



**CT Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update  
Public Meeting #2**

**October 2, 2008**

*5:30– 7:30 PM  
Eastern CT State University  
Johnson Memorial Library*

**Attendees:** 37 members of the public attended

**Name**

**Agency / Organization (if applicable)**

Anthony W. Walker  
Mike Gerald  
Jennifer Sayers  
Jan Collins  
Mary Jo Poore  
Jane Recchio  
Bruno Plocharezyk  
Sandy Fry  
Jaclyn Gagnon  
Catherine Pomposi  
Mark Lucas  
Jim Biery  
Tim Veillette  
Bruce A. Couture  
Nancy Bauer  
Emily Kil  
Bob Dickinson  
Chris McCahill  
Anne Albee  
Ron Manizza  
Debbie Vani  
Janeen Rose  
Mark Connors  
Peter Connors  
Mark Heneson  
Jim Larkin  
Sharon Okoye  
Lon Hultgren  
Jane Worrall

Capital Region COG

Northeast CT COG  
CT Dept. of Transportation

**Name**

**Agency / Organization (if applicable)**

Heidi Spillman  
Tina Mumls  
Wayne DeCarli  
Barbara Connors  
Barabara Kil  
Sylvia Ounpuu  
Georgianno Fisher  
Anne Albee

CT Valley Driving Club  
Litchfield Hills D.C  
RI Driving Club  
CT Horse Council  
American Driving Society  
Eastern CT Trail Riders Assoc  
CT Dept. of Transportation  
CT Dept. of Transportation  
Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc.  
Fitzgerald & Halliday, Inc.  
Alta Planning + Design

David Balzer  
Carmine Trotta  
Ken Livingston  
Marcy Miller  
Joshua Poppel

**Summary of Comments on the Plan:**

**Verbal Comments**

- There were concerns about equestrian access and safety on roadways. In addition, equestrians and their horses prefer stonedust to paved multi-use trails. Gravel is a good surface treatment for all users.
- There were concerns about public health. Goal 7 appears to be an afterthought, when it should have more emphasis.
- There should be better, and more, share the road education. In addition, there should be more information on the driver's license test on this.
- There were concerns about sidewalk maintenance. If a sidewalk is within the ConnDOT right-of-way, ConnDOT should maintain it.
- There should be measurable goals in the Plan Update. These should be meaningful and include such measures as a number of miles of bicycle lane completed, etc
- ConnDOT should work with the state's universities on the education and encouragement aspects of the vision and goals.
- There were concerns about the danger of bicycling around the Route 44 / Route 84 interchange in Bolton.
- The Plan Update should include the language "routine accommodation" for all bicycle and pedestrian needs.
- There were questions about the State Transportation Improvement Program funding process. How can a member of the public find out what projects are in the planning and construction process? In addition, who should an advocate first talk with to recommend improvements?

- There were concerns that current roadway redesign projects do not incorporate bicycle needs. These are lost opportunities!
- There were comments that Connecticut should look to New Jersey as a model bicycle and pedestrian state, because of its similarities and proximity to Connecticut. There are major differences between Connecticut and such states as Oregon.
- There was a question about model legislation and whether it would be included in the Plan Update.

### **Written Comments**

- I would like to see a portion of this plan address the ways it will positively impact the environment and the current energy crisis on our hands. Pointing out the health benefits of the plan is great, so environmental issues should also be touched upon. Also, I would encourage developers of this plan to look at partnerships with colleges and universities as well as schools for younger children because often times, these campuses need plenty of work to become more bike-friendly for students, faculty, and visitors alike.

### **Summary of Comments on the Map:**

#### **Verbal Comments**

- There were concerns that the Draft Bicycle Map largely has an urban focus. There should be more of a rural focus.

#### **Written Comments**

None received

### **Summary of Written General Comments:**

- I would strongly encourage you to work with state colleges and universities and their surrounding communities who have large populations of students who would commute by bicycle if there were safe ways to do so. Students commute to the University of Connecticut at Storrs on Routes 195, 320, 32 and 44, but these roads are generally not suitable for bicycle traffic because they have little to no shoulder and a high volume of traffic during commuting hours. This would be a fantastic population to reach out to and engage because students are ready and willing to commute by bicycle, but it's simply not safe to do so currently. This also lends itself to a set of goals surrounding the environmental benefits of biking and increased pedestrians, especially in this day and age.
- I'd like information about the progress on Rt. 316 "covered bridge" in Andover/Bolton area ([jrecchio@yahoo.com](mailto:jrecchio@yahoo.com)).
- That gap in the Hop River Trail and the Rt6/44/384 "interchange" in Manchester are the two hot spots in this area of Connecticut. I hope these can rise through the priority lists to the top of the state's concerns.

- The mentioned about Gov. Whitman's making alternative transportation a goal – easily identifying the progress sounds like a great tool for Connecticut to adopt. Thanks for a great presentation – many good ideas and contacts.

DRAFT