

**Newburyport Livable Streets**  
**January 5, 2021 – 7:00pm**

**Meeting Notes (virtual meeting via Zoom)**

- *Attendees: Andy Port, Rick Taintor, Sheila Taintor, Judy Tymon, Bob Uhlig, Alden Clark, Mary Jo Verde, Juliet Walker*
  
- Snowy Streets -- Juliet gave an update on the data collection efforts related to clearing of sidewalks after a snow storm. Currently, NLS is using a survey for via Survey Monkey. Juliet has added this years results to the prior year's spreadsheet — [https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1H1T5\\_R-x3cr\\_SoVsd65ordnqJlfdOG\\_kdSba\\_-Ou\\_oM/edit](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1H1T5_R-x3cr_SoVsd65ordnqJlfdOG_kdSba_-Ou_oM/edit). Group discussed using Google forms in the future for the sidewalk survey so it can more easily be exported to a spreadsheet with a free account. Judy reported on the City's Neighborhood Services Committee meeting where a snow clearing ordinance had been discussed as well as current City practices related to snow clearing. City is also focusing on identifying volunteers and contractors who can help residents clear snow. Councilor McCauley is continuing to work with the state to make sure sidewalks along state roads are cleared routinely. Andy Port mentioned the City is working on a web-based app for reporting issues. Group discussed timing of notifications to alert residents about reporting issues to the NLS survey form. We will post a reminder in the monthly newsletter as well as a follow-up via social media a few days after a storm. Group also suggested sending the link to the spreadsheet with the data to the DPS, City Clerk, School Dept, and Parks Commission.
  
- Healthy Streets survey feedback -- Juliet reported that only a few people had responded to the survey on Healthy Streets and group discussed promoting the survey again in the next email blast and via social media.
  
- Low Street/Colby Farm Lane/North Atkinson Street -- Rick and Andy reviewed City efforts to improve pedestrian safety at this intersection with coordination and partial funding from the developer of the housing project.
  
- Working with City / Public Safety Committee -- Group discussed request from a City Councilor for Public Safety Committee to have more of a role in transportation related decision. It was not clear what role NLS would play in this request.
  
- Rail Trail safety proposal update -- Alden reported back on the Parks Commission meeting where the proposal by Sheila to add clear delineation on the rail trail (through signage and/or striping) to reduce potential conflicts between bicylists and pedestrians. The proposal includes both the signage / striping on the trail as well as implementing pedestrians on the left, cyclists on the right rules. The Commission has requested more information. Sheila will do more research on RI rail trail system.
  
- Harris St/Library bike racks -- Rick continues to work with the City staff to locate a bike rack near the Harris Street parking lot.
  
- Hale Street survey (CPA funding request) -- Group discussed proposal by City Councilor and City staff to use CPA funding for completing an engineering survey for Hale Street as part of the effort to improve the corridor for bicycles and pedestrians. Group did not agree with proposal to use CPA funding, but expressed support for continuing to move this project forward.

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**Next Meetings** - February 2 (canceled), March 2, April 6, May 4