

**CITY OF NORWALK  
BIKE/WALK COMMISSION  
SPECIAL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 9, 2026**

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

OTHERS: Greg Pacelli, Transportation Planner, 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 6:03 PM.

**II. ROLL CALL**

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

**III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mr. Dellinger said he is a new member of the city council and wanted to get a sense of the  
commission's work.

**IV. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

**A. REGULAR MEETING: JANUARY 5, 2026**

**\*\* MR. CLARKE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED.  
\*\* MR. PAPPAS SECONDED THE MOTION.  
\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **V. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. 2026 EVENTS: EARTH DAY FESTIVAL AND STEERING COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Ms. Randall said she has only attended one planning meeting for the Earth Day Festival, and they hope to hold some of the events they were unable to hold last year due to the rain. She said she and Mr. Salgado will be working hand in hand with them to arrange the bike rides and walks. Mr. Salgado said they had discussed doing a walk parade, which they had also discussed at the education subcommittee meeting, and will try to coordinate with other key members and stakeholders in the community to plan the walk parade from the closest middle school to the green. Ms. Burnaman suggested reaching out to the police department and the cadets as they may be able to assist and provide some visibility. She also suggested reaching out to Ms. Stoll to see about contacting the East Norwalk Neighborhood Association. Mr. Clarke volunteered to reach out to them and help coordinate, along with some District C members. Ms. Burnaman said, as they have done in the past, she will also reach out to Chaz Foster from Sound Cyclists for the bike ride to the green that day, and suggested the commission build on that. Mr. Salgado requested confirmation of the festival date. Mr. Burnaman said she received an email from Ms. Craighead confirming that it will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2026.

Ms. Burnaman asked if there were any volunteers for the bike valet service. Ms. Randall volunteered once the walk was over. Mr. Pappas also volunteered to help. Mr. Salgado volunteered to transport the valet equipment to and from the site. Ms. Sile also volunteered to help.

### **B. TMP QUARTERLY MEETING: ALIGNMENTS, UPDATES, & NEXT STEPS**

Ms. Burnaman said the first quarterly meeting was held and included Mr. Pacelli, Mr. Travers, Mr. Salgado, Ms. Randall, and herself, and discussed three major upcoming community meetings. Last week, a community meeting on the roundabout was held at South Norwalk Elementary School, and the first preliminary design concepts for Norwalk's first modern roundabout were presented, which was very exciting. A few commission members attended and provided feedback.

Mr. Pacelli said phase I, which is the removal of the existing berm and the concrete rail spur, will take place this spring and will be advancing the design throughout the winter and spring. All comments received regarding the roundabout are being collected, and folks can still submit them; they will be assessed as the design advances.

Mr. Clarke said he is excited about the roundabout and that, when people know how to use them, they work beautifully to keep traffic moving and will increase safety in the area, which can be chaotic. There was concern about the truck's usage. Mr. Pacelli said since this will be the first roundabout, outreach will be key and TMP will be releasing

how-to documentation as well as educational videos, and will need the commission's assistance, once the round a bout starts to take shape and construction nears completion. Ms. Burnaman agreed and said that it absolutely makes sense for the commission, especially in the educational capacity, to spread awareness and educate where they can. Mr. Pacelli said that Amy Watkins of Wach for Me CT can also be a great resource for materials. Ms. Burnaman suggested that Ms. Green attend the next educational sub-committee meeting to discuss this further. Ms. Green said she would be happy to help wherever she can.

Ms. Burnaman suggested connecting the project to the Norwalk River Valley Trail, which would be great to see. Mr. Pacelli said they are looking to incorporate a multi-use path along the school for a future potential rail trail going towards the South Norwalk train station.

Ms. Burnaman said a Lockwood Lane Community meeting was being held at City Hall on Tuesday, February 3rd, and that the roadway paving and sidewalk installation along Lockwood Lane from Winthrop Street to George Avenue were discussed. Mr. Clarke said he attended the meeting, that the concerns were heard, and that the one-on-one meetings with the residents will be helpful. He is willing to sit in on those meetings to discuss why the sidewalks will be helpful, the value they bring, and the importance of education. He said that while traveling in the area, he observed children walking in the street, and that having it all connected will be beneficial for the neighborhood. He is personally excited about it.

