



**Amherst Bicycle & Pedestrian
Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes - DRAFT
November 8, 2022

1 Meeting attendees: Chris Buchanan – Chair, Wendy Rannenberg, Judy Shenk, Chris Shenk,
2 Michael Merra, Rick Katzenberg, and Tom Christensen.
3 Staff present: Eric Slosek – DPW Director, Kristan Patenaude – Recording Secretary (remote)

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5 Chris Buchanan called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

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7 Wendy Rannenberg stated that final approval was received for the wording of all three
8 benches. She is reviewing places to get the plaques made and will coordinate with Craig
9 Fraley, Recreation Director, on this. Two benches are located along the Amherst Side Path,
10 and one is located at Buck Meadow.

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12 **1. CYJ easement, site walk recap**

13 Chris Buchanan stated that Camp Young Judaea is interested in moving forward with donated
14 easements along the Baboosic Lake Greenway. A site walk along the route was recently held.
15 The path in this area has been fairly well maintained and will not require much clean up.
16 Segments of the Baboosic Greenway continue to be donated by landowners.

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18 **2. NH DOT Ten Year Plan updates**

19 Chris Buchanan stated that the regional portion of the Ten-Year Plan has been completed.
20 Amherst has two projects that made the shortlist, a highway safety improvement project and
21 Amherst North 03 (Amherst Street from Courthouse Road to Birch Park). The Nashua
22 Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) will now send those along to DOT for evaluation.
23 This will take several months. The projects will then come back to NRPC. Placement in the
24 plan would supposedly provide funding no later than 2034. There is a possibility that Amherst
25 North 03 will be suitable for CMAC funding; this funding would be available much sooner
26 than 2034. The Board of Selectmen would need to agree to submit this project for CMAC
27 funding.

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29 **3. Meeting with Milford recap**

30 Chris Buchanan stated that there was a recent meeting with Milford representatives regarding
31 the Amherst Street gap between the towns. The Amherst Street project in Milford will be very
32 large and complex, due to utilities discovered underground and other items. The potential to
33 improve the sidepath along that area in Milford may be discussed as part of that project. There
34 is an appetite to close the gaps between the sidewalks along Amherst Street in Milford and
35 this may be examined for next year's budget. There may also be grant opportunities available
36 for this.

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Eric Slosek, DPW Director, explained that he is working to get the yet unpaved intersections of Amherst Street completed as soon as possible. The intent is to have this completed this week, if possible. Markings for the sidepath cannot be painted until the paving is complete. The markings may look different than originally proposed because the company doing the work made 1' wide by 2' long lines, instead of the regular 2'x2', as a time saving measure. This can be updated next year. He is trying to determine how to add texture to the terracotta color of paint purchased for some of the markings. The traffic counters have not yet been installed due to personnel issues.

Tom Christensen asked if installing the counters in December will work against the process, as the number of people using the path will be low during that time. Chris Buchanan explained that these are permanent fixtures and, per the donation language, are required to be installed within a year.

4. Baboosic Greenway access from Baboosic Lake Road

Chris Buchanan stated that the Town owns a segment of the Baboosic Greenway and access to this is extremely difficult from Baboosic Lake Road, at the onramp of Route 101. An easement is in place to access this segment. Wendy Rannenberg suggested that the Committee speak with the Conservation Commission as to how to fix this access point, either through an Eagle Scout project or something similar.

5. Town Budget process

Chris Buchanan stated that this process is ongoing. There will likely be updates to this topic by the next meeting. Wendy Rannenberg noted that this year the Committee was added to the groups the Ways & Means Committee was slated to meet with. Chris Buchanan and Rick Katzenberg met with the Ways & Means Committee, and members of the Board of Selectmen were also in attendance. Chris Buchanan explained that the discussion included the two warrant articles that will be proposing this year. One Ways & Means member mentioned using unassigned fund balance money to fund the School Campus project, so as not to need to raise new taxation.

Eric Slosek explained that there is also a request to place \$100,000 for multimodal projects in the DPW budget. In discussions with the Finance Department, it may be better to include a separate line item for the Committee under the DPW's budget.

6. September 13, 2022 Minutes

This item was tabled to the next meeting.

Rick Katzenberg moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:44pm. Seconded by Wendy Rannenberg.

Vote: 7-0-0, motion carried unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kristan Patenaude*