

BPAC JULY 8, 2025 MEETING MINUTES

5:30PM – Meeting Commences

Attendance:

Members	Attendance
Alexander McRae, Chairperson <i>Term expires: 11/2027</i>	X
Edwin Linderkamp, Vice Chairperson <i>Term expires: 04/2028</i>	X
Dr. Alexander “Sandy” Pope, Committee Member <i>Term expires: 10/2026</i>	X
Mary Buffington, Committee Member <i>Term expires: 10/2026</i>	A
Saraleigh Monroe, Committee Member <i>Term expires: 04/2028</i>	X
City Council	
Angela Blake, Council Liaison	X
City Staff Support	
Nick Voitiuc	X
Saujanya Guragain	X
Guests	
Ashley Kable	X
John Sater	X

- The minutes from the May 13, 2025, and June 10, 2025, meetings were presented for review. Saraleigh motioned to approve the minutes, and Edwin seconded the motion.
- The June and July meeting agendas were approved. Edwin motioned for approval, seconded by Saraleigh.
- The meeting began with each attendee introducing themselves. Ashley expressed her passion for pedestrian/sidewalk improvements, particularly for single mothers living in low-income areas, citing her past experiences. She stated that she would like to be part of the committee and act as a representative/voice for that group. The group assured her that she is always welcome to attend meetings, even if her application is rejected due to her current residence being outside the city limits. John shared that he is a cyclist and would like to contribute his perspective on improving bike networks around the city during meetings.
- Angela discussed the upcoming council presentation from the BPAC committee and emphasized the importance of these presentations, especially when delivered directly by committee representatives, as they demonstrate committee engagement and highlight ongoing tasks that the committee is working on.

- Angela also spoke about the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) grant and inquired about updates on the recalibration process to advance it, noting the magnitude of the grant funding and its importance for bicycle and pedestrian improvements. She stressed that, moving forward, the grant and its development should be well-integrated into committee discussions and recommendations.
- Nick responded that the SS4A grant (“\$12 million grant”) is divided roughly equally between pedestrian improvements and bikeway improvements. However, given that the grant requirements mandate physical dividers/separators such as concrete barriers for bikeways, the City is considering declining the bikeway portion due to the unpopularity of such changes (e.g., Carroll St.). The City is reviewing and revising the scope of work and budget for the pedestrian improvements portion before accepting the funding, considering the grantor’s strict requirements for committing to a finalized scope.
- Angela requested that Nick provide the committee with the SS4A grant agreement document. Nick printed multiple copies and distributed them during the meeting. The group agreed to review the document and discuss it further at the next meeting.
- Saraleigh inquired about the rail trail project and its associated grant agreement. Nick explained that the project is funded by a combination of multiple grants. The design has advanced to 30%, and the City is currently identifying additional funding sources to move the project forward. Saraleigh suggested that the committee review this grant agreement along with the SS4A grant in future meetings. Alex supported the idea.
- Angela emphasized that the BPAC committee should have the opportunity to actively participate in reviewing grants and projects related to bikeways and pedestrian improvements, as well as the funding involved, to achieve BPAC’s goals.
- The group discussed the upcoming presentation and provided feedback to Alex. Sandy suggested including Vision Zero in the presentation, as it was a previous topic of focus and aligns with BPAC’s vision.
- Alex asked if the presentation should include the committee’s accomplishments and activities from recent years. Nick supported the idea. Sandy suggested including the “Bronze-level Bike Friendly City” recognition as one of the achievements. Angela added that highlighting past achievements is essential to recalibrate and refocus BPAC’s mission amidst changing administrations. Sandy further noted that the presentation should emphasize that well-planned bikeway improvements are not an obstacle but a retrofit to improve connectivity and traffic flow.
- Angela and Edwin stressed the importance of incorporating accessibility into infrastructure improvements, including sidewalks and ramps, in line with the committee’s mission.
- Saujanya reported on recent BPAC purchases, which included bike locks, LED lights, bike bells, bike reflectors, reflective armbands, and slap koozies.
- The group discussed committee vacancies. Saraleigh suggested that Tom Horton would be a great addition and said she would work with him to complete his application. Saujanya said he would share the application link with John following his expressed interest in joining the committee.
- The group discussed participation in National Night Out. Saraleigh, Alex, Sandy, and John confirmed they would attend the event.
- The group also discussed bike valet volunteers for the Folk Festival. Edwin offered to contact UMES to connect with students who may wish to volunteer. Sandy reported that three time slots remain entirely open, while the rest are nearly full.

- Regarding bike valet for the 3rd Friday events, Saraleigh proposed reinstating it to increase bike visibility and promote cycling. She volunteered to manage the valet service on behalf of the committee, and Alex supported the idea.
- On the topic of bike-friendly businesses, Saraleigh noted that the QR code/application discussed previously was developed as a beta test by SU students. Sandy confirmed it was a pilot version and that the students intended to hand it over to BPAC. Saraleigh suggested adding this topic to the next agenda.
- Saraleigh briefly discussed the Ride of Silence event and its global significance. She also invited members to join the Salisbury Bike Party at Unity Square on Friday, July 11, noting that it is organized on the second Friday of every month.

6:30 PM- Meeting Adjourned