



**Erie LRTP Update 2052
 Public Meeting**

October 23, 2025: 1 to 3 pm and 6 to 8 pm
 Booker T. Washington Center, City of Erie

Attendees

Name	Email	Organization
Kim Hawkes	kimberly.hawkes@hawkesenterprises.com	Corry Junction Greenway Trail
Don Williams	DJWorm50@aol.com	Presque Isle Seaplane Base
Kathy Schaaf	kschaaf@erie.pa.us	Erie City Council
Emily Aloiz	ealoiz@pa.gov	PennDOT
Dan Stroup	Dstroup12@icbid.com	Public/Fairview Resident
Matt Waldinger	mwaldinger@millcreektownship.com	Millcreek Twp
Courtney Lyle	clyle@pa.gov	PennDOT
Sara Tassone	stassone@pa.gov	PennDOT
Brian Smith	briansmith@pa.gov	PennDOT
Greg Maser	grmaser@pa.gov	PennDOT
Sarah Van Der Volgen	Sarah7682@verizon.net	Wattsburg Borough
Joseph V Schember	schembers@msn.com	City of Erie
Derek Martin	dmartin@erieairport.org	Erie Airport
Randy Fedei	rfedei@nesd1.org	North East School District
Anna Frantz	afrantz@porterie.org	Erie-Western PA Port Authority
Curtis Jones Jr	cjones@eriepa.com	Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership
Sheila Sterrett	sheila_sterrett@mccormick.senate.gov	State Senator McCormick's office
Lenny McLaughlin	lennymclaughlinintern@mccormick.senate.gov	State Senator McCormick's office
Marilyn Pol	Mimi.p6248@gmail.com	Erie City Council
David Bertges	dbertges@galvanizeit.com	Resident
Savannah Lasky	slasky@galvanizeit.com	Resident
Mike Baker	mbaker@corrypa.gov	City of Corry
Freda Tepfer	fstepfer@yahoo.com	Resident
Chris Groner	cgroner@erie.pa.us	City of Erie
Christina Vogel	cmvogel@yahoo.com	Resident
Brian Atterbury	bcatterbury@yahoo.com	Resident
Raymond Haraway	raymond_haraway@hotmail.com	Resident
Natasha Tyes	millionairelash@gmail.com	Resident
Jessica Horan	jhoran@eriecountypa.gov	Erie County
Alexandra Royal	aroyal@eriecountypa.gov	Erie County
Jordyn Cook	jtcook@eriecountypa.gov	Erie County
Scott Thompson-Graves	Sthompson-graves@wrallp.com	Whitman, Requardt & Associates

Meeting Summary

EMTA

EMTA does not run on Sundays

- Creates work problems for people who rely on public transport; unable to work on Sunday
- People want to have jobs but lack of transit options to reach the jobs causes a problem
- Could EMTA have focused areas like Girard and Lake City to come into Erie, which may help with rural workers who come into the city for work
- In Corry, proposed bus route to Waterford instead of all the way to the city

- EMTA needs public involvement, especially in their plan
- Cycles on the EMTA bus route – Nuisance perspective – East side VS West Side – E-bikes more popular on the east side

Sidewalks/Crosswalks/Accessibility

- LRTP should include a recommendation for a sidewalk study
- Some residents are frustrated that pedestrian improvements are not happening fast enough.

Sidewalk issues during wither/inclement weather:

- Bike users and pedestrians do not know what side of the road they should be using when a sidewalk is not present.
- Great outreach and educational opportunity.
 - Bike users in the same direction as all other traffic, following all road rules as well.
 - Pedestrians on the left side of the road facing oncoming traffic.

Sidewalk/Crosswalk maintenance issues:

- The County is installing new crosswalks, but the rate of disappearance of crosswalks occurs quickly. A way to slow the deterioration is needed.
- PennDOT is trying new methods for pavement markings, like plastic, epoxy, grinding the road surface down and putting the materials flush with the pavement. LRTP can suggest a policy & practice for municipalities to follow.
- Deterioration due to nature: trees and current sidewalk and road structure encourages the roots of the trees to grow up underneath the sidewalk creating the gaps and uneven pavement.

Location-specific sidewalk/accessibility concerns:

- 12th Street at Pittsburg and Asbury there are no sidewalks and popular shopping and food centers, also a common area of speeding.
- East 12th from Franklin and Payne Ave area there are no sidewalks, people commonly walking alongside the road. The posted speed limit is 40 MPH but people are driving much faster. This area also has John E. Horan Garden Apartments.
- Buffalo Rd no sidewalks and gaps between the existing sidewalks in certain areas.
- Peach St is not wheelchair accessible, there are areas that have curb cuts but no sidewalk.
- Peach St near Grandview has light poles in the middle of the sidewalk. Creates difficulties for wheelchair users.
- Raspberry St – school zone and the sidewalks are in bad condition
- Poor access to Presque Isle State Park for pedestrians
- East side needs new pavement: Buffalo Rd in Wesleyville, Fairmount Parkway, 21st St

Safety/Infrastructure

- Our infrastructure was built for car users, so how do we create a safe way for e-bike, bike, and pedestrian users to get to where they need to be?
- Close certain streets to cars, and only allow pedestrians and bike users. This creates a safe open area for them to utilize and helps to get them where they need to be.
- Need to have safe passage for students walking
- There are lots of concerns in the city about speeding
- Should we account in the Plan for autonomous vehicles?

Rural areas with deer. People hit a deer and then the carcass stays in the road. There are already solutions in place for this – PennDOT does pick up deer on State Roads, but it has to be in the road and not off on someone's property. State police can also be called and notified.

- How can we make this more known for the public to utilize these programs to help remove deer from the roadway to keep the carcass from becoming a road hazard?

Location-specific safety/infrastructure concerns:

- West 19th between Peach St and Cherry St: very fast drivers, described as a drag strip. This area has the Erie Cemetery and is the heart of Little Italy. Cherry Street in the area is also in very poor condition.
- 12th and Asbury – intersection near the airport. Remove the traffic light, this is a confusing traffic light and pattern. Study this intersection and propose a traffic circle (roundabout), this intersection needs reconfigured.
- Station Road and Reese Rd – Blind intersection when wanting to turn left off Reese onto Station
- 12th Street reimagined – I79 interchange and Cherry St – Bump – out concerns, the semis and other freight may have difficulty with turning and if the bump outs are put in.
- Flooding on 12th street – peninsula and 12th often floods during heavy rains
- Flooding in Wattsburg when French Creek floods from heavy rain.
- E lake Rd underpass by old hammer mill floods regularly
- East 26th St to Broad St to State St – no drainage, often pooling of water and then when cars go by splash all the pedestrian
- 12th St bump outs - semis use the side streets so the semis do not ever have to back-up on 12th St

Biking

- West 26th street: bike commute is not safe, Walmart not safely accessible by bike and walking, needs to be made safer. There are a lot of people going to Walmart by bike or walking in the late dark hours – possible study here to determine how to make this safer for people to access the Walmart on west 26th street by bike and walking.
- E-bikes: Inevitable, people use e-bikes to get around, especially on the East side, they are not going anywhere and will continue to be used. How can we create protocol and policy for the safety for e-bike users?
 - E-bikes are not safe downtown. People can't use the e-bikes on the sidewalks, leaving them to use the road but in some areas this is not safe because there are no bike lanes.
 - There has been an increase in e-bike accidents
 - Discussed the PA regulations that apply to e-bikes and sidewalk use. The LRTP could potentially include an item for public education on this topic.

Railroad

- Railroad Crossings:
 - Often a spot for homeless people to group, many hazardous crossings.
 - Possible grant opportunity for municipalities to add lighting in bridge underpasses and help to light up the underpass.
 - Many of these railroad underpasses are also in poor condition and the road is very detreated. Many times there is also standing water under these passes as well.

Seaport

- The seaport is currently active, but it shares space with the marina
- Private, not public
- About 50 landings since it was opened
- It would be better if it were relocated to Erie, not Presque Isle
- With redevelopment in the port area, there has been no prioritization of uses that need water access. For example, the open air market doesn't need to be on the water.
- Aspirations for a heliport and vertiport for unmanned vehicles and flying cars

Miscellaneous

- Workforce – getting people to work in Fairview and Girard – big manufacturing businesses



- Speed-bumps on/in/around school zones – McKindley Elementary for example
- Lack of urgency on State Street Project

Feedback Form Summary:

Attendee zip codes:

City of Erie – 18 (residence – 8, employment – 10)

Wattsburg – 1 (residence – 1, employment 0)

North East – 2 (residence – 1, employment 1)

Corry – 1 (residence – 1, employment 1)

(One zip code from outside Erie: Columbus, PA)

How did we do? Excellent – 8, satisfactory – 3

How did you hear about this meeting? Email was most common, followed by friend/neighbor

General Comments

- I've seen a lack of existing sidewalks or sidewalks that are not maintained in inclement weather causing pedestrians to walk in the streets.
- Upgrade full service public use seaplane base to active
- Include urban heliport in Plan
- Include urban vertiport in Plan
- I would like us to be more pedestrian friendly. I would like buses to run 7 days a week. We need to redo many sidewalks and fill in sidewalks where there are no sidewalks. Bike trails are great.
- Public session further into the county