
Wakefield Safe Streets

Tuesday, 03.24.2026 – 7pm Americal Civic Center

Attendees

John Crisley, Co-Chair
Jason DeGray
Ted Dooling
Maureen Nelting
Ryan O'Malley
Bill Spaulding
Kathleen Tuhy, Co-Chair
Dave Wieneke, Comms

Agenda

Old Business

1. Chairman Crisley reviewed events since the Committee's last meeting in October.
2. Rail Trail is receiving finishing touches (tree trimming, fencing repair near Water Street, repairing a pedestrian crossing light at Water and Vernon Street)
3. **Envision Wakefield/Phase 1 of Downtown Revitalization.** Town Engineer Bill Renault and MassDOT are intending to have a June, 2026 public meeting. View the design concepts here: www.wakefieldma.gov/413/Downtown-Design-Concepts.

New Business

1. Town Council will consider funding for parking lot improvements at the terminus of the rail trail at Richardston Street. Funding for the project is from a Mass Trail Grant (www.mass.gov/guides/masstrails-grants). Town Councilor, John Crisley, requested covered bike parking be installed at the future Richardson lot. The Richardson Street lot is across Main Street from the Galvin Middle School. Supporters are encouraged to attend this May 4, 2026 (Monday night) Town Meeting and speak in favor of both completing the rail trail and inclusion of the covered bike parking..
2. The committee discussed Walk to School scheduled for May 6, and Bike to Work scheduled May 7.
3. The committee agreed to pursue Open Streets Sunday for June 14, 2026.

4. Ted Dooling shared Walk Audit materials from WalkMassachusetts, which indicates a commitment from Wakefield to conduct an audit related to climate change. We will contact Marissa Meaney, Town Planner, to see how best to respond to this.
5. **2026 Meeting Calendar.** We are planning on holding six (6) meeting during 2026. We plan on having a meeting going forward in April, May, June, September and October. Other meetings may be scheduled as needed.

Action Items

1. **Public Meeting for Envision Wakefield / Downtown Revitalization tentatively scheduled for June 2026.** Phase 1 of the project will re-design Main Street between Water and Nahant Streets. This major project will include traffic calming measures, pedestrian traffic islands to shorten the crossing distance, and a 2-way shared pedestrian / bike path on the Galvin Street side of the road.
2. **Open Street Sunday** (Bill Spaulding) - Bill file the Town application for a tentative event on June 14. Bill will work with Julie to complete the application and John C. will assist with securing Town's approval.
3. **Wakefield Town Meeting on May 4, 2026 / Monday night.** Please attend and speak in favor of completing the Rail Trail this year AND installing covered bike parking along the trail for bikes and strollers.
4. **Future Planning Efforts** (Bill Spaulding) - Bill expressed interest in having our Senior Town Planner, Marissa Meaney, participate in a future meeting. Topics TBD.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Americal Civic Center - 7 pm - 8:30 pm

Anticipated Agenda Items:

- Wakefield Rail Trail, and potential Richardson St. Bike Shelter (due for discussion on Monday, May 4, 2026, at Town Council Meeting.
- Wakefield Walk to School Day, May 6, 2026.
- Wakefield Bike to Work Day, May 7, 2026.
- Update on Open Streets Sunday (June date TBA).