for Secretary Yassmin Gramian), Diane Kripas (alternate for Secretary Cindy Dunn), Yocasta Lora, Ben Guthrie, Sarah Stuart, Frank Maguire, Julie Fitzpatrick, William Hoffman, Lauri Ahlskog, Chandra Kannan, Fred Richter, Joseph Capers, and Scott Bricker.

Additional attendees included Justin Lehman (Department of Health), Ngani Ndimbi (PennDOT Policy Office), Wayne Mears (PennDOT Press Office), Gavin Gray (PennDOT), Jennifer Kuntch (PennDOT Press Office), Francis Hanney (PennDOT District 6-0), April Hannon (PennDOT District 4-0), Michelle Tarquino (PennDOT District 8-0), Charles Richards, (PennDOT District 5-0), Chris Metka (PennDOT Planning and Programming Office), Jackie Koons-Felion (PennDOT Planning and Programming), Jon Crum (Federal Highway Administration), Samantha Pearson (Elm Street Commission), Tom Barron (DEP), Tom Glass (PennDOT), Joshua Theakson (PennDOT District 12-0), and Ross Willard (Recycle Bicycle).

Sarah Stuart opened the meeting and welcomed the members.

The minutes from the March 09, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved.

Yocasta Lora provided a presentation on AARP's activities supporting active transportation in PA.

Jon Crum provided an update from Federal Highway Administration highlighting the Safe Transportation for Every Pedestrian program (STEP) - https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/ped_bike/step/resources/

Justin Lehman, Department of Health, provided an update on the status of the State Physical Activity and Nutrition 5-year grant from CDC for funds from the Walkable Communities initiative and other projects by the DOH (Attachment #1)

Diane Kripas, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources presented an update on the DCNR's current activities including recently awarded grants for 42 trail projects and the work done to [develop safety and etiquette guidelines](#) for the Montour Trail as discussed during the 03.09.2021 meeting. Also noted was the Pa Greenways and Trails Conference being held in Erie, PA in September - <https://weconservepa.org/event/pennsylvania-greenways-trails-summit/>

Roy Gothie, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, provided a brief update on PennDOT activities including the new Bicycle Design Chapter for Pub 13. (Attachment #2).

Legislative Updates were provided by Nolan Richie (Attachment #3).

Gavin Gray presented a brief update on the update to the Strategic Highway Safety Plan. PPAC Chair, Vice-Chair, and MPO representatives will participate in the upcoming stakeholders meeting to evaluate strategies to improve safety for vulnerable roadway users.

The committee's letter to Senator Langerholc in support of the Parking Separated Bike Lane bill was shared (Attachment #4).

Under new business, the group discussed PennDOT's follow-ups regarding District Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinators. Sarah Stuart requested PennDOT consider a survey to evaluate the effectiveness of the PennDOT Connects process and the district staff (Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinators and District Planners) in incorporating identified community walking and biking needs into project scopes. PennDOT will follow-up internally and report back to the Chair and Vice-Chair.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05pm

Next Meeting

Date and time: September 14th, 1:00pm

Location: PennDOT Central Office and via Microsoft Teams – link in calendar

Fred Richter _____ Secretary

_____ Date of Approval

Attachment #1

Pennsylvania Department of Health, Division of Nutrition and Physical Activity Update

WalkWorks is a program focused on increasing physical activity opportunities through the development of active transportation plans or similar policies, such as Complete Streets policies and the implementation of walking routes in communities. The aim of the plans or similar policies is to facilitate the development of activity-friendly routes to everyday destinations through active transportation and land use plans and policies at the local and regional levels. To date, 24 communities have developed and adopted 26 plans or policies.

1. The Pennsylvania Downtown Center (PDC) become the new WalkWorks partner March 1. PDC has a variety of local and statewide partnerships and are involved in many projects. They coordinate the Main Street and Elm Street Program in Pennsylvania which is a comprehensive strategy to revitalize downtown and neighborhood business districts.
2. WalkWorks selected nine (9) new communities, late in 2020, to develop and adopt 9 Active Transportation Plans or related policies in 2021. The names of the recipients have been posted on the WalkWorks website. www.pawalkworks.com.
 - DCNR is providing funds to fully support 2 of these plans and policies.
3. Applications for the next round of funding and technical assistance were due May 14. Our multi-disciplinary review team is currently evaluating applications and we anticipate notifying the communities who have been selected in the beginning of September.
4. Find WalkWorks on the map!
 - Go to www.pawalkworks.com and click on the Locations tab.
 - Column 1 lists the 28 counties that have a WalkWorks walking route.
 - Click on county name to view a map of the walking route(s) in the county.

