

**BMTS Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee
Notes from the meeting held on Monday, May 9, 2005
5th Floor Planning Conference Room
Edwin L. Crawford County Office Building**

Present: Scott Reigle, Don Robertson, Toby Wollin, Greg Patinka, Erin Duguay, Al Sunderwirth, Ruth Levin, Luke Davis, and Warren Wetzelsberg

Absent with Excuse:

1. The meeting was **convened at 1:35PM**. The **April 11th** minutes were approved with the following correction. Bike Tioga will offer seven bike rides, not six.

2. **Announcements and Status Reports**

- **News articles and announcements** are sent out in a monthly emailing, around the time the Committee Meeting agenda & minutes are sent out. They are also available in .pdf (Acrobat) format on the BMTS website (www.bmtsonline.com) in the REPORTS section. The direct link is http://www.gobroomecounty.com/departments/BMTS_reports.php.
 - **ANNOUNCEMENT – Walk-N-Roll 2005 (May 14 – 21)**
(See Walk-N-Roll portion of agenda)
 - **ANNOUNCEMENT – Healthy Trails, Healthy Communities Conference**
The second statewide greenway and community trail conference organized by Parks & Trails New York.
June 17-18, 2005
SUNY New Paltz
New Paltz, NY
For more conference and registration information, see www.ptny.org or call (518) 434-1583
 - **REPORT – BMTS Bike Route Map**
Problems with PDF files of the map have held up progress on the project for about a week. The files are now at Courier Printing, where a proof is being made.
The County Board of Acquisitions & Contracts (BAC) is requiring BMTS to get their approval to extend the term dates of the original contract. This may delay printing.
EDITOR'S NOTE: The BAC has since informed BMTS that it has to produce new quotes for the printing job. A printing company will be decided upon at the next BAC meeting on June 8th. After receiving written confirmation, which may take one week, BMTS can issue a purchase order for work on the map to begin. In the mean time, Courier has had to stop work on the map.
Completion of the updated bike route map is anticipated by the end of June or early July.
Distribution ideas: Locations to consider include chamber of commerce & tourism offices, I-81 Welcome Center, convenience & grocery stores, libraries, book stores, Eureka Camping Center, health clubs, and BU & BCC. Al will bring maps to the Tioga County Tourism Office in Owego, and send maps to Bike Tioga registrants. Scott will check into promoting the map in media through the Broome County Health Dept. and the STEPS Program. He will also contact the City about putting a map in the kiosk at the north side of the S. Washington St. Bridge.
3. **Action Items**
 - a. Community Night Out Events – Scott will email municipal officials to get details and information about these events, and find out if it would be possible to conduct bike rodeos at them.
 - b. Bike Route Map – Scott to check into promoting the map in through the STEPS Program. He will also contact the City about putting a map in the kiosk at the north side of the S. Washington St. Bridge.
 - c. Walk-N-Roll 2005 – (See Walk-N-Roll 2005 below)

4. Walk-N-Roll 2005 (May 14-21)

- Message on GIANT Grocery Bag: The message on the GIANTS bags are currently in the stores.
- Public Service Announcements (PSA's): A letter requesting the TV-PSA to be broadcast was sent out to the area television stations, however, there have been no responses. Will try to reach radio stations to run PSA's via a press release.
- Newspaper Feature Articles/Media –
 - *Scott will send out a media release announcing Walk-N-Roll 2005 and directing people to the BMTS website to view a calendar of events. Scott will also send Committee members a copy of the calendar of events for them to distribute.*
 - *Scott will contact Tom Wilber of the Press & Sun-Bulletin to request coverage of pedestrian and bicycle related issues during Walk-N-Roll Week. Hopefully, it will be possible to promote the new BMTS bike route map.*
 - *Scott is in part of a Channel 34 "Where is Wilmarth?" segment. This was arranged by Mary McFadden of the Broome County Health Dept. who directs the STEPS to a Healthier NY Program. The segment theme is walking or biking to work. It stresses that even if one lives too far away to walk or bike to work, an alternative would be to drive to a public parking lot or take the bus part of the way to work, then walk or bike the rest of the way. A demonstration of the bike rack on BC Transit buses was also be taped. Scott will try to find out when the segment will be aired.*
Editor's Note: The segment ran during the week of May 15.
 - *The Owego Rotary will be handling media coverage of their Walkable & Bikeable Community Audit on May 14th.*
- BC Walks: Becky Gelunas of the Broome County Health Dept. has contacted schools to encourage students, faculty and staff to sign-up for BC Walks. A Dance Party with Louie G. of STAR 105 FM will be awarded to the school with the most enrolling in BC Walks.
- Bike Rodeo Training: Lois Chaplin, Bicycle Safety Specialist at Cornell, will provide bike rodeo training. The training will take place on:
Thursday, May 19th from 4:00 – 6:00 PM
at the large cafeteria in **Johnson City High School** on Reynolds Rd., just north of the Oakdale Mall.

