



WALK BIKE RIDE SOUTH ORANGE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, June 20, 2023 – 8:00-9:30 PM

Webex

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call meeting to Order
2. Roll Call
 - a. Notetaker: Dave Yim
3. Approval of Minutes from 5/15/2023 - approved
4. Introductions
 - a. New trustee liaison Summer Jones, 2nd term, member of health and public safety
 - b. New alternate trustee Olivia Lewis-Chang, chair for health and public safety
 - c. Sangeeta Badlani of Nikhil Badlani Foundation
 - d. WBRSO Members introduce themselves: Julia, Alan, Mike, Ed, Dave, Clif, Nathan
5. Committee Administration Update
 - a. Notetaker for 7/17 meeting: Alan
 - b. Committee zoom account - suggested contribution \$5-10 - ask Julia for venmo/zelle info
6. Social Media
 - a. Follow and share our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#)
 - b. Summer suggests promoting WBRSO social media through the town newsletter, social media
 - c. Option to create a website posted on town website (i.e. [CRC](#))
7. Sangeeta Badlani, Founder of the Nikhil Badlani Foundation
 - a. Nikhil was an 11 year old killed in a car crash in South Orange in 2011
 - b. Have been working to make roads safer
 - c. 2017 helped found Families for Safe Streets New Jersey - 20 chapters around the country
 - d. At federal level: Vision Zero and Safe System Approach
 - e. New Jersey bill: establish a Vision Zero task force in NJ
 - f. At local level in West Orange: established a VZ task force
 - g. Want to see a safe streets corridor across many towns: Montclair, W Orange, Millburn, etc.
 - h. Event on Sept 24 5K Run/Bike 3K Walk, 13th year <http://stopfornikhil.org>
8. Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant
 - a. New federal grant: SO is going to apply to create Vision Zero Plan for South Orange
 - b. Essex County also applying
 - c. Julie Doran coordinating with County planner and working on grant application, due 7/10
 - d. Essex County got 400k from last year's SS4A grant
 - e. NJ DOT also has funding for technical assistance to create Vision Zero plans
9. Town planner update



- a. Topology consultant is current planner
 - b. Planning committee
 - c. SO is planning to hire a full time planner by Fall 2023
 - d. Planning and Economic Development Meeting - they determine what goes on list for Topology to work on
10. Meeting with Essex County Planner
- a. Essex2045 county long range transportation plan presentation
 - b. SO Ave and Irvington Ave were mentioned in Essex2045 but no actual plans for them
 - c. Presentation was to exemplify future planning
 - d. Julie Doran (Village Administrator) spoke to David Antonio (county planner)
 - e. No status update yet for the coming Valley Street improvements
 - f. County planner willing to meet with WBRSO - we can suggest protected bike lane on SO Ave, likely needs to be daytime
11. SOPD Update
- a. Crash report - never shared with public before
 - b. Low number of bike crashes
 - c. Ed says people are complaining about bikes on sidewalks (Riggs) - build bike lanes
 - d. Health and Public Safety is planning to meet more regularly going forward
12. Greenway
- a. No status on breaking ground, held up by federal approval
 - b. Next phase 3rd St to Parker Ave in Maplewood
 - c. Future will need to figure out how to build to SO train station and extending to the border of City of Orange
 - d. Environmental Commission in Maplewood is interested in continuing greenway on their end
 - e. Greenway Walk with reps from Maplewood admin, township committee, SO trustees, SOMSD BOE - originally scheduled for 6/23 but postponed to July TBC
 - i. Purpose is to give two town leadership understanding of the Maplewood end of Greenway and how it could be continued in Maplewood
 - f. Greenway Bike/Walk Parade May 21 Debrief
 - i. For future greenway event: local vendors/food/refreshments, publicize earlier, get more town officials to come
 - ii. Maybe do the event in fall - early October? Depending on construction in 2024
13. Pedestrian subcommittee
- a. It's kind of not happening very much
 - b. JESPY House got a grant for pedestrian safety gear, which we gave out in the spring
 - c. JESPY working on a farmers market safety gear handout event in the summer
 - d. Another event in the fall to hand out gear
14. Bicycling subcommittee
- a. Hoped for David Battaglia, engineer, to attend 6/15 meeting, but he wasn't able to
 - b. Working on existing cycling network map, which engineer references when streets are planned for repaving
 - c. Big question: how to approach the topic, how to get what they want, what to target



- d. What streets and most E-W and N-S: SO Ave, Wyoming (both county roads)
 - e. Prospect and Ridgewood for N-S (town roads)
 - f. Alan shows map
 - g. Sharrows are okay - visibility is important
 - h. Topology will work on updating SO parking ordinance later this year, not yet - should include bike parking
15. Transit subcommittee
- a. Jitney service: adding updated maps to SO website, connection service maps to see larger network (Alan shows map), making jitney bidirectional, poll people about how they get around, ask NJT for data, how to expand service
 - b. Alan made a [map](#)
 - c. Future routes: daytime downtown travel, zoo, reservation hiking, Maplewood
16. Voting against the NJ turnpike expansion: <https://turnpiketrapp.org/>
- a. WBRSO and SO town - Summer to check whether WBRSO can publicly do this as a town entity
 - b. WBRSO votes to come out against - vote passed
 - c. Dave will draft copy
17. Sangeeta mentions the Vision Zero Alliance of NJ
- a. meets every 3rd Wednesday of each month where all kinds of safety topics are discussed. You are all welcome to join us tomorrow from 2-3 PM
 - b. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82599224305?pwd=R0NkMWRVY1NhVzI4bEVTZzBobmo3Zz09>
 - c. Vision Zero Bill at State Level <https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/bill-search/2022/A4296>
18. Political recap
- a. NYC congestion pricing
 - b. NJ red light cameras/automated
19. Next Meeting Date: Monday, July 17 at 8 PM
- a. Julia is on vacation next two weeks
 - b. Will send scheduling email for subcommittees
20. Adjournment