Ms. Burnaman said a community meeting on the Chestnut Hill Road sidewalk was being held on Wednesday, February 5th, at Cranbury Elementary School. Mr. Pacelli provided an overview of the project and said there was a public information meeting held at Cranbury Elementary School and it went very well and had attendees that were mostly from the area and parents from the school who had expresses concerns about getting their kids to school safety, and the excessive speeds they see, and are welcoming the idea of new sidewalks that are being proposed. Mr. Pacelli said a concept design was also presented for the intersection of Chestnut Hill and Field Street, as the current intersection is very confusing. The sidewalks will be done first, and we will review all comments received and advance the plans. It is located on a state road, so they will need to work with the CT DOT. The sidewalks will run under the Merritt Parkway, so they will also need to go through the Merritt Parkway committee for approvals, and will be working towards that process next.

Mr. Burnaman said some of the action items that were discussed in the meeting were inviting a guest speaker to come to Norwalk that is in the cycling pedestrian safety atmosphere, and she will be reaching out to Jerry Silber to see if he has any connections and requested that any of the commissioners have any ideas for opportunities for guest speakers to come to Norwalk to let her know. She said they also discussed complete streets and snow shoveling issues, especially this year with all the snow we have gotten.

Ms. Burnaman said the next quarterly meeting with TMP will be held in April. If any commissioners are interested in joining, let her know.

## VII. NEW BUSINESS

### **A. SIDEWALK SNOW REMOVAL AND WINTER WALKING SAFETY: DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS.**

Mr. Burnaman requested that Mr. Pacelli explain snow removal responsibilities for commercial entities and city property versus residential property, and how the commission can support people who are having difficulty getting around, especially at crosswalks. Mr. Pacelli said, per the city ordinance, sidewalks on city roads are to be cleared by the abutting property owner. The city is responsible for the municipal lots; Recreation and Parks is responsible for a section of the NRV; and First District Water is responsible for a short span. They understand that it is difficult for some folks to clear snow, but the city just does not have the capacity to clear sidewalks. After the storm is over and the streets and lots are cleared, the operations group at Public Works clears as many sidewalks as possible that they see as limited for access. TMP does not have a snow-clearing crew, so any issues observed should be submitted through the Click and Request app. Ms. Burnaman said that Stamford had come up with a snow shovel brigade which were a group of volunteers that started helping to clear sidewalks, especially for those who are unable to clear it themselves, and suggested maybe starting something like that in Norwalk as it may be beneficial especially for those who are not able to shovel their areas and this may be something the commission may be able to assist with or at least spread awareness. Mr. Pacelli suggested using the Click and Request app, but again noted that if the sidewalk is on residential property, the property owner is responsible for clearing it per the city ordinance. Ms. Burnaman said that she will also bring this to the educational committee for discussion. Mr. Pacelli suggested reaching out to other cities to see what they have done.

### **B. PEDESTRIAN SIGNALS AT WATER STREET AND WASHINGTON STREET: CONCERNS AND FOLLOW-UP PROCESS**

Mr. Pacelli said there is no update at this time, but again suggested using the Click and Request app to ensure a record and that it goes to the proper department.

## **VIII. DISCUSSION**

### **A. COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Ms. Randall requested that the budget be included on next month's agenda for discussion. Mr. Pacelli reminded the commission that June 30<sup>th</sup> is the last day of the fiscal year, and any funds not expended by then are lost and must be procured in accordance with the city's purchasing process.

Mr. Pacelli said the new active transportation grant has been released, but unfortunately, it cannot be applied for because funds from the previous transportation micro-grant are still available. We will need to establish a plan to expend those funds sooner rather than later so the commission can apply for a new solicitation. Ms. Burnaman said the remaining funds will be used for the educational brochures, and she will bring them to the educational subcommittee.

Ms. Burnaman requested an updated remaining budget.

Ms. Burnaman said the City of Norwalk is a bike-friendly community, and the commission is interested in pursuing that status again this year. Ms. Trendler supports the application and has recruited a few others to assist. She also suggested an opportunity to earn a bike-friendly award or a way to recognize pivotal members of our community pushing for better infrastructure for walking and biking. If other commissioners agree, it may be nice to have an annual award for individuals who stand out in the community and make this happen. Ms. Randall, Mr. Pappas, and Ms. Sile volunteered to work on formalizing some ideas, and they will be included on the next agenda for further discussion.

### **B. STAFF UPDATES: TRANSPORTATION, HEALTH, COMPLETE STREETS, AND OTHER PROJECT UPDATES**

There was no discussion.

### **C. COMMISSION SAFETY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES WITH WATCH FOR ME CT: COORDINATION AND NEXT STEPS.**

This was discussed under 2026 events, Earth Day festival, and steering committee update. Mr. Salgado said the next educational subcommittee meeting is scheduled for February 27<sup>th</sup> and will discuss the next steps for the Earth Day Festival.

## **VII. ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* MS. RANDALL MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\* MR. PAPPAS SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd