Legislative and Policy BPAC Subcommittee Meeting  
March 23, 2016  
Rutgers University  
33 Livingston Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ

Attendees: Janna Chernetz, Arnold Anderson, Bruce McCracken, Daniel Lebar, John Stzachan, Kerri Martin, James Sinclair, Elizabeth Ward, Emily Armstrong, Cyndi Steiner

1. Legislative updates
   • Bill proposed by Assemblywoman Pamela Lampitt (D-Camden) to fine or jail pedestrians who text while crossing the street
     o Concerns over the bill included:
       ▪ Difficulty of enforcement
       • Hard to prove
       ▪ Unbalanced – blames pedestrians in case of collision
         • Allocates blame to vulnerable users
       ▪ Lack of data on safety merits
     o Group wrote advisory memo to executive council stating fault with proposal and lack of support among group. Will present at next general BPAC

2. DOT messaging – Continued discussion on use of “accident”
   a. Proposal to push for replacement of the word accident with the word crash or collision in public conversations
      i. NHTSA policy: “all crashes are not accidents”
      ii. Requires change in statute for changes to be made in official documents

3. Role of group
   a. Creating talking points for legislators in lieu of taking a position
      i. Use state police statistics
      ii. General bike/ped information
      iii. Tailor talking points to specific bill proposals
   b. To get bills passed, champions are needed
      i. Champions exist but aren’t connected with BPAC

4. Other discussion
   a. Conversation about liability
      i. Metuchen has shade tree commission that limits sidewalk improvements
      ii. Metuchen passed code requiring sidewalk improvements
      iii. Conflict of policy
   b. 100 days of summer kick-off
      i. No additional information at this time