

**CITY OF BARRE
PUBLIC BODY MEETING MINUTES**

DRAFT

Committee/board: Paths/Routes/ Trails Committee

Date of meeting: October 27, 2021

Location of meeting: Virtual via Zoom/In Person Alumni Hall

Board/committee members in attendance: Steve Mackenzie, Stephanie Quaranta, Mark Martin, Dan Sousa, Bill Ahearn, Giuliano Cecchinelli

Board/committee members absent: Karen Nelson, Tim Terway

Call to Order: 5:02 p.m.

Adjustments to the Agenda: None

Approval of September 22, 2021 Meeting – Motion to accept Mark Martin, second Giuliano Cecchinelli, motion carried.

Visitors: Elaine Wang, Energy Committee Chair

Strava App Demonstration – Mark Martin:

Mark Martin provided an overview of the Strava app that is essentially a GPS map of routes that are used for walking, running, cycling. The app generates a “heat map” which shows streets and trail usage. He showed examples of usage of the Barre-Montpelier road and other streets within the City of Barre. The app showed the committee an example of how sides streets are used to lessen steeper hills. The committee was looking at several streets in the City and asked questions on various routes. The app can record cyclists, walking and running. The committee will use this data moving forward. Mark noted that if lanes are created on streets people will use them.

Discussion of a Potential “Backbone” Designation for routes throughout the City:

Bill Ahearn talked about “Backbone” Designations that would connect approximately 150 houses in each section. Pop Ups provide valuable information on a network of potential paths and routes. One discussed was on River Street, creating a one-way flow of traffic and widen the street so there would be a designated route to follow. The use of MUTTD signs to keep vehicles 3 feet from cyclists as was share the road signs. Uphill routes can have a lane created for cyclists to follow. The Strava App will provide important data as we proceed.

Review/Update of 2019 Bike Path Segments Status Summary/Master Plan:

The committee reviewed the plan that was updated in 2019.

Metro Way is 75 – 85% design complete. The ROW is in progress as meetings continue with the abutting landowner and the railroad. At this point the Metro Way project is best to have bid out as DPW personnel have to many other projects. This project is currently ranked #1.

Granite Street (Railyard) to Blackwell is currently on hold. The railroad is upgrading as they plan to increase the amount of granite that is transported by the railway.

The Prospect Street Improvement concepts are on paper. Bill Ahearn talked about expanding the sidewalk and 10 creating an 8 – 10 foot path could be created on the west side of the street...A push button beacon to assist those crossing the street would also be added..

Granite: EA to River Street / Center St. (Nativi Park to Bianchi Place) or Nativi Park to Smith Street / Bianchi Place (via Belevance) would be a public private build. Granite St. to River near the Nativi Playground and over to Enterprise Alley segment would involve, in part, going through a business property. There could be a mutual agreement that would benefit required storm water improvements required by the state. This project would also help support a wall on River Street. This is a definable segment with options.

Spurs: Berlin Street (No. Main to Smith), Berlin St. (Rte.62 to Railroad ROW), Berlin St (ROW) Blackwell St.: These are segments of opportunities – Another potential spur was South Main to Parkside Terrace.

Original (South end) Path Upgrade: this has not been started.

Route 302 (B-M) Road Bike Lanes (Berlin Street to Berlin Town Line) Completed October 2017
Museum

The committee felt that the Prospect Street section was a priority after Metro Way. A motion was made by Giuliano, second Mark to prioritize that segment.

Joint Committee Meeting Discussion: The committee was in favor of a joint committee meeting but stressed a mutually agreed upon agenda ahead of time would be helpful.

Adjourn: A motion to adjourn was made by Mark, second Giuliano, motion carried. 6:42 p.m.