

# Lebanon Pedestrian and Bicyclist Advisory Committee

Quarterly Update to the Lebanon City Council, October 7th, 2020

Submitted by Colin Smith, Chair and Rebecca Owens, Planning Staff

## Summary

This quarter's Pedestrian and Bicyclist advisory committee update is focused on the Mascoma River Greenway (MRG), the connection from the MRG to the Northern Rail Trail, and the Northern Rail Trail

## Northern Rail Trail Maintenance

We wanted to start by recognizing the efforts over many years of Dick Mackay and Ken Warren to look after the Northern Rail Trail in Grafton County. Recreation Director Paul Coats mentioned at our meeting last night that Lebanon is going to take a more active role in managing the maintenance of the rail trail in Lebanon at least and that is good news that the committee supports. The condition of bridge decks in particular has deteriorated, and the committee was glad to see the recent replacement of one deck close to the water plant and that the City will be replacing other decks in forthcoming project.

## Connection from Lebanon Middle School (LMS) to the Northern Rail Trail

The committee strongly supports the efforts by the school district and the City to complete a connection from LMS down to the rail trail with a crossing of Route 4. We continue to think that this will be valuable for the community as well as for students going to and from school.

## Spencer Street Reconstruction

Last night, the committee reviewed the plans for the Spencer Street reconstruction project that affects the crosswalk at the end of the rail trail over Spencer Street. Councilor Below outlined recommendations for improvements to the design of the cross walk and also suggested improvements to the continuation of the Northern Rail Trail alongside Taylor Street. The committee passed a motion in support of Councilor Below's recommendations to improve the crosswalk design and also to widen the route alongside Taylor Street towards the tunnel and connection to the MRG.

## Mascoma River Greenway and Counts

The committee is working with UVLSRPC staff to complete analysis of the survey of almost 1,000 MRG users and two weeks of users counts on the MRG that took place over the summer. We hope to share that more broadly in November.