

Connecticut Riverwalk & Bikeway  
Neighborhood Meeting  
Stefanik School  
February 18, 2016

## **Mayor's Welcome & Introduction**

### **Meeting Guidelines**

- Meeting is being audio-recorded by the City for documentation purposes.
- Please reserve questions/Comments until the formal presentation is complete.
- Questions/Comments are limited to 3 minutes per participant.
- Please do not repeat questions/comments.
- Please address the Mayor and presenters with questions/comments, not the audience.
- Please refrain from out-of-turn speaking; we will make every effort to address all questions/comments.

### **Project Updates**

- This is the second of two neighborhood meetings proposed by the Mayor to discuss the project (previous meeting was held on December 18, 2014)
- City has executed an Amendment with BETA Group for the remainder of the design process, through completion of construction/bidding documents.
- The project is scheduled to be bid by MassDOT on January 14, 2017 – construction to follow during the spring 2017 construction season.
- Design budget – City has expended total sub-grant funds from PVPC (\$201,245.00). Total City funds dedicated to design \$159,120.00.
- Construction budget remains at \$3,261,288.00 in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funds / on the regional TIP and approved by the Pioneer Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization.

### **Open Space & Recreation Plan**

- Updated following the last Neighborhood Meeting and approved by the State on May 13, 2015.
- Included multiple Ward Meetings and a public survey distributed via hard copy and digital link – of which 591 individuals responded.
- Alternative Modes of Transportation (bike paths, lanes, trails, etc.) = 73.6% Very/Somewhat Important
- Development of new greenways/multi-use paths = 85.4% yes
- Greenbelts/Greenways = Very/Somewhat important = 67.7%
- Location of multi-use paths = Chicopee River = 55.1% / Connecticut River = 43.5%
- Investment by City = Bike paths (off street) = 74.8% Very/Somewhat important

### **Safety, Security & Patrols** (*Bobby Liswell, Police Chief*)

- Conceptual layout for security cameras include both proposed parking areas (Medina) (Nash) and all former access points along the trail (Paderewski Street, Jones Ferry in addition to Bonner Street)
  - o Cameras connected to Police Department for continuous review.
  - o Ineligible expense, City will need to cover cost of the system.
- Review of Police Department Plans to patrol the project area.

### **Fire** (*Fire Chief*)

- Review emergency access

### **Operation/Maintenance** (*Parks Superintendent, Flood Control*)

- Facility will follow the same rules as all City Parks (i.e. open at dawn, closed at dusk).
- Proposed to be a three-season facility i.e. will not be plowed in the winter, unless needed for Flood Control maintenance.
- Parks & Recreation may development programming (i.e. snow-shoeing & cross-country skiing).
- Parks & Recreation will onboard maintenance of the bike trail footprint, including maintenance of trash receptacles, care for seating and overlook areas. **Doggie Bag products are being added to parks now and can be added to this project as well.**
- Flood Control staff will continue to maintain vegetation and mowing of the dikes and flood control area per the maintenance schedules approved by the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE).

### **Parking**

- Dedicated parking area off Medina Street (on City-owned property) for 11 vehicles has been incorporated into the project.
- Nash Field Parking areas will become 'shared' use parking for the park and Riverwalk.
- Additional parking on City property also planning on Jones Ferry Road.
- City will consider signage at the ends of neighborhood streets prohibiting parking if not already in place.

### **Project Website**

- Please visit <http://www.chicopeema.gov/621/Connecticut-RiverWalk-Bikeway-North> for project materials and updates.