

## Pedestrian and Bicyclist Advisory Committee Update January 2018

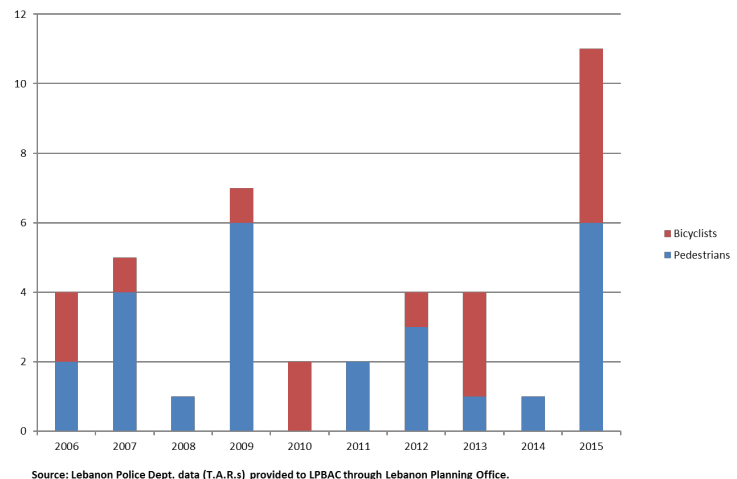
Written by Colin Smith, Chair, for the committee update session, January 17, 2018.

During the fourth quarter of 2017, the committee has been focused on:

- Analyzing pedestrian and bicyclist accident data and coordinating with the Lebanon Police Department (LPD) to streamline the process for receiving new data
- Undertaking a prioritization process for committee work in 2018 and beyond
- Monitoring progress with construction of the Mascoma River Greenway and participating in planning for continuing the greenway towards Riverside Park and to connect with the Northern Rail Trail.

### Accident Data

Committee member Alan Schnur has collated and analyzed accident report data provided by Lebanon Police Department (LPD). He presented a detailed analysis at our November 3 meeting. The figure shows the number of Lebanon NH Crashes Involving Pedestrians and Bicyclists, 2006-2015. On average there are 4 per year, with annual variations around that mean. The committee has also discussed with Captain



Cohen a refined approach for LPD to provide accident data to the Planning Department and the Ped Bike committee. The approach maintains confidentiality, is not burdensome for the LPD, and provides actionable and timely information to understand traffic accidents involving pedestrians and bicyclists.

### Pedestrian and Bike Project Prioritization

The committee has received feedback from the League of American Bicyclists as part of the Bicycle Friendly Community application, and has combined that with pedestrian and bicycle related items from the Lebanon Master Plan and the Downtown Visioning project, as well as committee generated ideas, to create a long list of potential priorities for the City and committee. We are currently working on prioritizing those projects, which cover the 5Es – Engineering, Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, and Evaluation and Planning, to develop a list of priorities for 2018 and beyond. We intend to identify a range of achievable short term and longer term projects that the committee can work on to realize improvements for the City's pedestrians and bicyclists.

### Mascoma River Greenway

#### Construction

- Construction of the Mascoma River Greenway between High Street/Mascoma Street and Glen Road was well advanced by the early December when construction stopped for the winter.

- The trail was paved with bridge and railing mostly complete between High Street/Mascoma Street and the Timken Bridge over the Mascoma River.
- Trail fill and grading, bank stabilization, and bridge work was at or close to complete between the Timken Bridge and Glen Road
- Completion for the project is still anticipated June of 2018.

**Next steps:**

- The Mascoma River Greenway leadership committee (on which PBAC is represented) met to discuss next steps which include
  - Secure access points from private land owners
  - Signage. Kiosks. Benches. Gates. Historical markers. Public Art. APD Connector trail.
  - The tunnel and all points east of High St.
  - Connecting from Glen Road to Riverside Community Park, and then upgrading the path to 12A.
- One project that PBAC may take on is developing an approach to waymarking the temporary route between Mascoma Street/High Street and the start of the Northern Rail Trail at the CCBA which will be used until the tunnel is open for trail users.

The photos (taken by Colin Smith in October and November) show the paved trail close to Alice Peck Day hospital, and the Timken bridge over the Mascoma River.

