

BMTS Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee
Notes from the meeting held on Monday, March 14, 2005
5th Floor Planning Conference Room
Edwin L. Crawford County Office Building

Present: Scott Reigle, Dev Devadoss, Don Robertson, Toby Wollin, Kris Gilbert, Greg Patinka, Mike Wold, Ruth Levin, and Warren Wetzelberg

Absent with Excuse: Al Sunderwirth and Luke Davis

1. The meeting was **convened at 1:34PM**. The **February 14th** minutes were approved with 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) in the REPORTS section. The direct link is http://www.gobroomecounty.com/departments/BMTS_reports.php.

- **ANNOUNCEMENT – Community Visioning Workshop**

The Binghamton Metropolitan Transportation Study (BMTS) has scheduled the first opportunity for public input to the community visioning and scenario development that will form the basis for their new transportation plan, *TRANSPORTATION TOMORROW:2030*.

BMTS will be conducting their first public event, a community visioning workshop:

MONDAY, MARCH 14

6:30 – 9:00 pm

BINGHAMTON REGENCY HOTEL, NORTH BALLROOM

As the first step in the process, this meeting will be oriented to asking people to identify what is important to them about Greater Binghamton, what are our ‘treasured elements’. BMTS will seek to identify the strengths of the region, things we should keep, things we should build on in designing our future. These may range from well established businesses to new entrepreneurs, carousels to historic architecture, neighborhood schools to a world class university, lack of traffic congestion to BC Lift bus service for individuals with mobility limitations. By identifying these priorities, BMTS staff and their consultants can begin to develop alternative scenarios of the future of the region. Through subsequent workshops, BMTS will arrive at a preferred scenario that will then inform their transportation plan.

- **ANNOUNCEMENT – FREE Presentation – “Walk Don’t Weight”**

Speaker: Mark Fenton, Nationally Published Walking Expert

Wednesday, March 16, 2005 (6:00 - 7:30 PM)

Binghamton Regency Hotel & Conference Center

225 Water St.

Binghamton, NY

REGISTRATION is required. Please call 763-5092.

- **ANNOUNCEMENT – Trails of Tioga Map Unveiling**

Be one of the first people to obtain your FREE copy of the Trails of Tioga Map

Monday, March 21st, 1:00 PM at The Waterman Conservation Center (403 Hilton Rd., Apalachin, NY)

- **Tuesdays - Press & Sun-Bulletin FEATURE - “Community Pride”- (2/15/05) Parlor City Commons, Binghamton**

Each Tuesday in Community Pride, the Press & Sun-Bulletin will feature a photograph of a property that has been refurbished or restored, newly built, or just well-maintained. The picture may also show a special project that’s helping to make Greater Binghamton a nicer place to live.

- **2/15/05 Press & Sun-Bulletin Article – “Pedestrian Hit by Vehicle, Injured”**

A pedestrian crossing the street on a dark, rainy night in Endicott was struck by a vehicle, sending him to the hospital with a collapsed lung, broken leg, and head injuries. The man was crossing Nanticoke Ave. at Jennings St. about 7:15 PM on Monday, Feb. 14th, when he was struck by a 17-year old driver heading south on North Nanticoke Avenue. The investigation is ongoing. No tickets were issued Monday night.

- **Pamphlet – Tucson, AZ – Pima County Sheriff, “State Smart Cycling, Safe Cycling”**

Ruth passed around a pamphlet on safe cycling that she obtained while in Arizona. Perhaps a local group such as the Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee can produce a similar pamphlet locally.

- **REPORT – BMTS Bike Route Map**

The Committee reviewed the latest draft of the map. The following comments & needed corrections were noted:

- Correct NYS Bike Route 11 to stay on NYS 12/Upper Front Street. It stays on NYS 12 until it goes onto NYS 79, which is north of the area shown on the map.
- For the Route Descriptions chart, consider using the numbered bike route shields with a colored background corresponding with the route color shown on the map.
- Other changes were notated on the map.

Completion of the updated bike route map is anticipated for the Spring.

Final photo selection for the map will be made, then captions will be added.

The online version of the map will be a PDF file.

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 will email copies to Committee members so they can make copies and distribute them. Also, Kris found that Wegmans is not able to put the message on their bags.*
- Public Service Announcements (PSA’s): Scott noted that www.bike-to-work.com provides television and radio PSA’s for Bike-to-Work Week. *He will submit them to local stations to be played throughout May.*
- Newspaper Feature Articles – *Scott will contact Tom Wilber of the Press & Sun-Bulletin to request coverage of pedestrian and bicycle related issues during Walk-N-Roll Week. Ideas for articles include:*
 - Follow-up on communities that hosted Walkable Communities Workshops during May 2003.
 - Promote updated and reprinted BMTS bike route map.
 - Walking or biking to work (or school/college)

Mike W. suggested submitting articles to the Owego Pennysaver. Ruth also suggested the following publications: Vestal Town Crier, Sr. News (Office for the Aging), and The Reporter (Jewish Community Center).

Scott will also contact Mary McFadden of the Broome County Health Dept. to see if there may be any media opportunities with the STEPS Program.

- Bike Rodeo Training: Scott contacted Lois Chaplin, Bicycle Safety Specialist at Cornell, and she is willing to provide the training. The Committee discussed about when and where to hold the training. Tuesday, May 17 and Thursday, May 19 were possible dates. 4:00 – 6:00 PM or starting around 1:00 PM were put forward as options for workshop times. *Scott will look into BOCES and other possible locations. He will also consult with Lois and Luke Davis to determine a date and time. Scott and Luke will send invitations to: PTA’s, R.S.V.P., Tioga County, Boy & Girls Scouts, STBC, municipal recreation program directors, etc.*
- Owego Rotary:
 - *Al will talk to the Rotary about the possibility of leading a recreational bike ride during Walk-N-Roll.*
 - *Scott is giving a Walkable & Bikeable Communities presentation at the Rotary’s May 15th luncheon.*

- As Mike Wold reported in February, the Owego Rotary has formed an ad-hoc committee to focus on making Owego more bicycle and pedestrian friendly. Their focus is on Fifth Ave./NYS 17C in the Village & Town of Owego. A walking and biking audit is being organized to document the present conditions of this roadway segment, list recommended improvements, and develop a plan for implementing improvements. This is now planned to take place on **Saturday, May 14th**, and will be a “kickoff” for Walk-N-Roll week. This event will likely have a format very similar to a Walkable Community Workshop: starting with a presentation on walkable and bikeable community elements, and ways to fix and improve problem areas, conducting a walking audit of a focus area, reconvening to review results, and formulating a plan for implementation.
- 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: Mike reported that Bike Tioga will take place on Saturday, August 13th & Sunday, August 14th. Six bike rides are planned; a short, medium, and long distance ride each day. Ride starts will be staggered to have riders return at similar times. Participants will be given a t-shirt and water bottle. A prize will be given to the participant who came from the furthest location. No bike rodeo is planned yet. Next Bike Tioga meeting is April 1.
- The Danielle 5k – This event is scheduled for May 6-7. Luke was requested to organize a bike rodeo for the event.
- Nichole Reinhardt Foundation (bicycling.com) – This foundation may be a source of funding for schools to conduct bike rodeos.
- Spring's Coming: Warren encouraged the Committee members to get their bikes into the bike shops early to avoid the spring rush.

6. Meeting Dates for the Next Two Months

- Monday, April 11, 2005 at 1:30 PM
- Monday, May 9, 2005 at 1:30 PM

7. Adjourned at 2:27 PM

Scott Reigle, Recorder