

DANVERS BI-PEDS NEWS

Volume 5, Number 4, Winter, 2007/2008



LEASE NEGOTIATIONS WITH MBTA SEEM TO BE ON TRACK

According to recent correspondence from the Town Manager, negotiations for a lease of the MBTA rail bed are nearing completion. Wayne Marquis hopes to present a lease to the Selectmen during the Feb. 7th Board meeting.

This is a very important step toward a pathway on the rail bed but should probably not be taken as automatic approval of the pathway. If the Selectmen approve the lease, Danvers will join communities such as Topsfield and Newburyport who already have signed leases with the MBTA.

BIKE RACK UPDATE

Charles Lincicum, the Bi-Peds board member coordinating the effort to get free Bike Racks installed around town, has been informed that John Schmidgall, grounds supervisor in the Public Works Department, has been assigned to this project. The state run program is luckily being extended into 2008.

HOLIDAY FESTIVAL

Everyone knew cold weather would come sooner or later. It decided to arrive on Sat. Dec. 1st. just in time for the holiday festival. Many thanks go to the dedicated volunteers, John and Tanny Streekfert, Lew Hathaway, Maxine Taymore, Laura Cilley, Matt Duggan, (and Ingrid Barry), who stood out in the wind and cold to answer questions about the Bi-Peds in general, the trail (progress?), and urging folks to enter the raffle for a free bicycle. Thanks also to Western Cycle for providing the table and a warming place. It was a pleasure to hear all the positive comments and desires for the trail.

T-SHIRTS NOW AVAILABLE

No one has too many t-shirts if they don't have one sporting the Bi-Peds logo. Order yours by calling 978-774-8159 or e-mail ibarry@verizon.net. They are \$10.00 each, no shipping and handling unless they are going outside of Danvers. It's a great way to help spread the word.

OCTOBER WAS A BUSY MONTH FOR SOME BI-PEDS MEMBERS

October 17, 2007 - The Moving Together 2007 conference in Boston was attended Larry Tormey and Ingrid Barry. Over 230 attendees came together to discuss bicycling and pedestrian issues. This event, whose sponsors include the Federal Highway Administration, the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, the Executive Office of Public Safety, and the Department of Conservation and Recreation, was also attended by 2 Danvers Firefighters.

October 21, 2007 - Border to Boston End to Middle Relay event. A group of 9 trail advocates representing 4 Border to Boston communities and the National Park Service met on the rail bed at Prince St. in Danvers at 7:00 am to begin a hike toward Boxford. They were joined by others as the trail area crossed into Wenham. With great fall weather for the event, everyone enjoyed the hike and dreaming of the day when it will be an actual rail trail.

At 3:00 in the afternoon, the group met up with hikers from the Salisbury end at a park in Boxford. Refreshments and photos of the day were shared. The goals for the event were to bring all the 8 communities together for something more fun than mastering the art of transportation planning, and to reach out to new key supporters. Everyone deemed the event a success.

October 27, 2007 - YMCA Safe Kids day Once again the Bi-Peds had a table to dispense information on biking and walk safety at the Danvers YMCA Safe Kids Day. Matt Duggan covered the event and also got more entries into the bicycle raffle which was running at that time.

BIKE RAFFLE WINNER

Endicott Park Day was a lucky day for Ryan Shefferman of Vineyard St., Danvers but he didn't know how lucky until Dec. 20th. That was the day he learned that he had won the Trek 7100 Bicycle being raffled off by the Danvers Bi-Peds. The raffle began June 23rd at Endicott Park Day. The Shefferman family was there to watch their daughter show off her winning entry in the Doll Carriage Parade. The Bi-Peds display was near by and Ryan stopped by to fill out a free raffle entry.

December 15th was the last day to enter the raffle. After the entry e-mails were entered into a data base, the winner was selected electronically and Ryan was notified by e-mail. Ingrid Barry, President of the Bi-Peds, arranged to meet Ryan on Saturday, December 22nd at Western Cycle, 22 Maple Street, Danvers to present the bike and assorted Bi-Peds information to him. Ryan couldn't have been happier since he was planning on giving his wife a bike for Christmas. Wanting something small enough to fit under the tree, he purchased a helmet and bicycle pump using his 15% discount offered to Bi-Peds members by the bike shop.

The Danvers Bi-Peds would like to thank Western Cycle for their generous assistance in this raffle as well as all those who helped run the raffle, particularly Matt Duggan. They are also grateful to all those who participated.

Ryan had these words on winning - After surprising my wife Brandee with the wonderful bike I won from the Bi-Peds raffle, it became known around my family as the "Christmas Miracle". So the timing was appreciated and also instrumental in my wife's New Years resolution. Though it is still just sitting in our garage waiting to be ridden, I'm certain it will be used in a local triathlon coming soon to the North Shore.

RAIL TRAIL VISITS

Did you visit a rail trail recently? Send us a brief story of your venture (ibarry@danversbipeds.org) and we'll include it in an upcoming newsletter or put it on the web site. Visit danversbipeds.org and learn how you can add your photos to the site.



BY-LAW CHANGES APPROVED

The proposed changes to the Danvers Bi-Peds, Inc. by laws were approved during the Nov. 12 Board meeting. The vote had been delayed because of not enough membership participation. Thanks to all those who sent their votes in.

SIDEWALK AWARENESS & THE HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

By Laura Cilley, Bi-Peds Sidewalk Awareness Coordinator

An overview of the Bi-Peds organization was presented to two sections of Community Service students last fall with the intent that a group of students would choose to design a project assisting the Bi-Peds efforts in sidewalk awareness.

