

**BMTS Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee  
Notes from the meeting held on Monday, April 11, 2005  
5th Floor Planning Conference Room  
Edwin L. Crawford County Office Building**

**Present:** Scott Reigle, Don Robertson, Toby Wollin, Kris Gilbert, Greg Patinka, Erin Duguay, Al Sunderwirth, Ruth Levin, and Warren Wetzelberg

**Absent with Excuse:** Luke Davis

1. The meeting was **convened at 1:35PM**. The **March 14<sup>th</sup>** minutes were approved as written.

**2. Announcements and Status Reports**

- **News articles and announcements** are sent out in a monthly emailing, around the time the Committee Meeting agenda & minutes are sent out. They are also available in .pdf (Acrobat) format on the BMTS website ([www.bmtsonline.com](http://www.bmtsonline.com)) in the REPORTS section. The direct link is [http://www.gobroomecounty.com/departments/BMTS\\_reports.php](http://www.gobroomecounty.com/departments/BMTS_reports.php).

- **ANNOUNCEMENT – Community Visioning Workshop  
BMTS TO HOLD SECOND WORKSHOP TO DEVELOP SCENARIOS FOR REGIONAL  
TRANSPORTATION PLAN  
INVITES PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The Binghamton Metropolitan Transportation Study, Greater Binghamton's regional transportation planning agency, announces an opportunity for residents of the region to participate in the creation of its new plan, *TRANSPORTATION TOMORROW:2030*. The second workshop in the series will be held:

**Thursday, April 14  
6:30 – 9:00 PM**

**Binghamton Regency Hotel, Endicott-Johnson Room**

According to Steven Gayle, Executive Director of the BMTS, "Our plans have two guiding principles. The first is that we plan best when we plan with the community, not for the community. The second is an obligation to use the investment of Federal and State transportation funds to support community development goals."

At the first workshop, held in March, participants were involved in two exercises. They identified 'treasured places' throughout the region, places to which they ascribe special value that should be retained in future plans. These ranged from Otsiningo Park to the carousels to the shops on Owego's River Row. In the second activity, the work involved focusing on a number of different land use types, highlighted by actual examples: downtowns, suburban retail centers, industry embedded in older neighborhoods, greenfield industrial and business parks, among others. For each land use type, participants around a table discussed and recorded what they valued about it ("We like the activity generated by an active mixed-use downtown.") and what needed to be changed ("Shopping centers need to be made more accessible to people who are walking."). This input, along with a great deal of information about Greater Binghamton, from population demographics to zoning maps, has been used to develop an inventory of community elements.

Now it is time to turn our attention to the strategic locations and connections that will best position the region for desired growth. How should we organize our land use plans and transportation investments in order to create vibrant, environmentally sustainable places that attract new employers, support burgeoning small businesses, and promote tourism? And what are the implications of different growth patterns on the ability of each municipality to maintain high quality schools, roads, and other public services?

Participants will discuss these questions and more at the April 14 workshop. Through gaming exercises and lively dialogue, participants will brainstorm possible growth scenarios for Greater Binghamton, and talk

about land use and transportation strategies that can help the region's economy grow in healthy, viable ways during the years to come.

For more information about the April 14 Workshop and *TRANSPORTATION TOMORROW:2030*, visit the BMTS website at [www.bmtsonline.com](http://www.bmtsonline.com).

- **ANNOUNCEMENT – FREE – Meet Jared, “The Subway Guy”**  
Jared Fogle, “The Subway Guy”, who earned international recognition when he lost 245 pounds on the Subway diet is coming to Broome County to help kick-off the 2005 American Heart Walk and ‘Jared’s School Tour’, a program that stresses the importance of healthy eating and exercise to school children.  
**Monday, April 18, 2005 (7:00 - 8:00 PM)**  
**Broome County Health Department**  
225 Front St.  
Binghamton, NY  
\* Light refreshments will be served.
  - **ANNOUNCEMENT – Healthy Trails, Healthy Communities Conference**  
The second statewide greenway and community trail conference organized by Parks & Trails New York.  
**June 17-18, 2005**  
**SUNY New Paltz**  
**New Paltz, NY**  
For more conference and registration information, see [www.ptny.org](http://www.ptny.org) or call (518) 434-1583
  - **ANNOUNCEMENT – Trails of Tioga Map**  
Obtain your FREE copy of the Trails of Tioga Map at the **Waterman Conservation Center** (403 Hilton Rd., Apalachin, NY, 625-2221, [info@watermancenter.org](mailto:info@watermancenter.org)) or the **Tioga Tourism Dept.** (188 Front Street, Owego, NY 13827, 607-687-7440 or 1-800-671-7772, [info@visittioga.com](mailto:info@visittioga.com))  
  
