

West Hartford Pedestrian and Bicycle Commission Monthly Meeting Minutes

Monday May 12, 2025, 7:00 PM

Room 400, Town Hall.

Ed Pawlak, Ed Perzanowski , Jason Wang, Jen Bowman, John Wenz, Greg Sommers. One member of the community (Meredith)

1. Call to Order, Attendance
2. Introductions
3. Approval of previous meeting's minutes. - Approved.
4. Old Business

a. Sedgwick Road 4/29/2025 public meeting summary. Reviewed with Greg Somers

AutoCAD drawing shown to those present. Bike Lanes included, in both directions. Reviewed the map and discussed. Ed brought up the previous parking studies and how there is not a high demand for parking on this street. ...which creates an inability to buffer the bike lanes. Somers responded...this is a "Concept Plan" and something that is in development.

What do these plans represent? Ed's question. Sommers said this is basically a draft plan, not the final product.

Jason said Bike West Hartford is on board with a suggestion for a median or more bump outs as traffic calming measures.

Ed pointed out how fast this road is. 1200 cars a day going over 40mph on Sedgwick

This road is an important road – middle school, church, Duffy, residential neighborhood.

We don't know the 'near misses' – John Wenz. Ed Pawlak suggested adding raised crosswalks

Discussed Mountain Rd into Sedgwick, by Buena Vista...very dangerous intersection for kids. Raised crosswalk with flashing lights should be a priority here.

b. Mobility Hub design: Strategy for providing PBC feedback to Stantec designers

Covered bike parking, charging ports for ebikes, connection for CT Transit. Reviewed the locations of each Mobility Hub. Limited discussion.

c. West Hartford Center Reconstruction Project: Does town need to apply for a Complete Streets Exception?

The plan does not provide "safe and accessible street for all users" ...does not provide facility for cyclists. So why no exception? Sommers believes there is no need for an exception...says it's for all users...noted wider sidewalks, and curb bump outs as safety

features. The Commission pushed back because of the lack of bike facilities being included on Farmington and LaSalle.

d. Raised crosswalk plans for 2025 reviewed with Greg Sommers

At least 5 new raised crosswalks planned in 2025- Flagg, Sheep Hill, Richmond, Asylum, La Salle Park Road project, 4 additional raised crosswalks

Sedgwick will have some as well.

Focus will be near schools.

Flashing light raised crosswalks would be best! And the town could consider just some speed humps that are traffic calming and not associated with a crosswalk.

OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Discussion about daylighting intersections. (Newport and Farmington as example) - on street parking near the intersection of Newport/Farmington and other roads makes it very dangerous for drivers trying to pull out onto Farmington Avenue.

Road Resurfacing Projects

Raymond Road being resurfaced.

Mountain into Blvd resurfaced.

Full length of Kane Street being resurfaced.

We examined **Kane Street** and the bike lanes, and a potential bike box at the intersection with Oakwood and Kane. Some discussion about the bike lane at that intersection being in the middle of two turning lanes.

The town would like feedback about bike boxes and their usefulness in this instance.

Asylum – two alternative designs for bike lanes on this road are available, Engineering Department looking for feedback from PBC.

King Phillip/Tumblebrook intersection: Adding a “mini” roundabout in 2025.

Tactile push buttons being added at select intersections, including at Blvd and Quaker.

Trout brook and Blvd. – new bump out

5. New Business

a. Strategy to improve PBC communication with Town staff - tabled

b. Vision Zero Safe Driver Pledge - tabled

- c. Draft Vision Zero Quick-Build Supplement - tabled
- d. Engineering/Vision Zero update - provided by Greg Sommer
- e. P&Z update - nothing new to report
- f. Complete Streets Policy 2024 Annual Report - tabled
- g. Vision Zero 2024 Annual Report - tabled

6. Adjourn at 8:30 PM