All Committee members were encouraged to participate and to invite others who may be interested.

- Owego Rotary:
 - *Al will inform Scott if the Rotary will be leading a recreational bike ride during Walk-N-Roll.*
 - *The Owego Rotary will host a workshop about making Owego more bicycle and pedestrian friendly. Their focus is on Fifth Ave. /NYS 17C in the Village & Town of Owego. The workshop will be held at **The Treadway Inn** in Owego on **Saturday, May 14th**, and will be the "kickoff" for Walk-N-Roll week. The following is a draft agenda.*

8:30 – 9:00 AM	Breakfast & Registration
9:00 – 10:00 AM	Elements of Walkable & Bikeable Communities Presentation
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM	Walking Audit (rain or shine)
12:00 – 12:30 PM	Hickories Park - Compile Audit Results, Develop Solutions, Next Steps
12:30 PM	LUNCH
- Other Ideas:
 - *Scott contacted Mike Kennelly of the Broome County Public Library to see if they plan promote bicycling and walking in some manner during Walk-N-Roll 2005. He hasn't had a response yet.*
Editor's Note: Mike contacted Scott on Wednesday, May 11th. He stated that the Library is happy to participate in the Walk-N-Roll week activities. The Library has set up a table to display bicycling and walking books in the colonnade section and put up a sign announcing the observance of Walk-N-Roll.

The storytime scheduled for May 14th (@3:00 P.M.) will feature two books on cycling (Bike Rider and Bike Trip). They will also provide space at the book table display for pedestrian and bicycle materials that BMTS provides for distribution.

5. Other

- **Bike Tioga:** Bike Tioga will take place on **Saturday, August 13th & Sunday, August 14th**. Al reported that seven bike rides are planned; a short, medium, and long distance ride each day, along with a century ride on Saturday, August 13. Rides will start at Draper Park on Front St. in Owego (north end of the Court St. Bridge). Starts will be staggered to have riders return at similar times. A patrol with radios will be present along the ride route in case of injury or emergency. More information, as well as a registration form, is available at www.biketioga.com.
- **NYS 201 Bridge over NYS 434 (near BU):** *Scott will invite the appropriate NYSDOT official to the June 13th Committee meeting to discuss pedestrian and bicycle accommodation plans and issues regarding this project.*
- Erin appeared on a Channel 12 News “9 to 5” segment that focused on the Association for Vision Rehabilitation and Employment (AVRE).
- Don informed the Committee of the sad news that a member of an Albany area Bicycle Club died from resulting injuries after his tire blew out on a downhill portion of a club ride.
- **Trail Funding Update:** The Binghamton trails along the east bank of the Chenango to Cheri Lindsey Park are funded, but City Council needs to approve accepting the funds. The Vestal Rail Trail West Extension has hit a snag in that a more extensive bridge structure than was originally planned for will be needed to cross Choconut Creek. One possible solution may be to purchase a temporary pedestrian bridge to initially use for the Main St Bridge (Vestal) project to accommodate pedestrians during construction, and then use it for the Rail Trail Extension afterward.

6. Meeting Dates for the Next Two Months

- Monday, June 13, 2005 at 1:30 PM
- Monday, July 11, 2005 at 1:30 PM

7. Adjourned at 3:00 PM

Scott Reigle, Recorder