



## **GREATER LOWELL BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Advisory Committee Meeting #2 Summary

Date: June 16, 2025, 6:00-7:30pm

Location: In person at NMCOG office and Virtual (Via Zoom)

Prepared by: Amanuel Regassa, Transportation Planner II

### **Attendees:**

- George DeLuca
- Liz Ivanov
- Kyle Parker
- Ethan Yang
- Robert Klinkhammer
- Marlies Henderson
- Josh Warhurst
- Wendy Jepson
- Ray Tice
- Phil Posner
- David Ganong
- Douglas Chandler
- Kelly Lynema (NMCOG)
- Amanuel Regassa (NMCOG)
- Chris Hayes (NMCOG)
- Apple Gould-Schultz (NMCOG)

### **Purpose of the Meeting**

The purpose of the second Advisory Committee meeting was to present early findings from the existing conditions analysis, gather local knowledge to identify gaps and opportunities in the regional bicycle and pedestrian network, and prepare for upcoming public engagement activities. The meeting provided an opportunity for members to review maps of existing and planned infrastructure, discuss key destinations and barriers, and coordinate efforts to promote the community survey and upcoming events.

### **Key Themes from the Meeting**

#### **1. Regional Equity & Municipal Inclusion**

- **Pepperell & Dunstable Inclusion:**  
David (Pepperell) raised concerns about how rural communities like Pepperell and Dunstable will be meaningfully included in the planning process, considering their unique infrastructure needs and limited facilities.
- **Regional Connectivity & Municipal Coordination:**  
Committee members emphasized the importance of enhancing town-to-town connection points to promote regional continuity and encourage collaboration across municipalities.

## 2. Multimodal Integration & Transit

- **Transit and Network Integration:**  
Members highlighted the need to integrate bicycle and pedestrian networks with transit infrastructure. In many parts of the region, disconnected active transportation networks combined with limited transit access restrict mobility options.

## 3. Local Planning & Existing Conditions

- **Incorporating Open Space & Recreation Plans (OSRPs):**  
Members recommended that municipal OSRPs be integrated into the existing conditions analysis to align recreation and conservation priorities with bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure improvements.
- **Billerica Complete Streets Prioritization Plan Update:**  
Marlies informed the group that Billerica submitted an updated Complete Streets Prioritization Plan on September 4, 2024. Marlies will forward the plan for NMCOG reference.

## 4. Key Barriers & Infrastructure Issues

- **Traffic Volume and Speed:**  
Participants identified high-speed, high-volume roadways as a significant barrier to walking and biking. The need for targeted strategies to address these challenges was emphasized.
- **Bike Parking & Maintenance:**  
Feedback included the need to incorporate bike parking solutions and ensure sidewalks and bike lanes remain free of obstructions such as parked vehicles or other physical barriers.

## Conclusion

Advisory Committee members provide constructive and meaningful input to finalize the draft vision and goals and inform both geospatial and policy recommendations of the plan. Key recommendations focused on ensuring rural community inclusion, improving regional connections, integrating active transportation with transit, and addressing infrastructure barriers. The Advisory Committee's insights will directly inform the next phase of plan development, including existing conditions analysis and draft recommendations.

## Next Steps

- **Existing Conditions Refinement:** NMCOG and Toole Design will incorporate Advisory Committee feedback into the ongoing existing conditions analysis, including updates based on municipal OSRPs and Billerica's Complete Streets Prioritization Plan.
- **Survey Promotion:** AC members will assist in promoting the [multilingual regional survey](#) through flyer distribution, event participation, and digital channels to ensure broad community input.

- Public Engagement Activities: NMCOG will finalize logistics for upcoming public workshops and pop-up events and distribute supporting materials such as fact sheets and flyers. AC members will assist in promoting the July 8 public workshop. As a reminder, please help us share the workshop details and encourage registration using the following link:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GLBPPworkshop>.
- Draft Recommendations Development: Preliminary recommendations, including network improvements and regional connectivity strategies, will be prepared for review at the next Advisory Committee meeting.
- Next Advisory Committee Meeting: A third meeting TBD will be scheduled for late August or early September to review draft recommendations and continue refining the plan.