

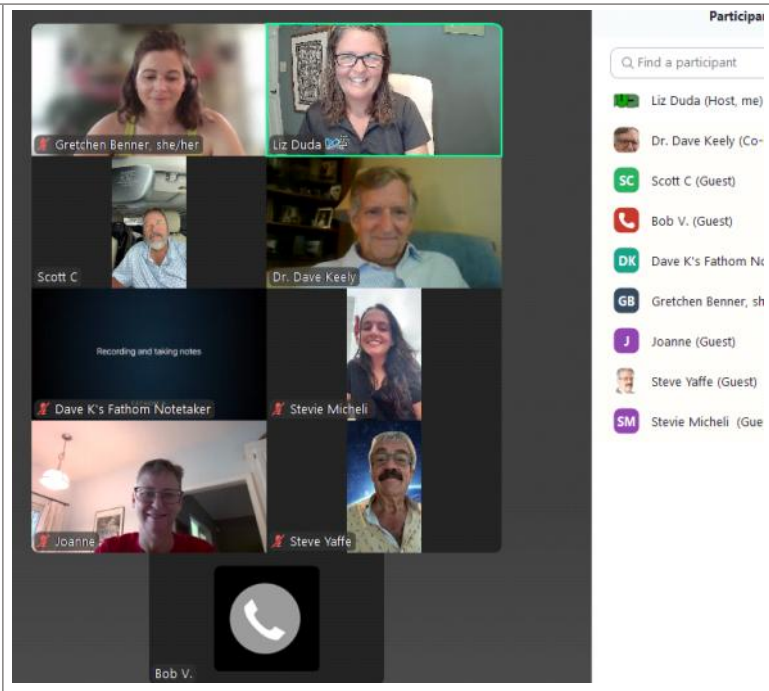
7/1/2025 BPC Notes

Tuesday, July 1, 2025 9:00 AM

Bike/Ped Coalition (BPC) of York County Meeting - Zoom, Tues., July 1, 2025, 9am

Attendees:

Liz Duda, Tega Cay Healthy Kids
Gretchen Benner, Baxter Village, YC resident
Joanne Burkett, Greenwood resident, interest in our initiatives
Scott Coughenour, FM resident, FMSD athletic program volunteer, small-business & property owner
Andrew Ellenburg, Greenwood e-bicycle store
David Keely, [RFATS Citizens Advisory Committee](#), [Tobacco-Free York County](#), family medicine, Healthy Together [5-2-1-0](#)
Stevie Micheli, SC Dept. of Public Health
D. Shivers (bad connection)
Bob Van de Weghe, YC resident, commercial real estate broker, rails to trails interest
Steve Yaffe, transit consultant



Meeting purpose: Monthly BPC of York County Zoom meeting to share updates and collaborate on active transportation projects, initiatives, and pedestrian/rolling safety in York County, SC.

Meeting summary: After intro of people & their organizations &/or interests, discussed local transportation projects and related opportunities to promote safe pedestrian and cycling access; upcoming community events; Rails to Trails history and update; Safe Routes to York County schools updates; and advocacy needs. Promote safety first!

Key Takeaways

- Concerns raised about proposed 55 mph speed limit, lack of buffer space, sidewalk width on SC-21 near Fort Mill High School (FMHS) via Pennies 5 in design stages.
- Sam Smith Road sidewalk project near FMHS moving forward; need to advocate for shoulder space
- Bike/scooter safety rodeo event planned for August 3, 2-4pm, at Tega Cay Elementary School (TCES); volunteers or people interested in hosting a future event welcome
- Rails-to-trails initiative progressing; next step is title search with some funding from Carolina Thread Trail (CTT)
- Recommended messaging: Promote safety first.

Followups:

- Follow up on safety of people on foot or wheels from Pennies 5 SC-21 project; Duda / Coughenour work together to draft blog for BPC about opportunities to enhance bike/ped safety along Highway 21.

