

South Hadley Ped-Bike Plan, Visioning Session, 9/16/15

Prioritized Improvements from Break out Groups

#1

WALKING AND HIKING IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES

1. Sidewalks are needed
2. Restore trails at Black Stevens area
3. River Road walking connections. Walking trail on River by Canal
4. Traffic calming on Alvord and Lathrop
5. Cut throughs to reach falls from Memorial Drive

BICYCLING IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES

1. Link to Norwottuck & Manhan rail trails
2. Bike trails in conservation area. Town-wide as well as ledges
3. Link College to Big Y
4. Alvord/Lathrop Rd. improvements
5. River Rd. improvements & linkage

Notes and Comments: Education on share the road
Maybe with license renewals
School education

#2

WALKING AND HIKING IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES

1. Sidewalks everywhere. Falls to Commons on multiple routes for family and kids
2. Lathrop/Alvord/Community Gardens. Access to Mullen Bridge
3. River Access
4. Signage to Bynan Conservation area and trail signs
5. Bus access by sidewalks

Notes and Comments: More recreation trails for kids/family/handicapped

BICYCLING IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES

1. Making roads safe from traffic
2. Connect to existing bikes trails (Amherst/Hadley)
3. Bike routes to libraries and schools
4. Bike lane onto Mullen Bridge
5. Route 47 scenic route on Lathrop/Alvord

Notes and Comments:
Rumble strip between cars and bikes

Scenic loop along river
Connections to Commons and Falls section

#3

WALKING AND HIKING IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES

1. H.S. walk access from Granby Road
2. Mosier/Park/Morgan sidewalks, intersection improvements, signage
3. Alvord/Ferry St – destinations
4. Route 116 (Newton St.) More trees, slower traffic to H.S.
5. Sidewalks Brainerd to McCray's

BICYCLING IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES

1. Investigate possibilities for off-road routes (including along stream corridors and ledges/farm/McCray)
2. Less used roads, River Rd., Upper River Lodge Rd.
3. Use residential streets for bike routes. Connect residential streets where there are breaks (Mt. View/Redbridge land)
4. Create a system of off road bike paths that connect to on road sections (e.g. bike paths in conservation areas with on road bike lanes that connect the conservation areas).
5. Bike paths around Camp Lewis Perkins and its ponds

#4 WALKING AND HIKING IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES

1. CT River
2. McCray to Brunelles
3. Mount Holyoke
4. Library connection
5. Big Y

BICYCLING IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES

1. Ferry/Alvord (widen)
2. River Road (off-road)
3. Rt. 47
4. 202 Bike Lane
5. Bridge Path

Flip Chart Notes from Group Discussion

- **Education is important**
 - Motor Vehicles need to know the rules of the road
 - Police enforcement of unsafe bicycling
 - Education/safety programs in schools
 - Bike helmet laws
- Create a bicycle culture
 - Transform community to be bike friendly
 - Bike clubs, events, etc.
 - Set aside certain days of the year where specific places are for bicycles and pedestrians only [cyclovia]
- Identify short-term improvements
- Complete streets for new improvement projects
 - Desire 30' roadway width
 - Expand shoulders on Alvord St as part of a future project
- South Hadley has applied for a MassWorks grant for the Falls which would create better pedestrian connections to the Holyoke Train station.
 - Will require removal of on-street parking. That will require community support.

Notes from show of hands exercise at beginning of meeting

- about 95% of attendees completed the survey
- about 20% of attendees bike regularly
- about 90% of participants walk regularly
- most of bikers, bike for functional purposes
- almost none participants walk for functional purposes
- most of participants walk for recreational purposes
- Things that would help participants walk more:
 - Reducing vehicle speed
 - Adding sidewalks
 - Better access to trails
- Things that would help participants bike more:
 - If drivers obeyed laws
 - More trails/off-road bike paths