



Neponset River Greenway Council Meeting

Wednesday, April 6, 2016, 7:00 – 9:00 pm
Foley Senior Residences, 249 River St., Mattapan, MA

AGENDA

1. Welcome & Introductions

2. Greenway Planning and Design – from Stella Lensing, DCR, who is out tonight

- Segment 2 – Central Ave to Mattapan Square
 - Canopy bridge over tracks to be installed April 16-17
 - Bridge over Neponset River to be installed in mid-May
- Port Norfolk Park
 - *Is there an opening ceremony date?*
- Segment 3 – Victory Rd to Morrissey Blvd (National Grid / rainbow gas tank)
 - Design is on track for completion by end of year
 - *Should we get the Friends of the Harborwalk and DotBike and others involved?*
- Segment 4 – Tenean Beach to Victory Rd
 - Strategy for design, funding, working with legislators and MassDOT
- Segment 5 – Neponset Valley Parkway to Paul's Bridge
 - *What can we do to get planning started?*
- Segment 6 - Crossing Blue Hill Ave.
 - *Has there been any progress? City might have another pot of planning money*
 - *BTD and Livable Streets are interested in coming to our next meeting to discuss this.*
- Segment 7 - Fairmount to Dana Ave.
 - *Can we sign an alternate route on Walnut St. using Boston's Green Links program?*
 - *What are next steps toward bike lanes or path along Truman Parkway?*
- Segment 8 – Drawbridge north to UMass along Morrissey Blvd.
 - *Report on Monday, March 28 Morrissey Blvd. redesign public meeting*

3. Police

*Mattapan Transit Police station closed. State police community service position eliminated.
What can be done for security, especially on new Mattapan/Milton section of the Trail?*

4. Greenway Management – Marty Rudi, DCR Neponset Stony Brook District Manager

- Kennedy Playground – *Is the gate fixed?*
- Greenway maintenance and other issues
- Status of giant billboards near Tenean Beach (*because things like this don't just go away...*)

5. Programs & Volunteers

- DotBike proposal for cooperation on series of bike rides (see back)

6. NepWRA News

- **Saturday, April 9, 1:00-4:00 pm:** Non-native, Invasive Plant Control Workshop at the Canton Library
Early Bird Registration is \$15.00.
- **Saturday, April 30:** NepRWA Estuary Cleanup on DCR Park Serve Day

7. Trustees News

Upcoming Meetings – Meetings held first Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm

May 4, 2016	Milton Yacht Club, Milton	June 1, 2016	Hyde Park Police Station, Hyde Park
July 6, 2016	Port Norfolk Yacht Club, Dorchester	Aug. 3, 2016	Foley Senior Residences, Mattapan

Issues on the trail? (non-emergency)

MassParks line: 617-626-1250, 0 for operator or email mass.parks@state.ma.us

Join neponsetgreenway@googlegroups.com to take part in discussions between Greenway Council meetings and comment on the first draft of the agenda or join the **Neponset River Greenway Council** group on Facebook.

Lynn Holmgren of DotBike is working on a Better Beaches Grant Proposal with Bowdoin Bike School, Mattapan Food & Fitness and Healthy Dorchester for funding to organize a 4-part "Reach the Beach" slow roll series this August.

The routes will include riding along sections of the Neponset trail and we would like to add the Neponset Greenway Council as a community partner on the grant application. Essentially the partnership we seek would be NGC supporting our events by helping with promotion, providing volunteers to help staff the events or assisting in any other way you see fit. You can read a summary of our proposed series below.

Please let her know if it is alright to add the Neponset River Greenway Council to the list of partners and how you think folks might want to be involved.

Reach the Beach: A slow roll series

August 2016

Our four-part "Reach the Beach" slow roll series is designed to build urban biking skills, confidence and community for bikers of all ages, while also showcasing some of the finest coastal paths and beaches in Boston!

Our Goals:

- **Creating community together:** By hosting our rides with weekly themes and optional bike/ helmet decorating, we hope to encourage serious fun along with serious safety!
- **Enjoying life on two wheels:** Our visibility as a large group of diverse bicyclists will help to encourage and promote active transportation and recreation options for others in our community.
- **Reach the Beach!** Encourage and promote the use of Dorchester's beaches by showing residents how they can safely get there by bike.

The series will tour the shores of Dorchester and South Boston, one beach at a time, in style. Participants will be invited to take part in a different theme each week (i.e. Sunday Best, Under the Sea), arriving in costume or decorating their bike/helmet with materials provided at the starting site. Each Sunday, the route will incrementally increase in length, providing those who are new to bicycling or getting back on a bike for the first time, a chance to build endurance while practicing safe riding skills. Rides will be geared towards all ages and abilities, with pre-ride safety checks, trained ride leaders, a leisurely pace and a support trailer. Each week will not only feature a unique theme, but a soundtrack, picnic, and fun activities at the beach for all.

The ride series is a collaborative effort of two neighboring coalitions: Dorchester Bike Coalition and Mattapan Food and Fitness Coalition. Each of the lead organizers brings a wealth of community organizing and event planning experience: Noah Hicks of Bowdoin Bike School, building off of the successful 2015 Slow Roll to the Beach; Shavel'le Olivier, seasoned co-organizer of Mattapan on Wheels for the last 5 years; and Lynn Holmgren, an active community events organizer with DotBike, Dorchester Community Food Coop and Write on the DOT.

Already, we have a number of partners who support the ride, including Healthy Dorchester, the Fairmount Greenway Task Force, The TNT Neighborhood Association, LivableStreets and Boston Cyclists Union. The coalitions have additional connections to Boston Bikes (City of Boston), Neponset River Greenway Council, Dorchester Bay EDC, Codman Square NDC, the Boston Public Health Commission and numerous community groups and neighborhood associations who will all be willing to help us promote the s