Discussion Highlights:

1. **Rails to Trails** - Duda gave history; core group continues to meet (since 2023); NS ranked project "middle of the pack" recognizing our organization but more work needed to increase priority; CTT will fund the start a professional title search; no clear muni/county/agency leader yet but general support from stakeholders; would NS let go of the "274 into York" pathway?

Safe Routes to York County Schools

2. **SC DOT** disbanded the allocation of [national funding](#) to **SC Safe Routes to Schools** years ago, placing burden on local groups (school districts, MPOs, counties, municipalities, BPCs)
3. Keely gave status update for **Hunter Street Elementary** sidewalk pursuit
4. For [Pennies 5](#) Highway 21 widening near **FMHS**/Harris Street Park/lower-income housing (i.e., proximity of BPC's FMHS walkability study last year), discussed what design measures can be included to support safety for people on foot/bikes/scooters (e.g., lower speed limit; wider shoulder; wider sidewalk; multi-use path; separated bike lane) given safety needed for people living, working, and walking/rolling to park, high school, retail, church in the neighborhood.
 - Resource: <https://www.scdot.org/business/road-design.html> SC DOT 2021 Roadway Design Manual says painted bike lane should ideally have 4 feet - and more if higher highway speeds due to car/truck wind blowback
 - 5-lane road, 6-foot bike lane (max design speed of 50 mph), attached sidewalk planned for 21 north from bridge to hospital
 - YC seeks a design exception from SCDOT to allow 55 (not 45) mph - i.e., they are aware that it should not be 55; think it unlikely to get sidewalks and grass buffer though to reach goal of meeting new federal design standards would need grass buffer
 - RFATS implemented SS4A which is supposed to be more pedestrian friendly. can RFATS influence?
 - Precedence: FM Parkway (5-lane road) overlay has 8-foot sidewalks - outside of right of way near Catawba Ridge High School both sides of road; YC did not implement it in Pennies 4 (Sutton to Bridge with US Food); unfortunately, Pennies 5 does not include FM overlay design standards and are trying to put 5-foot sidewalks on the road; 21 north Captain Steves to Carowinds - curb, 4-foot buffer, 5-foot sidewalk, bike lane; 8-foot sidewalk in front of Carolina Orchards; Springfield didn't allow an 8-foot sidewalk to deter golf carts; FM previously tried to get bridge near Nation Ford High School with safer design standards; SIB 160 over 77 had an 8-foot sidewalk reduced to a 5-foot sidewalk
 - Coughenour (Big Daddy E-Biker on Instagram) discussed eminent domain; hopes to talk to FM Housing Authority; spoke with school board; speaks at county council meeting
5. [TAP-Sam Smith Sidewalk Project \(Fort Mill-Area in York County\)](#) - how can we get a shoulder? Harris Road sidewalk to **FMHS** still needed (in Town of Fort Mill); Chelsea B. thanked RFATs Policy Committee at recent meeting (no video recording)
6. Bike & Scooter Safety Rodeo at **TCES** hosted by Tega Cay Healthy Kids and Tega Cay Leos in partnership with Tega Cay Police Department, TCES, TCES PTO, CTT, BPC.
7. See [TCPD Safety Video](#) originally planned to be developed for TCES but rolled out to community

Other Funding / Projects

8. [Interchange Reconfiguration on SC 160 at I-77 in Fort Mill](#) - where are the people on foot and wheels in these photos and videos? Walk/roll through the center of the bridge (was sidewalk

reduced from 8 to 5 feet?); Berry Mattox says next video will include peds/cyclists; people can cross at Assembly on Baxter side to median pathway, then at Kingsley Street, but nothing in between

9. [TAP-Southside Regional Park Pedestrian Facilities \(Rock Hill\)-Phase-1](#)
10. [CMAQ-Celanese Corridor Traffic Flow Improvement Effort](#)
11. USDOT [Safe Streets & Roads for All Grants](#) - discussed at RFATS Policy Committee meeting but there is no recording so cannot watch it

Put the BPC 2025 monthly series on your calendar! Tues., Aug. 5, Wed., Sep. 3 (in person - where?), Wed., Oct. 1; Tues., Nov. 5; Tues., Dec. 2 - @9am