

# 9/4/2024 BPC Notes

Wednesday, September 4, 2024 9:00 AM

## Bike/Ped Coalition (BPC) of York County Meeting Notes - Wed., Sept. 4, 2024, 9am, Virtual (Next BPC meeting – Wed., Oct. 2, 2024, Virtual)

**Meeting Summary:** Introductions welcomed participation from state government health and transportation departments, and state and local nonprofits and coalitions, as well as residents from across York County. Discussion focused on expanding safe, connected walking and biking infrastructure and opportunities across York County including rails to trails and safe routes to York County schools. Encouraged public participation in the multiple transportation and parks surveys currently open. Announced upcoming meetings and events.

### Meeting Participants

**Liz Duda**, TC resident  
**Cleopatra Allen**, RFATS Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)  
**Gretchen Benner**, FM resident  
**Amy Boulris**, FM resident  
**Alex Boyce**, City of Rock Hill  
**Joanne Burnett**, Palmetto Cycling Coalition  
**Dale Dove**, RH resident  
**Tommy Feemster**, SC DOT  
**Courtney Guenther**, RH resident  
**Christoph Halverson**, TC resident  
**David Keely**, retired family physician, public health, Tobacco-Free York County, Wholespire York County, RFATS CAC  
**Stevie Micheli**, Dept. of Public Health  
**Steve Yaffe**, transit consultant

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting grid with 11 participants. The participants are: Gretchen Benner, She/Her; Liz Duda; Dale Dove; David F Keely MD; Joanne Burnett; Christoph Halverson; Stevie Micheli; Steve Yaffe; Cleopatra Allen; Amy Boulris; and Tommy Feemster. Below the grid, a shared document is visible with a table of content or agenda items.

Responsible for identifying the...	Best Current Paths that Existing Plans Assesses	1 Private Parcel (1 parcel)	Under Consideration	Responsible Memorandum
Best practices reviewed...	Order to build park, potential for rain water...	2 Private Parcels (2 parcels)	Under Consideration but...	Responsible Memorandum
1 Creek, grade...	A lot of work with water impact for the...	3 Private Parcels (3 parcels)	Under Consideration + Maintenance	Responsible Memorandum
Best practice on site...	No traditional gateway tree, surface street	2 Private Parcel (2 parcels)	Under Consideration On-site	Responsible Memorandum

### Followups:

1. All - take public surveys & share links with networks
2. (August) Janet - write brief summary of American Fitness Index Rankings for BPC blog
3. (August) Dave - ask Stevie & Shekinah to add Candice Barber to HEAL & IYC workgroup invitations - completed 9/9

### Discussion Highlights

**Multiple Public Feedback Opportunities** - take surveys and share links with your networks:

1. **2024 York County Community Parks & Recreation Needs Assessment** for York County residents to inform York County Parks & Rec Strategic Plan ([York County survey](#), 15-20 minutes)
  - a. **BPC Feedback:** Make all parks walkable & rollable in, around, & to them.
2. **SCDOT Momentum 2050 Plan / SC Multimodal Transportation Plan** ([SCDOT Survey](#), 5-10 minutes) for South Carolina residents to inform SCDOT what you want it to fund - what are your interests
  - a. **Feedback:** The plan and SCDOT should focus on "people and freight" throughput rather than "vehicle" throughput.
3. **RFATS Long-Range Transportation Plan & Bike/Ped Connectivity Plan** - see [BPC blog](#) (RFATS public workshop 10/4; Lake Wylie public meeting TBD)
4. **Carolina Thread Trail State Line to Fort Mill Feasibility Study** (public meeting TBD)
  - a. **Feedback:** Consider ongoing maintenance.

### Rails to Trails

- Core team met 8/23/2024, welcoming a new community member, Dale Dove, to the effort, assessing status & next step
- Next step: Catawba Thread Trail's Bret Baronak is arranging a meeting with an experienced rails-to-trails proponent for advice

## Safe Routes to York County Schools

- **Fort Mill High School:**
  - WCNC Charlotte [spotlights the need](#) for safer ped/cycling pathways around Fort Mill High, 8/14/2024
  - Communities Seek Safer Pathways around Fort Mill High [BPC blog](#), 8/16/2024
  - Benner reached out to SCDOT's office in Columbia -- Adrienne Wattaker
  - Benner raised concern about safe pathways to FMHS at RFATS long-range planning meeting and said Hooper responded by suggesting the Safe Streets 4 All grant
  - Harris Road closed due to Friday storm (faulty stream)
    - Feemster noted that funds to repair street washout would come from maintenance budget (hurricane; major snowstorm could be reimbursed by SS4A grant)
  - Some recommendations in FMHS walkability study, such as sidewalks, are long-term
- **Town of Fort Mill** trails plan, the town looked towards future and tried to put things in place
- **Catawba Ridge High & Forest Creek Middle**
  - Amy Boulris advocated for a sidewalk between CRHS and FCMS and Pecan Ridge/Waterside communities, one third of a mile in 2020/2021 (as noted in this [BPC blog](#)); August 13, 2024, chose a contractor and project expected to be completed by end of April 2025
  - River Trail Elementary & CRHS sidewalks - cannot cross creek between schools without ADA-compliant bridge; if the school doesn't do it then does it have to be ADA compliant? Potential for DOJ lawsuit at federal level.
  - Impacts thousands of kids
- **City of Rock Hill** owns 45% of the roads and SCDOT owns 43%.

## Announcements

- **Submit your session proposals (through Sept. 13) for the Carolina Thread Trails 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Trail Forum (on Dec. 5) !** All ideas are welcomed and encouraged. Proposal summary should be no more than one page. Also please provide brief speaker bios. Email your proposal to Bret Baronak, executive director, at [bret@carolinathreadtrail.org](mailto:bret@carolinathreadtrail.org). All submissions will be reviewed by CTT staff, and a notice of acceptance will be made within a week after the deadline.
- **Carolina Thread Trail Connector** from state line to Fort Mill

## Upcoming Events

- **RFATS Policy Committee meeting**, Fri., 9/27/2024, noon
- **RFATS Citizen Advisory Committee meeting**, 9/12/2024, 4pm
- **RFATS workshop on Long-Range Transportation Plan**, Fri., 10/4/2024, noon
- [National Walk to School Day](#), Wed., 10/2/2024
- **Tega Cay Elementary School's** Celebration of **National Walk and Roll to School Day**, Fri., 10/4/2024
- **All on Board safety event** - Andrew Brownfield State Farm - cancelled due to weather (suggested that bike/ped have a table)
- **Next BPC meeting** – Wed., Oct. 2, 2024, Zoom
- **Carolina Thread Trail's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Trail Forum**, Thur., 12/5/2024, at the Charles Mack Citizen Center in Mooresville, NC.

## BPC communications

- public [Facebook page](#): 462 followers
- private [LinkedIn group](#): 42 members