

Approved as written

**BIKE PATH COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**December 8, 2023**  
**9:00 AM**  
**Jamestown Town Hall**  
**93 Narragansett Ave.**

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 9:05am and the following members were present:  
Erik Brine, Joyce Antoniello, Rip Smith, Samira Hakki, Julie Kallfelz, Steve Engberg, Jean Lambert, Lisa Bryer, Jeremy Collie, and John Hammel  
Also present: Jeff Maxtutis, Anna Sangree, Alyssa Gomes, Arek Galle, and Carrie Kolb

The consultants from BETA Group Inc., gave introductions to the committee.  
Jeff Maxtutis is the project manager. He is a transportation planner with 35 years of experience. His focus is on bike and pedestrian users in southern New England and he sits on the Arlington, MA transportation advisory committee.  
Anna Sangree is a transportation planner mostly involved in bike and pedestrian planning.  
Alyssa Gomes in the landscape architect department. She has been involved in Master Plan projects on Jamestown, including Beavertail. She lives on Jamestown.  
Arek Galle is a landscape architect and planner. He lives on Jamestown.

**II. Jamestown Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan with BETA Group Inc. - Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote**

Goals for project & scope: Maxtutis explained that there are three main phases: 1) existing conditions/inventory 2) where do you want to be and 3) the plan itself with how to get there.

Discussion ensued on what committee members see as the overall goal of the Master Plan. Hakki said the goal is to safely connect all neighborhoods on the island.

Bryer explained to BETA consultants that there have been several micro-plans over the years with Safe Routes to School 2006/2008. The North Road Bike Path Committee recommended that a bike path not be on North Road. Bryer would like the Master Plan to look at island as a whole.

Kallfelz would like the Master Plan to improve quality of life on Jamestown with fewer cars on the road and more bikers on the road. There is a crowd who do high speed/exercise and they use

the roads differently. Safety for all users is important. Visitors can bike the island and then stop for coffee and/or restaurant.

Maxtutis asked if different users will have different facilities? The roads are the same for both groups and the major pain points are the same. An example was given showing that North Road is the only way to get from North part of Island to South.

Separated bike lanes would be ideal. However, there are factors like cost and amount of land. Sangree asked about the committee's feelings on flex posts and/or bollards? Maxtutis said that pilot program could be done for a month/or set amount of time. Hakki said that flex posts don't protect people or stop cars from driving into the lane. She said wooden guardrails would be the most aesthetically pleasing. People in Jamestown will complain they are ugly. Lambert said that there needs to be education, or there will be push back from the community.

Bryer explained that part of the Comprehensive Plan is to maintain rural character which in the past has included not widening the roads, even for bike paths. The Town is working with DOT from East Shore Road up to Eldred Avenue on a striping plan. The Town was given some funding to complete a project, which also includes reconfiguring the area in front of Bridge and Turnpike Authority. Maxtutis asked about the schedule and timing? Bryer said that the Town does not know.

Three pinch points located at East Shore Road, Beavertail/Mackerel Cove and North Road/Zeek's Creek were discussed and solutions will be proposed. Brine pointed out that the Creek is on the TIP list and the road could be bridge in 10 years, this should be considered in future/vision.

Maxtutis asked about signage and wayfinding. Bryer said it should be discussed because it is not clear what signage/wayfinding should be. There is a general need for education of the bike path.

Discussion of funding ensued. Maxtutis asked if the committee had funding? Bryer said that there is a small amount of funding coming from the State for the area at East Shore Road at Eldred Avenue and tollbooths.

Discussion of areas for Improvement or Alternatives:

Narragansett Avenue: Maxtutis asked if parking can be removed? Bryer said that is not an option, but side streets could accommodate bike path. Galle said that High Street is an alternative road. Maxtutis said it will be about managing speed on the street.

North Road: might be a good area for a pilot. Hakki brought up speed, that the speed limit is 25 mph, but the observed speed is closer to 40 mph.

Hamilton Avenue: get a road diet? It is a State road and most of the main roads are State roads. Maxtutis described what data is needed. What has been done before? Is there data for: traffic volumes, State/local roadways, crash data from the police department, any spots where there are near misses, data for Town owned land and rights-of-way, vehicle volumes. Gomes asked if

there was a pavement management plan? Lambert said that she is not sure what they have coming up, but all roads are rated.

Maxtutis explained the steps of the plan:

Task 1 – create an existing conditions memo

Task 2 – identify issues and opportunities, which will build off of SWOT analysis

Task 3 – the contract has staff attending two meetings, which can be virtual meetings. Galle and Gomes can come to local meetings.

Task 4 – develop recommendations

Task 5 – put into draft plan and then final report that is accepted by the Town

The timeframe was discussed. Existing conditions memo will be submitted to Bryer by the end of January/early February. The network assessment will be submitted in February/March. The draft recommendations will be submitted by April/May. The final report is after that.

Julie Kallfelz and Samira Hakki are available to help anytime a bike/drive is needed or useful.

Discussion of public engagement ensued. Galle asked how public engagement was envisioned? Bryer said connect with the Jamestown Press because everyone reads it, and keep the bike path in the public eye with Planning Commission, Town Council and workshop(s). Hakki said that there are four bike to school days and the next one is not set in stone but timeframe is May/June. Galle said that BETA would like to be involved. Smith suggested creating an official bike path opening. Kallfelz said that Rolling Agenda can plan another workshop.

Discussion of walk analysis and sidewalks ensued. Maxtutis asked where walk analysis was conducted? Bryer said in the downtown/village. Maxtutis asked if there is any wheel chair ramps for pedestrian disability? Bryer said that there are very few of them and they are on Narragansett Ave. Maxtutis asked if the sidewalks are in good shape? Bryer said, generally no and that Narragansett and Watson are newer sidewalks. Galle said that the sidewalks around the school and library are also newer.

The Safe Routes to School (SRTS) project was discussed. There will be new sidewalks in front of library, and new crosswalks at Watson and North Road. There will be a cross campus path between the elementary and middle schools. There is a plan to put a sidewalk on Arnold Ave. There is not a start date planned yet. Bryer will share original SRTS plan, and the plans for East Shore Road.

The permeable pavement plan on North Road with RIDOT was discussed. Bryer explained that the RIDOT plan is to put 3-inches of permeable pavement over existing pavement in a section of North Road near Zeek's Creek. It is a test program to determine if it should be used in other areas in the state.

Bryer told Maxtutis that the committee has also inventoried bike racks and will give BETA that information. Gomes asked if there were any maps? She was given the most recent map printed by the conservation commission.

**III. Approval of Minutes from October 25, 2023 – Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote**

A motion was moved by Engberg and seconded by Smith to approve the minutes as written. All in favor.

**IV. Future Meetings – Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote**

For 2024, BPC Meetings will be the third Friday of the month at 9:00am.

Collie would like to discuss education and outreach at a future meeting.

**V. Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was moved by Bryer and seconded by Smith. All in favor.

Attest:

Carrie Kolb