

## Pedestrian and Bicyclist Advisory Committee Update October 2016

Delivered by Colin Smith, Chair, at the committee update session, October 5, 2016.

The committee had been focused on the following topics during the third quarter of 2016:

1. Grant applications – supporting the TAP grant application
2. Bicycle Friendly Community – pedestrian and bicyclist route map
3. Reviewing the downtown visioning plan – discussed at October meeting
4. Responding to resident questions – concern about traffic signals at October meeting

### Notes for each topic:

1. Grant applications
  - a. Helped the planning department as it developed an application for the TAP program. The grant submitted requests funding for the development of a multiuse path from the intersection of Lahaye and Mount Support to Lahaye and Route 120. Expect to hear in December, with funding available to start work in 2017.
2. Bicycle Friendly Community. Honorable mention this year, next application round in February. Working on outreach and encouragement, which is one area where we scored badly and where we can make a difference in the short term. Part of that is the development a bike map of the city. PBAC is working on that with the planning office.
3. Review of the downtown visioning plan – draft report:
  - a. Committee took a look through the draft in sequence from end of Hanover Street to the Green
  - b. Concern about the plan to change the intersection of Hanover Street and Rt 120 – giving priority to Route 120 – as it affects the main commuter cycle route along Hanover Street
  - c. Improvements on Hanover St important and welcome. E.g., bike lane, better crosswalks
  - d. Retaining the tunnel for the greenway to pass under Hanover Street and enable a connection to downtown and the existing rail trail is very welcome
  - e. Lots of discussion of changes to the circulation around Colburn Park. Things seem better for pedestrians, but some issues remain e.g. lack of a crossing the street to the post office. No consensus that things would be better for cyclists although some potential benefits such as lower traffic speeds
  - f. Committee members emphasized the importance of some things that were not called out in the document, e.g., need for good lighting at crosswalks for safety and the need for bike parking in downtown.
4. There was discussion of an email from a resident and communication with NHDOT at the October meeting:
  - a. Resident who commutes to Hanover says light at Lahaye/Centerra on Rt 120 does not pick up cyclists waiting to turn left from Lahaye to Rt 120 N. Planning office contacted NHDOT. Response was that nothing could be in done in short term at that light due to technology to call left turn signal being an in ground loop which could not be adjusted to

pick up cyclists. Jesse's light has camera but camera is broken. DOT might fix the camera this winter.

- b. During discussion with the council, councilors recommended following up with the NHDOT to make sure the light at Jesse's is fixed. Given that the light is in Hanover, might be best to contact Hanover and ask them to follow up with NHDOT.