

**CITY OF NORWALK
BIKE/WALK COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 10, 2025**

ATTENDANCE: Emily Burnaman, Chair; Nicholas Pappas; Manny Salgado; Rebecca Stoll; Christina Randall; Brian Clarke; Elizabeth Sile

OTHERS: Greg Pacelli, Transportation Planner, TMP; James Travers, Director, TMP; Jahliah Green, Norwalk Health Department

To allow public access, anyone may access a meeting by telephone, Zoom, and/or the City of Norwalk YouTube channel. Specific instructions and links can be found at <http://www.norwalkct.org/meetings>.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Burnaman called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Ms. Burnaman called the roll, and all those listed in the attendance were present.

III. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

A. Welcome New Commissioners

Ms. Burnaman welcomed the new commissioners. Mr. Clarke, Ms. Randall, and Ms. Sile introduced themselves and provided a brief background.

B. E-code Review, History, Mission, and Goals (Strategic Plan 2025/26)

Ms. Burnaman shared the code of ordinance and encouraged the new commissioners to read it if they have not already done so. She said the commission has been discussing approaching the Ordinance Committee to amend the commission's purpose, as it has been over a decade since the last amendment, and priorities have shifted a bit, especially with the development and expansion of TMP and the work they are doing.

Ms. Buraman provided an overview and said the commission is to promote bicycling and walking as safe, accessible, and sustainable modes of transportation and recreation that enhance the city’s livability, economic vitality, and public health.

Mr. Travers said the work we all do is particularly important as we look to make a change, which is largely what we do, and Mr. Pacelli will be speaking about some of the things we are excited about and the movements in a forward direction. He said it is a combination of the department and the commission working hand in hand, and that they need to work together to add more bike lanes and off-road trails, reach protected bike lane status, and advance that, and need the commission to be advocates for these things, and expressed his gratitude for the work the commission does.

Ms. Burnaman said a big part of what the commission does is communication and education, and, as an advisory committee, they are promoting complete streets projects and working with residents on the shared vision of our city. She said that winning the sustainability award is making strides in the right direction.

Ms. Burnaman presented some important links that she will share with the rest of the commission. She noted that she would like the commission to begin planning for the 2026 Strategic Plan.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation this evening.

V. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A. REGULAR MEETING: OCTOBER 6, 2025

Under the attendance change, “Jaleah” to “Jahliah”

**** MR. PAPPAS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS AMENDED.**

**** MS. STOLL SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

VI. OLD BUSINESS

A. REVIEW OF BIKE/PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN UPDATES

Ms. Stoll said she has read the plan and made some progress on the checklist. The goal is to support advocacy for a new Bike/Pedestrian Master Plan. She said once she makes her edits, she will save the plan to the shared drive.

B. UPDATES ON E-BIKE SAFETY SEMINAR PLANNING

Ms. Burnaman said she has been working with the bike league instructor Chaz Foster of Sound Cyclists, as well as the police department, TMP, and the Health Department on planning an e-bike safety seminar and is still in the planning phase, but has discussed starting with something smaller and virtual to have the ability to reach more people. She said that if any commissioners are interested in joining that effort, they should reach out to her. The seminar would just entail a lot of coordination and planning, and ultimately promoting and sharing it with schools in the area, parent groups, and e-bike users, as we are seeing a lot more e-bikes on our streets.

C. FOLLOW-UP ON EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Salgado provided an update, stating that he will be scheduling a follow-up meeting. Last month, they partnered with the public schools for a bike, walk, and roll day at Cranbury Elementary School, and it was a fun event.

Mr. Salgado said they received an email from a school social worker requesting a helmet, and they were able to provide one to a student at an elementary school who needed one.

Ms. Burnaman said she had heard from some of the commissioners who were interested in joining the educational subcommittee.

Ms. Randall suggested a bike/bus program and will reach out to Mr. Salgado to discuss further.

D. UPDATE ON ROUNDABOUT'S EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

Ms. Burnaman said Ms. Green had put together some verbiage and content around the benefits of roundabouts, but would like Mr. Pacelli to review it before it is shared online. She said the CTDOT has also been sharing information on how to use roundabouts, as confusion has grown with more being installed around the state. Mr. Pacelli said he would be happy to review it before it is shared online, but there is a lot of good content available that supports roundabouts and how to navigate them. Mr. Pacelli and Ms. Burnaman thanked Ms. Green for putting this together.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. TMP LETTER OF SUPPORT REQUEST- WARD STREET CORRIDOR SAFETY PROJECT- LOTCIP FUNDING.

