

Approved as written

BIKE PATH COMMITTEE MEETING
April 26, 2024
11:00 AM
Jamestown Town Hall
Small Conference Room
93 Narragansett Ave.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 11:01 a.m. The following members were present: Julie Kallfelz, Rip Smith, Samira Hakki, Jean Lambert, Lisa Bryer, and Jeremy Collie, Also present: Alyssa Gomes, BETA; Arek Galle, BETA, Anna Sangree, BETA and Carrie Kolb Not present: Erik Brine, Steve Engberg, Joyce Antonello, and John Hammel

II. Approval of Minutes from February 16, 2024 – Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote

A motion was moved by Lambert and seconded by Collie to approve the minutes from the February 16, 2024 meeting as written. All in favor

III. Jamestown Bicycle and Pedestrian Draft Master Plan: Presentation from BETA - Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote

Galle, Gomes and Sangree presented the plan entitled “Jamestown, RI Bike and Pedestrian Plan Draft Recommendations” (see attached presentation).

Discussion ensued regarding plan presentation.

Bryer said that she attended a mobile bike workshop at a conference in Minneapolis where some major roads and bridges were 10 feet 8 inches wide and the narrower lanes calmed traffic.

North Main Road to East Shore Road is a long-term vision. There would be a shared path through the old dump site and there would need to an agreement with the land trust. Bryer asked if wetland maps were looked at? Galle said that property, ownership, and environmental conditions would need to be looked at and the hope is to build a connection.

North Road over Great Creek is a section that RIDOT is working on. Bryer said that the graphics need to portray a bike lane or shared use path.

Smith asked about East Shore Road to Seaside Drive and if there are plans to increase? Smith said that Seaside Drive is one of the many places that needs repaving. Gomes said that could be an area for a shared use path on a more 'neighborhood' road. Galle said it is a good point that should have some narrative.

Collie pointed out that there is quite a bit of pedestrian traffic on East Shore Road that is not addressed by shared use path.

Hakki asked about a lane over Jamestown Bridge for the future? Bryer said that there was a study done by DOT with access on and off the bridge, and it is about 20 years old. Smith said that a lane on the bridge makes Helm Street more ideal.

Hakki noted that with a trail along the farms that the road is very wet. Galle said that they would stay away from the marsh.

Collie asked about the road the very tip of the island that is closed to traffic and can it be turned into bike lane? Bryer said that North Bay View Drive is not in great shape and has failed in the middle. Lambert said that the bike lane could go around Summit Avenue. Galle said that they could make a loop with Summit Avenue and East Shore Road.

Hakki said that in the Shores area to include Frigate Street because there is a fair number of pedestrians on Frigate Street. Gondola Avenue is used also for walking to avoid North Road.

Lambert said that there should be sidewalks on both sides of the street due to kids between Maple Avenue and Southwest Avenue when discussing Narragansett Avenue Option 2. Smith asked if a traffic table make sense? To have a raised crosswalk near the schools at Lawn Avenue.

Walcott Avenue Option 2: this option would tighten up the travel lanes, add 5 feet on each side of the road and cut back the vegetation. Bryer said to make that a recommendation.

Hakki asked about parking on the south side and shared use on the north side on Hamilton Avenue? Bryer asked about conflicts with shared use? Sangree said there are not many conflicts, especially if it is not used a lot.

Bryer asked about the blind hill when discussing Fort Wetherill Road Option 1. Smith said the path could go through the park to avoid the hill.

Samira asked why five-foot bike lane on the road with raised pedestrian on North Road, Southwest Avenue and Hamilton Avenue? A two-foot raise between cars and bike is the preferred.

Smith asked if there are any consideration for Highland? Hakki said it's a neighborhood road. Galle said it could be listed as a southern loop with an advisory lane. It should only be used by advanced bicyclists.

Hakki asked about creating parking on Watson Avenue near the tennis courts? Bryer said that it is an existing burial ground. Galle said to adjust the center line to create area for walking and traffic calming.

Discussion ensued regarding transitions at both lane changes and cross walks. Lambert said the same transition is needed across town. Galle said that they would have a standard. Bryer asked how often cross walks and transitions would need to be re-painted? Hakki asked about colorized asphalt? Galle said that colorized asphalt fades.

Discussion ensued regarding advisory bike lanes. The question was raised do they work? Gomes said that there is a learning curve. Galle said that there is a case study in Hanover, New Hampshire. Education is a key factor.

Discussion regarding the plan overall ensued. Collie raised the question, could the Town Council say "no" and reject the whole plan? Lambert said it is high level plan, and there are aspirations to meet.

The priority areas are:

- North-South at Zeek's Creek
- Beavertail Road
- East Shore Road at Eldred Avenue

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

1. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, June 14, 2024.
2. Public Workshop on Tuesday, June 18, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

V. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 1:29 p.m. was moved by Smith and seconded by Lambert. All in favor.