Ruth recommended a map be developed to indicate handicapped accessible trails. Perhaps Office for the Aging could produce it.
  - **REPORT – BMTS Bike Route Map**  
The Committee reviewed the latest draft of the map.  
The Committee decided on a preferred cover photo, which was a view of the S. Washington St. Bridge with cyclists and pedestrians.  
Proposed changes and corrections were notated on the map.  
Completion of the updated bike route map is anticipated for the May, in time for Walk-N-Roll week.  
Distribution ideas: chamber of commerce & tourism offices, convenience & grocery stores, and incoming students at BU & BCC
- 3. Action Items**
- a. Community Night Out Events – Scott will email municipal officials to get details and information about these events, and find out if it would be possible to conduct bike rodeos at them.
  - b. Walk-N-Roll 2005 – (See Walk-N-Roll 2005 below)
- 4. Walk-N-Roll 2005 (May 14-21)**
- Message on GIANT Grocery Bag: The Committee agreed that the ad design should also be used as a poster. Scott emailed copies to Committee members so they can make copies and distribute them.
  - Public Service Announcements (PSA’s): [www.bike-to-work.com](http://www.bike-to-work.com) provides television and radio PSA’s for Bike-to-Work Week. A letter requesting the TV-PSA to be broadcast was sent out to the area television stations. Responses are expected shortly. If none respond, a follow-up letter will be sent.

- Newspaper Feature Articles/Media –
  - *Scott will contact Tom Wilber of the Press & Sun-Bulletin to request coverage of pedestrian and bicycle related issues during Walk-N-Roll Week. Hopefully, it will be possible to promote the new BMTS bike route map.*
  - *Scott will be a part of a Channel 34 “Where is Wilmarth?” segment. This was arranged by Mary McFadden of the Broome County Health Dept. who directs the STEPS to a Healthier NY Program. The segment theme will be walking or biking to work. It will stress that even if one lives too far away to walk or bike to work, an alternative would be to drive to a public parking lot or take the bus part of the way to work, then walk or bike the rest of the way. A demonstration of the bike rack on BC Transit buses will also be taped.*
  - *The Owego Rotary will be handling media coverage of their Walkable & Bikeable Community Audit on May 14<sup>th</sup>.*
- Bike Rodeo Training: Lois Chaplin, Bicycle Safety Specialist at Cornell, will provide bike rodeo training. The training will take place on:  
**Thursday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 – 6:00 PM**  
at the cafeteria in **Johnson City High School** on Reynolds Rd., just north of the Oakdale Mall.

Lois provided a description via email of how the workshop will be conducted. She'll spend the first half hour reviewing the basic principles of working with kids, crash types and how a rodeo can address them (crashes), helmet fit. Then, she'd like to review basic bike handling (how to start, stop), riding in a straight line, scanning, looking left right, left and how to teach these skills to kids. This part will be hands on - with bikes - for anyone who brings a bike (and helmet). We'll review the basic rodeo stations and practice at least some of them. We can review the parking lot space at the school and evaluate/critique it for how to set up an event. Maybe we could break into groups and have each group design on paper (newsprint?) how they'd set up an event there. Finally – she'd like (in small groups) for people to draw up the space where they plan to run a rodeo and fill in the various stations. If people show up who have run a rodeo - it would be great if they could critique their own event - describing what worked and what will be different next time. She would also like to show a ten minute video – “Kids Eye View”.

Participants should bring a bike and helmet, a sketch of the space they'd like to run a rodeo in, any props they've used to give others ideas.

An initial round of invitations has been sent to the Committee, elementary school PTA's, Tioga County officials, and more, requesting a response by April 15<sup>th</sup>. A second round of invitations will be sent out, as well. The Committee members in attendance indicated on the meeting sign-in sheet if they will attend the training.

All Committee members are encouraged to participate. Contact Scott to sign-up for the workshop.

- Owego Rotary:
  - *Al will talk to the Rotary about the possibility of leading a recreational bike ride during Walk-N-Roll.*
  - *The Owego Rotary will host a workshop about making Owego more bicycle and pedestrian friendly. Their focus is on Fifth Ave. /NYS 17C in the Village & Town of Owego. The workshop will be held at **The Treadway Inn** in Owego on **Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>**, and will be the “kickoff” for Walk-N-Roll week. The following is a draft agenda.*

8:30 – 9:00 AM	Breakfast & Registration
9:00 – 10:00 AM	Elements of Walkable & Bikeable Communities Presentation
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Walking Audit (rain or shine)
12:00 – 12:30 PM	Hickories Park - Compile Audit Results, Develop Solutions, Next Steps
12:30 PM	LUNCH
- Other Ideas:
  - *Greg contacted the Broome County Public Library to see if they can promote bicycling and walking. He hasn't has a response yet.*

### 5. Other

- Bike Tioga: Al reported that Bike Tioga will take place on **Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup> & Sunday, August 14<sup>th</sup>**. Six bike rides are planned; a short, medium, and long distance ride each day. Rides will start at Draper Park on Front St. in Owego (north end of the Court St. Bridge). Starts will be staggered to have riders return at similar times. A patrol with radios will be present along the ride route in case of injury or emergency.
- Binghamton Waterfront Dev. Project – Phase III (E. Clinton St. – Cheri Lindsey Park): Greg reviewed the Final Design Report for this project. Committee members were asked to review Greg's comments and send any changes or additions directly to Greg, or to Scott who will forward them to Greg.

### 6. Meeting Dates for the Next Two Months

- Monday, May 9, 2005 at 1:30 PM
- Monday, June 13, 2005 at 1:30 PM

### 7. Adjourned at 3:00 PM

Scott Reigle, Recorder