Mr. Pacelli said that, as part of the upcoming LotCip, a state-funded program, they are soliciting projects for the upcoming grant funding, and it is a new opportunity for another project that encompasses Ward Street. TMP is currently installing new sidewalks, which would be phase II of the project. and is applying to install all-new sidewalks and additional crosswalks, as there are many students in the area, and will provide a safe, accessible, connected sidewalk system so they can easily walk to any school in the area. As part of the application, they provided letters of support and worked closely with the Norwalk Transit District, which has two bus stops within its boundaries. He coordinated with others on Main Street, worked with schools on the student population in the area, and received a lot of data on that. They are looking to create a multi-modal road throughout the area with low speeds for pedestrians. He said any level of support would be helpful, especially from the Bike/Walk Commission.

Mr. Pacelli said this section of Ward Street was included in the Bike/Ped plan as a priority three corridor and called out for new sidewalks, so they will be pulling from the previous planning document.

Ms. Burnaman said she drafted a letter of support and shared it with the commissioners.

**** MS. STOLL MOVED TO APPROVE THE LETTER OF SUPPORT AS WRITTEN.**

**** MS. RANDALL SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. NEW WEST AVENUE PAVEMENT MARKINGS – GREEN AND RED PAVEMENT INSTALLATION.

Mr. Pacelli shared the concept plan and said that through the DPW paving contract, West Avenue was paved between Maple Street and Wall Street. The existing conditions had very wide travel lanes, and we considered making this more multi-modal and adding dedicated bike facilities. and also worked with the Transit District to determine where their new stops would be, incorporated some of those into the pavement marking plan, and were able to fit dedicated bike lanes all the way from Maple Street to Wall Street, as they are trying to expand the dedicated bike network and make the connections to the existing infrastructure that is there today. All of the striping is still being completed, but most of the symbols are in and are waiting on the parking stalls to complete some of the bike lanes. They hope to have everything completed by the end of this week.

Mr. Pappas asked why the bike lanes were not installed between the curb and the parking spaces. Mr. Pacelli said that there was not enough space for a buffer, as the existing curb lanes had not been changed.

C. ROUNDABOUTS OVERVIEW- PREVIOUSLY CONSTRUCTED ROUNDABOUTS THROUGHOUT CONNECTICUT

Mr. Pacelli said this item was previously discussed, but noted that there is a roundabout in Stamford and Monroe, which are great examples of three-legged roundabouts where signals had been, where traffic is flowing very smoothly.

D. SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL- DISCUSSION ON THE BENEFITS OF SIDEWALKS AND CREATING A CONNECTED CITY.

Ms. Burnaman said she would like to push this item to the next meeting as she would like to invite Bridget Moriarity of the Safe Routes to School program to discuss the benefits of sidewalks.

E. CITY SIDEWALK CONSTRUCTION STATUS- WEST ROCKS, ADAMS AVENUE, WARD STREET, EAST WALL STREET, HOSPITAL HILL, FLAX HILL ROAD, GRUMMAN AVENUE, AND BEACON STREET

Mr. Pacelli provided an update and said this is a coordinated effort between DPW and TMP, and approximately 12 miles of sidewalks will be installed by the end of this year.

F. ROUTE 1 CONNECTICUT AVENUE SIDEWALK GAP AT RAMPART ROAD

Mr. Pacelli said this location was identified as a critical sidewalk gap in the Route 1 corridor study, which will be completed this year. In the meantime, as a short-term project, they are working with the consultant to begin designing a contract bridge parallel to the existing road.

G. CALF PASTURE BEACH BIKE LANES

Mr. Pacelli said the DPW, alongside Recreation and Parks, installed a multi-use path and resurfaced the entirety of Calf Pasture Beach, and as part of that TMP would like to install directional bike lanes inside the park and, with that, has designed a pavement marking plan to add bike access in and out of the park that connects to the multi-use path that's along the water. The goal is to have it completed by next spring.

Ms. Burnaman noted that this is separating car traffic from bike traffic for safety, but it will not be part of the NRV. Mr. Pacelli, this is another one of those incremental changes that TMP is providing, including striping and a dedicated area for cyclists. Ms. Burnaman said that more accessible bike parking would also be nice to see.

VIII. DISCUSSION

A. REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT PARTNERS- TMP, HEALTH DEPARTMENT, POLICE, AND OTHERS AS AVAILABLE.

There was no discussion.

B. ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Mr. Salgado requested that an update on the Cemetery Street project be included on the next agenda.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. SALGADO MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** MS. RANDALL SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd