

**New Haven Go-Alition Meeting**  
**October 6, 2005**

In attendance: Steve Harris, Joel Creswell, Zaac Chaves, Adrienne Webb, Melinda Tuhus, Sarah Perkin, Alec Gosse, Dave Barone, Lisa Fernandez, Jane Coppock, Joyce Chen, Mike Piscitelli

1. Dave Barone from City Plan reported on the current status of the Farmington Canal Rails to Trails project:

Currently, the New Haven section of the trail runs from Sachem St. to Munson St. New Haven got federal transportation money for the project. The money is administered by the state, and requires that the project be funded with 20% city money, while the federal money makes up the other 80%.

Work on the next New Haven section of the trail will be awarded this fall. The new section will stretch from Munson to Shelton St. (about 1/2 mile). The contractor will probably start working this fall. The remaining 1/2 mile of the trail to be built is from Shelton St. to the Hamden line. New Haven and Hamden have jointly applied for state money to complete this section. They already have \$750,000 allocated to the project.

Yale paid for the paving of the trail from Sachem St. to Hillhouse Ave., where it passed by Yale's new engineering building. From Hillhouse, the city wants to eventually extend the trail to Audubon St., and then on to the Long Wharf Pier. Several options have been proposed for the section from Audubon to Long Wharf. One of these would be to have the trail on-road down Grove St. to Olive, to Water, to Brewery St., then off-road again along Canal Dock Road to the pier. Another option would be to have some sort of cantilevered path along the railroad right-of-way. Concerns were expressed by several present about the safety hazards this option would pose, as it would be an enclosed trail with entrances and exits, and thus dangerous for people riding/walking alone. Also being considered is an off-road path along State Street, possibly through some of the areas that are now surface parking.

There is currently \$3.5 million of federal money (plus a 20% local match) allocated to the section of trail from Hillhouse to Long Wharf.

2. Steve Harris reported on the status of signage for the Tomlinson Bridge railroad crossing:

Randy Eick, at ConnDOT, wants to use the standard state sign, which is a standard railroad crossing-sign with another sign under it with the word "Bicycles." Steve is looking around in other cities and states for other options. One popular option that was discussed was to have a sign that read "Bicycles Cross Perpendicular to Tracks."

3. Joel Creswell reported on bike jamborees:

The Oct. 1 bike jamboree at Common Ground High School was a success. 10 kids were given new helmets and many more got their bikes tuned up/overhauled. The next jamboree is planned for Sunday, October 23, from noon to 2:00 PM, at Edgewood Park. It is taking place as part of the Edgewood Park Fall Festival. It will be located closest to the intersection of Edgewood and Ella T. Grasso Blvd. Several volunteers have already signed up, but more are welcome. Those interested should contact Joel at [joel.creswell@yale.edu](mailto:joel.creswell@yale.edu).

Joel has been in touch with Officer Joe Avery at the New Haven Police Department about the possibility of starting up a reward program for kids who are seen biking safely. Police would be given vouchers to hand out to kids who they see riding with helmets and following the rules. The vouchers would be good for a free ice cream cone.

3. Melinda Tuhus reported on the effort to change the bike language in the Conn. Driver's Manual:

She has reviewed the current language in the manual and looked up some other states' manuals, and has contacted ConnDOT to see what the procedure is for modifying the manual.

4. Lisa Fernandez from the Farmington Canal Rails to Trails Association reported on the East Coast Greenway Alliance Annual Members' Meeting:

The meeting will be held at the New Haven City Hall, from November 5-6, 2005. Volunteers are actively sought to help with the logistics of the meeting, as well as to represent the New Haven cycling community. Those interested in volunteering should contact Lisa at [lisa.fernandez@yale.edu](mailto:lisa.fernandez@yale.edu) or [loyanar@hotmail.com](mailto:loyanar@hotmail.com). For more information, visit [www.greenway.org](http://www.greenway.org).

5. Joel Creswell reported on an update of the New Haven Green Map:

The Urban Resources Initiative and City Plan are working on updating the New Haven Green Map, which can be viewed online at [http://www.cityofnewhaven.com/govt/GreenMap\\_1.pdf](http://www.cityofnewhaven.com/govt/GreenMap_1.pdf). They want feedback from members of Elm City Cycling and the Go-alition on how the biking resources of the map could be improved, i.e. more bike shops listed, more routes shown, etc. People with feedback should email it either to Elm City Cycling ([elmcitycycling@yahoogroups.com](mailto:elmcitycycling@yahoogroups.com)) or to Joel ([joel.creswell@yale.edu](mailto:joel.creswell@yale.edu)).

5. Jane Coppock reported that:

The Quinnipiac East Neighborhood Management Team passed a "Drive 25" resolution, resolving to take steps to encourage drivers in their neighborhood to observe the 25 mph speed limit. They may put up lawn signs and posters. Jane encouraged everyone to participate.

Whew! Another great meeting.

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