

Montpelier in Motion – Work session 1
July 21, 2014

Attending: Jim Donovan, Grace Wu, Jim McQueston, Sasha Bianchi, Eve Jacobs-Carnahan, Bill Merrylees,
Tom McArdle, John Snell, Jon Budreski, Anthony Mennona, Hannah Reckhow, Alex Prolman

Meeting began at 5:34

Brainstorm

Evaluation criteria for whether it should make it into the final plan...

Reasonable likelihood of being completed in a timely manner, not 'pie-in-the-sky', feasibility

Projected number of people impacted

Safety

Seasonality, does it work throughout the year

Match goals of master plan, city council priorities

Aesthetic impact and improvement of enjoyment of walking and bicycling

Long-term value

Benefits leveraged, secondary benefits

Public interest

Collaboration and coordination, using already existing projects

How does it fit with regional planning

Things we still don't know, potential studies...

Comparative safety of wider lane versus smaller travel lane and small shoulder

Better recording system of accidents that include pedestrians and cyclists

How to get crosswalks to last longer

Location and type of bicycle hazards

Behavior, demographics, destinations, etc.

Encourage neighboring communities to continue their work too

Roadway analysis for speed, traffic, and width

Economic benefits of these changes (state did one two years ago...)

Potential projects...

North/South safe corridor to cross city

Website with bike and pedestrian maps

Infrastructure for reporting problem areas (exists, RPC, but may or may not be forwarded??)

Fixing sidewalk gaps

Improving sidewalk winter maintenance

Year-long visibility of crosswalks

Study – what kind of traffic downtown do we want? Do we want to encourage satellite parking? (yes.)

Encourage bus use for commuters

Sidewalk gap from Park and Ride to bike path

Way to cross Memorial Drive at bottom of National Life (railroad ROW issue)

Facilities for National Life Dr

Developing pedestrian destinations and routes

Signage of bike and pedestrian routes, especially for tourists

Established 'Montpelier Mile' for pedestrians

Target sidewalks below 'fair' quality

Study – flashing beacon feasibility
On-street bike network
Linking bus stops and sidewalks
Develop beginner and family-friendly bike routes
Stone Cutters' to College, Rt. 2 to cremee stand, Confluence Park, Clarendon Street neighborhood, Meadows neighborhood
Off-road bike network
Main St, Barre St., Stone Cutters'

(Discussion of Council's reverse angle parking decision.)

Taylor St from transit center to future State St lane
Secure bike parking at Taylor St transit center
Town Hill Rd widened with bike-able shoulder to city limit
Solutions for Northfield St., Prospect St.
County Rd to East Montpelier
Better facilities for Elm St up to North Branch Nature Center (trail system), even up to Rt. 12
Shared use path to Recreation Center or NBNC
Sharrows for Main St
Barre and East State St.
Lower Berlin and River St.

City encouragement, evaluation, enforcement, education...

Ped and bike maps, establish nodes
Bike facilities in large workplaces by zoning
Financial rewards for not driving, bicycle benefits and walking equivalent
Target state employees, city employees
Use Way to Go and fitness challenge strategies
Walk and Roll Month
Geocaching
Streetscape enhancement - Inventory of benches, evaluation of their use, Integrate art
Signage
Festivals, events
Outreach to public, better information dissemination system
Shuttle to Hubbard Park
Walking and biking to events – Mountaineers games, Farmers' Market
Bike Smart and Walk Smart curriculum at schools
Temporary signs that explain law
Reporting app to collect data
Radio ad campaigns in spring, mailings with water bill
Newspaper articles, Bridge and World, 'did you know?'
One go-to website for biking in city (Montpelier Alive new site?)
Earn-a-bike program, discount reflective gear
Bike safety classes for adults
Training police officers on bike and ped laws
Enforcement aspect to Way to Go Week
Positive enforcement 'ticket' – cremee coupon
Channel to report incidents

Annual survey, Town Meeting Lane – how safe do you feel?
Linear distance of bike lanes
Accidents reports
Sidewalk inventory

Future players...

City government
Recreation department
Montpelier Alive
CVRPC
State of Vermont Building and General Services
Police Department
VTrans
Chamber of Commerce
Economic Development Commission
Traffic Committee
Parking Committee
Bicycle Advisory and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
Community Connections
Schools
MAMBA
VT Bike and Ped Coalition
GMTA
Blue Cross Blue Shield
Local Motion
Onion River Sports
NECI, VT College
Council on Aging
Senior Center
Center for Independent Living
Dept of Health
VT Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired
AARP
Kellogg Hubbard Library
Parks Dept
Capital Plaza
National Life
Rotary Club

Other...

Legislators as pedestrians, Montpelier as model
Improving intersection safety
Cooperation between peds and cars at crosswalk at Langdon St to City Center
Park-lets! Woo!
Bike parking in car spot
Event with well-known example, something to work towards
Promoting information that's out there now
Montpelier Alive's branding project is opportunity

Meeting ended at 8:23