

BPC of York County 11/6/2024 Regular Meeting

Wednesday, November 6, 2024 9:00 AM

Attendees:

Present: Cleopatra Allen; Bret Baronak, Catawba Thread Trail, Riverwalk resident; Amy Boulris, FM resident; Luther Dasher, resident, bike/ped advocate, early BPC member; Liz Duda, TC resident; Jason Flora, City of RH EDC; Dr. David Keely, ESMMYC, community health, IYC - community health improvement plan - need more physical activity to support our mental health & multi-modal transportation; TFYC coalition chair; Stevie Micheli, Dept. of Public Health, Community Engagement Specialist; Steve Yaffe, transit consultant
Absent but involved: Janet Wojcik, Winthrop University

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting in progress. The main window displays a grid of video thumbnails for participants. The thumbnails include: Stevie Micheli, Liz D., Jason Flora, Dave K's Fathom Notetaker (with text 'Recording and taking notes'), David F Keely MD, Luther Dasher, Amy Boulris, bret, Steve Yaffe, and Cleopatra Allen. On the right side, there is a 'Participants (10)' list with search and control options. At the bottom right, there are 'Invite' and 'Mute all' buttons.

Followups:

1. (October) Liz will share FMHS Walkability study with consultant.
2. Liz to get in touch with Ben Ullman about BPC website which is down.
3. (September) Liz to hear from SCDOT on FMHS walkability enhancement gameplan.
4. Bret to send a link to "working page"
5. Bret to submit form to David Proper/Norfolk Southern this week.
6. Jason to ask about trails near Catawba Nation.
7. Amy to try to get cost estimate. Email Joe Romenick; talk to Anthony Boddie.
8. All - try to attend 12/6/2024 Carolina Thread Trail conference in Mooresville - <https://www.carolinathreadtrail.org/how-you-can-help/signature-events/trail-forum/>
9. Anyone - Does anyone have time to track/report on local ped/cycling/scooter accidents?

Notes:

1. **Carolina Thread Trail (CTT) State Line to Fort Mill Feasibility Study** (Bret Baronak) - Feasibility study is looking at preferred alignments to connect Little Sugar Creek Greenway at the NC border into downtown Fort Mill area via various corridor options; a CTT page has info including 10/10 public meeting results which approximately 70 people attended including some BPC members; are at implementation plan stage; people expressed preferences for certain alignments and some

residents expressed concerns about proximity to their homes so will continue conversation; have "cut sheets" showing small routes could act as a springboard for others; . Are weighing: 1) corridor through Crestwood Burnside and 2) north through Pineville Park area and drops into old golf course property where Sugar Creek comes down. Are identifying alignments, and public access and trailheads (identified on map). Have very preliminary cost estimates showing ideas for how to get these projects off the ground. The study will be completed Jan/Feb 2025. Part of implementation plan, with cost estimates, will have timeframe estimates. Will aim to get one project done; will take several years to build it all and need money; expecting a paved greenway (which is relatively expensive). Yaffe asks about recycled, cost-efficient options. It takes years to plan - consider, assess, then do. This study queues up the next step for the engineering design - put together money after identifying the next section.

2. **Rails to Trails** (Bret Baronak) - prospect of rail trail on Norfolk Southern (NS) Corridor from Rock Hill to York. NS has said they weren't interested in giving up the property yet. David Proper who works for Conservation Fund, based in Raleigh-Durham, is involved in rail-trail-related acquisition projects, working with NS and CSX, and is their "trusted partner" working on a few in WV and NC. Our working group met with him in late September. Advice he gave us was: build momentum behind the scenes so we have resources behind it when we talk to the railroad - proof of cooperation.
 - a. Bret has been taking pictures of corridor and plans to complete draft to share with working group this week. Working group to give feedback, then Bret will submit to David Proper who will submit to NS. Form indicates that this is a prospect for a rail trail.
 - b. Railbanking is another option.
3. **Local Safe Routes to Schools**
 - a. (Liz Duda) Tega Cay Elementary request for Bike/Scooter Rodeo - keep Bret apprised
 - b. (Liz Duda) Parents again expressed interest for pathway between Habersham to Pleasant Knoll Middle & Elementary.
 - c. (Amy Boultris) "the last mile" Catawba Ridge to River Trail Elementary School - haven't heard from SCDOT so hope; there is 0.10 of a mile owned by FMSD but not completed due to creek; Boddie planned to contact facilities director of both schools to hear if they discussed - too expensive to make ADA compliant. Don't want stairs; could maybe do a switchback trail to creek; costs more because building a longer structure since it's more wood; first find the cost differential
 - d. Whoever oversaw site development at elementary school may have had engineering done (Joe Romenick) There's a new federal grant program for Safe Routes to Schools - USDOT (Walk America folks would know). It's on Town of FM master sidewalk plan. DFK will help advocate at state level. Yaffe - executive director for independent living for this half of state lives in RH and would likely be glad to talk.
 - e. (Dave Keely) Hunter Street Elementary in York - not safe for kids to walk - need a path to be approved through a wooded area
4. **BPC Roundtable**
 - a. (Bret Baronak) Great Falls first phase rail trail is open for use. Still need a trailhead setup but can park downtown and walk on a low-volume street to get to the trail. Bret hiked there a couple of weeks ago.
 - b. Wants traction on landowner outreach (6-7 property owners) south of ___ Golf Club to Catawba Nation, a key gap. One developer, part of Latter Day Saints Church, may be favorable for a trail easement. How can we hone in on landowners to get their support? To connect River Park and Waterford. **Jason Flora will ask around.**
 - c. Rock Hill Storyline Trail - \$10MM grant to construct a bike/ped trail over railroad tracks (BPC wrote a letter of recommendation)
 - d. Liz would like BPC member to track local Pedestrian/Cycling/Scooter Accidents
5. **2024 York County Community Parks & Recreation Needs Assessment** - no update
6. **RFATS Long-Range Transportation Plan & Regional Bike/Ped Plan** - no update

Tracking Local Initiatives

1. **2024 York County Community Parks & Recreation Needs Assessment** for York County residents to inform York County Parks & Rec Strategic Plan
 - online survey; focus groups
 - : [Parks & Rec survey](#), 15-20 minutes
2. **RFATS Long-Range Transportation Plan & Regional Bike/Ped Plan**
 - 4 public meetings about the transportation plan - 10/10
 - BPC focus group held by Bolton & Menk in 10/9 call
 - Bike/ped survey closed 10/31
3. **Carolina Thread Trail State Line to Fort Mill Feasibility Study**
 - 10/10 public meeting
 - focus groups

Upcoming Events

- **Carolina Thread Trail's 17th Annual Trail Forum**, Thur., 12/5/2024, at the Charles Mack Citizen Center in Mooresville, NC.
- City of Rock Hill, Public Health Focus Group Meeting, Comprehensive Plan 5-yr Review, 12/12/2024, Zoom (contact: Amy Jo Denton)

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