- Column 2 lists the 14 counties that have a community that has adopted an Active Transportation Plan or similar policy.
 - Click on county name to view the adopted plan(s) or policy.
 - The interactive map below the columns highlights WalkWorks counties and plots the location of every walking route and adopted plan or policy.
 - Links are provided to view all walking routes and adopted plans/policies.
5. Allegheny County Health Department was awarded \$1,500 through the 2020 Community Change Grant, offered through America Walks. The amount is being used to partner with Let's Move Pittsburgh to create a special walking safety edition of Let's Move Pittsburgh Bingo! Some of the bingo blocks are tasks to complete which includes safe walking behaviors and others are objects they may come across. Bingo cards have been distributed to schools for kids to use.
 6. The Montgomery County Office of Public Health started their 6th annual Montgomery County Trail Challenge on May 1. The goal is to encourage people to visit any and all of the 15 participating trails and look for special markers at the trailhead. Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy is a new partner this year and they are featuring the Perkiomen Creek Water Trail.
 7. York City – Bureau of Health has been very supportive of many bike and pedestrian improvements through the City. This includes improved crosswalks, rail-trail connections, a 2-way cycle track and traffic calming measures.

Attachment #2

Department of Transportation Update

1. PennDOT has released the update to Pub13M – Design Manual 2: Contextual Roadway Design which includes Chapter 14, covering bicycle facility design. This document is located on PennDOT publication website as Pub 13.
2. PennDOT's District 4 pilot project to map and describe all trail crossings on state routes has launched and we anticipate completion by September 2021.
3. Update to Long Range Transportation Plan is underway. PennDOT has six focus areas including Safety, Mobility, Equity, Resilience, Performance, and Resources (funding). PPAC will receive a presentation on this plan (September) and an opportunity to comment on the draft plan.
4. Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside Program Grants - new funding round will open June 28th with Guidance and Applications available online the first week of June. Applications will be due October 8th, 2021

5. Market Street Square Transfer Center, in downtown Harrisburg, now has Improved signals and signage, ADA ramps and a new crosswalk at 2nd Street driveway entrance, updated bus loading zones, leaning rails, and new bus shelters. Project was developed in coordination with Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT), Capital Area Transit (CAT) and Harrisburg.
6. An 1894 bow-string arch bridge in Mount Carbon is part of a PennDOT project to relocate and restore the historic structure as a part of work to expand the Schuylkill River Greenway where it crosses Mill Creek. This project is being funded by PennDOT and support by a range of local governments and private partners.
7. Update on Pedestrian Chapter will go on Clearance Transmittal this fall with completion likely in spring of 2022 and the Traffic Calming Chapter will completed by fall of 2021.
8. PDD update – PennDOT has received one PDD application and it is currently under review. As per PennDOT policy, and as previously stated to PPAC, PennDOT has been coordinating with the applicable municipality on the review of the application. However, per policy, PennDOT does not disclose details of applications under review. If the PDD applicant is approved, per the law, information will be added to the PennDOT website.
9. The Transportation Set-Aside Alternatives Program released its [Alternatives \(TA\) Set-Aside Guidance Manual](#) and the [Website](#) was launched. PennDOT is also offering a webinar on June 23, 2021 in support of the opening for the TA Set-Aside Funding Application. If you can't attend, the webinar will be recorded and made available on PennDOT's TA Set-Aside webpage ([Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside \(penndot.gov\)](#)).

Attachment #3

Legislative Update

Attachment #4 PPAC Letter of Support for Parking Separated Bike Lane Bill

June 8, 2021
Senator Wayne Langerholc
Senate Box 203035

Dear Senator Langerholc,

On behalf of the Commonwealth's Pedalcycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (PPAC), I am writing to you today to express our support for HB140 that has been referred to the Senate after receiving a 201-0 vote in the House on March 17, 2021.

We urge you to advance this bill by scheduling it for a vote in the Transportation Committee at your earliest convenience.

Many communities throughout the Commonwealth have been patiently waiting for the General Assembly to take action on this legislation since 2018. Your decision to move the bill forward to a voting session will save lives and make Pennsylvania's roadways safer.

Sincerely yours,

Sarah Clark Stuart
Chair, Pedalcycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
cc: PennDOT Secretary Yasmin Gramian