## Queen City Park Road/Austin Drive Bicycle and Pedestrian Connections Scoping Study Advisory Committee – September 23, 2021

## Attendees:

Lucy Gibson, Julie Shapiro – Toole design
Nicole Losch – Burlington Public Works, Transportation Planner
Justin Rabidoux – Director of Public Works, South Burlington
Peter Keating – Burlington Walk/Bike Council
Gillian Bell – Burlington South End
Tim Barrett – South Burlington City Council
Doug Goodman – Queen City Park Resident
Chris Damiani – Green Mountain Transit
Amanda Holland – South Burlington Bicycle & Pedestrian Committee

Lucy reviewed the study area and noted that a study was done on the bridge over the railroad many years ago. This study will include the preferred alternative from that study.

Justin asked if it is still the plan to cul-de-sac Pine Street? Nicole said that that Burlington is moving forward with that recommendation. The Champlain Parkway will begin construction next year, with the middle section being constructed first.

Lucy discussed the scope of work for this study. It will identify possible improvement ideas and bring them to a defined project. We will look at, and map, existing conditions, constraints, environmental conditions, and land ownership. Elements of the scope of work include the following items.

- Public engagement for this study will include an online map and survey.
- Alternatives will developed to address the needs that are identified through the public engagement process. Alternatives will include bike lanes and paths. The study will evaluate costs, utilities, environmental issues, and connectivity.
- The next meeting of the Advisory Committee will identify alternatives.
- A Public Meeting will be held to present alternatives to the public.
- A preferred alternative will be selected.
- The study will evaluate feasibility and cost and will develop an implementation plan.
- Possible funding sources will be discussed.

## Project schedule –

- We have been working on existing conditions and base mapping.
- The online public engagement, which includes an interactive map and survey, will be open through mid-October.
- We will begin developing alternatives in early November.
- A Public Meeting will take place in early January to select a preferred alternative.
- Once we have a preferred alternative the report will be finalized and will include concept plan.

Comment – Will the Advisory Committee make recommendation on the preferred alternative? Answer – The Advisory Committee will make a recommendation to the City Council or bicycle and pedestrian committees.

Toole noted that the online tools were advertised with Lawn Signs place in the study area and thought social media posts. We have had a good response.

The committee discussed the on-street parking near Oakledge.

The committee discussed available right of way in the study area.

The committee discussed current plans to move the Shelburne Road/Queen City Park Road crosswalk to the southern leg of the intersection.

The committee noted that the aspirational goal would be bike lanes and a wider path where possible.

The committee discussed the crossing at Pine Street and how it would change with the cul-de-sac of Pine Street.

The committee noted that wayfinding could be better in the project area. Users are not sure where to go.

The committee noted that the advisory lanes on Queen City Park Road seem to work but they are concerned about winter conditions when the pavement markings may not be visible. The Corner near Burton can be tough.

The committee discussed whether a sidewalk is enough on Queen City Park Road with the existing Champlain Parkway Path which parallels Queen City Park Road?

The committee noted that it is difficult walking in the winter.

It was noted that people from Rhino and Burton do walk and use transit.

GMT noted that buses pull in or pull out of bus depot 175 times during the day. That is a lot of movement. There are also a lot of truck in the area.

The next advisory committee meeting will be November 18 at 6 pm.