

2021 DEC 17 AM 11:30

The City Council of Framingham

2021 DEC 14 AM 11:26



ORDER NO. 2021-036-001

REQUEST OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE

UPON THE REQUEST OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY SUBCOMMITTEE, THE CITY OF FRAMINGHAM, THROUGH THE FRAMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL, IT IS SO ORDERED:

That the City Council votes to approve the creation of a Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee as attached.

FIRST READING:

YEAS: Bryant, Cannon, Case, King, Leombruno, Long, Ottaviani, Shepard, Stefanini, Steiner, Stewart-Morales
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: All members were present via teleconferencing
PASSED IN COUNCIL: NOVEMBER 16, 2021

SECOND READING:

YEAS: Bryant, Cannon, Case, King, Leombruno, Ottaviani, Stefanini, Steiner, Stewart-Morales
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Long, Shepard; All other members were present via teleconferencing
PASSED IN COUNCIL: NOVEMBER 30, 2021

A True Record, Attest:

12/10/2021

Date Approved

Lisa A. Ferguson
Lisa A. Ferguson, City Clerk

12/17/21

Date Approved

Yvonne M. Spicer
Yvonne M. Spicer, Mayor



Framingham Council

Whereas, Framingham contains existing sidewalks, bike paths, trails and aqueducts; and
Whereas, residents throughout Framingham have consistently shown an interest in walking and biking; and

Whereas, Framingham is home to the Cochituate Rail Trail, the Weston and Sudbury Aqueducts, and smaller trails that link neighborhoods together, and the future final piece of the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail; and

Whereas, Framingham has great potential to be the trail hub of MetroWest; and

Whereas, pedestrian oriented development benefits Framingham and its residents; and

Whereas, access to a vehicle is not readily available to everyone in the community; and

Whereas, promoting alternative modes of transportation has great environmental and traffic-relief benefits; and

Whereas, pedestrian and bike facilities are accessible, especially when ADA infrastructure is in place; and

Whereas, Framingham believes such an amendment will promote, protect and facilitate the public health, safety and welfare of the community through coordinated and practical land use and land development for the betterment of our community, and

Now therefore, be it ordained by the Framingham Council, as follows:

Creation of the Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee

SECTION 1.

Article II of the Framingham Ordinances is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

Section 33. Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee

24.1 Sidewalks, bike lanes, and trails promote the health, safety, and general welfare of people living in and visiting Framingham. The Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee shall have the following purpose:

- a) Make recommendations to protect, enhance, and preserve existing pedestrian-oriented infrastructure throughout the City;
- b) Work with city government to promote accessibility through alternative modes of transportation;
- c) Strengthen civic engagement through connected neighborhoods;
- d) Ensure sidewalks, bike lanes, and trails compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act; and,
- e) Encourage healthy living through a more active lifestyle.

24.2 The Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Committee (the "Committee") is hereby established, consisting of seven (7) members. Members shall serve for staggered terms of three years, though

initially, at establishment of the Committee, member terms shall be of varying lengths (one, two, or three years) as follows:

- a) One member selected by the Disability Commission (three years);
- b) One member selected by the Parks and Recreation Commission (two years);
- c) One member selected by the Youth Council (one year) and,
- d) Four members appointed by the Mayor (1 – three years, 2 – two years, and 1 – one year.

24.3 Duties and responsibilities of the Committee shall include, but not be limited to:

- a) Upon being appointed, the inaugural members of the Committee will work to identify the components of a comprehensive Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Master Plan (“BPTMP”) to create a network of off-road trails and sidewalks which link together trails, abutting communities, major open space, parks and other public facilities and neighborhoods, create maps and wayfinding signage, and to set priorities to optimize the use of public funds and grant opportunities. The Committee will work towards engaging a consultant to create the official plan. The budget request will be submitted to the Mayor’s office as soon as possible but no later than April 30, 2022 asking for a supplemental budget request, if no other funds can be appropriated from the FY23 Budget, which will be in-process at that time;
- b) Develop and submit annually, no later than October 31st of each year, a recommendation to the Mayor, City Council and School Committee outlining specific small and large-scale projects for improving existing sidewalks, bike lanes, trails and trail network connections in time to be included in consideration of the upcoming fiscal year’s budget. The recommendation shall include a statement regarding the current state of the City’s trail network and an evaluation of performance against any previous recommendations and of the progress made towards achieving the goals outlined in the BPTMP;
- c) Work with the ADA Coordinator, and city employees in the Mayor’s Office, Parks and Recreation Department, Conservation Department, Department of Public Works, Planning and Community Development, Framingham Public School Administration, and others from time to time as may be necessary to fulfill its duties and achieve its described purpose. The committee chair will invite departmental representatives to attend the Committee’s meetings and will request information from departments as needed;
- d) Work with outside groups and neighboring communities, the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, and others as needed to achieve its described purpose;
- e) Recommend the location and acquisition of easements for sidewalks, bike lanes, and trails, within the City;
- f) Catalog existing and future sidewalks, bike lanes, and trails, and make recommendations regarding present and future sidewalks, bike, and trail needs and sidewalks, bike, and trail use conflicts; and,
- g) Make recommendations regarding ways to incorporate alternative modes of transportation on and off of our trail network.

Section 2. Severability.

If any provision of this Ordinance, or the application of such provision to any person or circumstances, shall be enjoined or held to be invalid, the remaining provisions of this Ordinance, or the application of such provisions to persons or circumstances, other than that which is enjoined or held invalid shall be not affected thereby.

Section 3. Effective Date.

The provisions of this Ordinance shall become effective upon passage.