Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee

September 9, 2026

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee held a regular meeting on September 9, 2026 at 5:30 pm, in Room 301 of City Hall and by Zoom.

Committee Members present (R = Remote): Ken Burkman, Doug Goodman (R), Havaleh Gagne, Kim Maxwell, Joshua Minot, and Freeman Stein.

Also present: Erica Quallen Towle (City Staff Liaison, R), Andrew Chalnick (City Council Liaison), Ryan Doyle, Jack Evans (R), Whitney Kurzinger

1. Welcome, Emergency Exit and Virtual Meeting Instructions, Gratitude
2. Additions, Deletions, or Changes to the Agenda
3. Comments and questions from the public not related to the agenda
    a. Whitney Kurzinger expressed excitement for the new city center park to enable her 10-year-old daughter to walk to school. She appreciates how safe the route is. She had been concerned RMCS had not hired a crossing guard at Market and Dattilio Drive, but the position was filled and the person started today.
    b. She has two remaining concerns with route safety. First is the 4-way stop at Garden and Market. There is a crosswalk but no yellow pedestrian crossing signs, and she asked if they could be placed there. Also, at the parking lot entrance on Market St (44.463990, -73.175261), there is no crosswalk marking at all. The alternative to walking is about an hour of time on the bus, while walking takes about twenty minutes.
    c. Erica advised that additional signs can be added to stop signs. DPW also intends to add rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFB) at the crosswalk near Goose Park, which is currently just crosswalk paint and pedestrian signs. She will explore options for what can be done at the driveway crossing, explaining that signs can also block driver visibility. They are also exploring adding signs at Market and Dattilio.
    d. Whitney asked how she can best stay informed about these efforts. Erica explained that she typically posts a staff update online each month and offered the DPW email address.

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e. Havaleh also explained about the Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) task force. Jack offered to add her to their outreach list.
f. Ryan Doyle made the case for city design and construction standards, generally. He gave specific examples of raised crosswalks and raised curbs. He also referenced City and Town Road Standards, which encourages cities and towns to adopt standards that promote safety.
g. Ryan also described how unsafe Dorset St is, and its safety should be part of the conversation when the Shared Use Path (SUP) is repaved next year. He also noted that a planned SUP behind the middle school and high school appears to have been disregarded to build a stormwater pond.
h. Ryan also proposed Vermont adopt the "Idaho Stop".

4. Consideration of Minutes
    a. Minutes from the August meeting were moved, seconded and approved by the majority with no one voting nay.
5. City Updates
    a. RRFB by Goose's Park
    b. Bike bells are arriving for the Green Community Festival later this month.
    c. Updated SRTS GIS map is nearing completion
    d. Bike Ped bridge work will soon begin the next construction phase and will look more like a bridge project.
6. Walk Audit Discussion - SB3C Let's Take a Stroll
    a. Matt Van Wagner described a $2,500 AARP grant he received to conduct walk audits. His organization, South Burlington City Center Collaborative (SB3C), intends to create a baseline dataset of subjective opinions of the spaces where people walk and help with accessibility. SB3C wants to do five walk audits in mid-September at various times of day.
    b. The grant can pay for accessories like pinnies and food for participants. The scope is primarily City Center and the surrounding neighborhood.
    c. The first two routes will be 1) Windjammer Restaurant to City Center, then 2) The Pines on Aspen Dr to City Center.
    d. Erica will share traffic evaluation data and SRTS data with Matt.
7. Green Community Festival Planning
    a. Volunteer members discussed what each would bring and what messaging to provide.
8. Safe Routes to School Sub-Group Updates
    a. Jack described how the group will shift its focus to the campus level rather than school district wide.
9. Sub-Group Updates
    a. DRB.

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i. Ryan will present his concerns about the stormwater pond (see above) to Erica.

b. Safety
    i. Jack will ask Safe Routes members whether the schools will allow sandwich boards with bike path safety messaging.
    ii. Havalah will ask the SBPD how their outreach with the schools about prohibited e-motos was received.

c. Communications and Outreach
    i. Havalah suggested an FAQs article to shape the narrative about the bike ped bridge to explain its purpose, including road closures, snow removal, and whether its construction is good development policy.
    ii. Freeman asked about citizen trail maintenance, proposing to invite volunteers to perform maintenance like trimming low hanging branches. He has experience with this work from involvement with the Friends of Northampton (MA). He will coordinate with DPW and City Council.

10. Other Business.
    a. None
11. Confirm Next Meeting is Wednesday, October 14th.
12. Adjourn

Ken Burkman - Clerk

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