The High School program encourages the application of academic knowledge and skills to meet a real community need. Students start by identifying an issue then developing, proposing, and implementing a solution. Utilizing critical thinking skills, students strive to develop creative solutions to complex community issues.

Jared Carucci, Bobby Moore, Mike House, and Frank Gonzalez chose to begin a video depicting sidewalks in various states of neglect and upkeep. The students used feedback from last summer's Library Display Survey to explore sidewalk issues that Danvers residents face. We all need to be educated about the responsibilities of both residents and the DPW in keeping our sidewalks safe and accessible.

The students intend to submit the video to DCAT in the upcoming months.

The Bi-Peds are grateful for the student's time and effort in beginning this key component to our sidewalk campaign. We will present to the Spring semester hoping another group of students will develop the campaign or come up with their own creative idea to spread the word about the Bi-Peds organization.

Ways to help?

- Become a member
- Be sure your dues are paid
- Volunteer

**THE DANVERS BI-PEDS WISH TO WELCOME
ALL OUR NEW MEMBERS AND THANK ALL
WHO HAVE RENEWED**
(Not sure if you have renewed?)
Check with Larry Tormey, 978-774-6630 or
ltormey@danversbipeds.org. He'd love to hear from you.)

Change often comes slowly, even for beneficial causes. Membership gives you the satisfaction of showing support for a cause you believe in; safer biking and walking in Danvers and gives you a discount at Western Cycle and Landry's Bicycles. (Go to danversbipeds.org for details). The greater our membership, the bigger our voice. Continue to show your support and encourage your friends to join as well. We are moving forward!!

**WELCOME TO ALL OUR
MOST RECENT NEW MEMBER**

ADULT - Jon Tiplady

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE
RECENTLY RENEWED**

ADULT

Christine Watson
Maxine Taymore
Irene Slater

FAMILY

Albert & Donna Tosches
Francine Flint
Scott & Brenda Ferris
David & Sarah Symmes

SUPPORTIVE

Matthew Duggan
Jonell Glass/Arthur Johnson
Ingrid & Tom Barry
Lawrence Tormey

PROPONENT

Ralph & Martha Ardoff

SUSTAINING

Margaret & John Bailey
Syd Allan

CORPORATE

Michael Neary

Danvers Bi-Peds Board Members

President:	Ingrid Barry	978-774-8159
Vice President:	Matt Duggan	978-777-1884
Secretary:	Maxine Taymore	978-777-5707
Treasurer:	Peter Maddocks	978-762-3701
Membership Chairman:	Larry Tormey	978-774-6630
Board of Directors:		
Lewis Hathaway	978-774-5848	Laura Cilley 978-777-4661
Charles Lincicum	978-777-5574	Pat Gagnon 978-774-1948
Steven Cotter	978-750-0532	

**UPCOMING EVENTS, SCHEDULED
TO DATE**

MARCH 10 - Monthly Bi-Peds Board meeting,, all are welcome. 7:00 PM, Carriage House at Endicott Park.

Check danversbipeds.org web site Calendar for events as they are planned.

**YES! I want to help make Danvers
a safer place to bike and walk.
MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Name

Address

Phone.....

E-mail.....

(Please print clearly)

\$250 Corporate Sustaining

\$200 Corporate Proponent

\$150 Corporate Supportive

\$100 Corporate

Individuals and families

\$100 Sustaining

\$50 Proponent

\$35 Supportive

\$20 Family

\$10 Adult

\$5 Youth (under 18)

Make check payable to
Danvers Bi-Peds, Inc.
c/o Larry Tormey
21 Bradley Road
Danvers, MA 01923
www.danversbipeds.org

Massachusetts Highway Dep't has a new safety web site -
www.mhd.state.ma.us/safety tips/
It's currently featuring **Ten Safety Tips to Consider For: Bicycle Safety**





**3 Riding Club Road
Danvers, MA 01923**

DO YOU HAVE A BIKING OR WALKING CONCERN OR SUGGEST?

Please let us know about it. Call any board member.

Together we may be able to work on it.

WANT TO LEARN MORE, SIGN UP FOR FREE E-NEWSLETTERS.

Connections: the newsletter of the Massachusetts Greenways and Trails Program from the dcr, dep't of conservation and recreation

To subscribe, e-mail your contact information to paul.jahnige@state.ma.us.

East Coast Greenway Alliance e-news: The East Coast Greenway, someday planning to offer a pathway from Maine to Florida virtually all off road, offers a newsletter to keep people informed of progress. To subscribe, go to www.greenway.org/

American Trails e-Newsletter: go to www.americantrails.org/trailtracks/index.html to sign up.

Centerlines: CenterLines is the bi-weekly e-newsletter of the National Center for Bicycling & Walking. It is their way to quickly deliver news and information one can use to create more walkable and bicycle-friendly communities. To subscribe go to <http://www.bikewalk.org/newslettersubscribe.php>

MAPC PEDESTRIAN SURVEY

According to the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) web site it is the regional planning agency for 101 cities and towns in the Boston metropolitan region. With support from the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization, we are in the process of updating the Regional Pedestrian Plan. We will use the results of this survey to inform our work in updating the pedestrian plan.

Just about everyone is a pedestrian at some point in your day. A pedestrian is anyone who travels on foot or who uses an assistive device, such as a wheelchair, for mobility. Our definition of pedestrian includes all disabled individuals regardless of equipment they may use (unless they are using a bicycle). It also includes runners, joggers, those pulling or pushing strollers, carriages, carts and wagons, and those walking bicycles or dogs.

Go www.mapc.org/pedplan/ and take a few minutes to participate in the anonymous survey, Your opinion will help in future area pedestrian planning.