

1. *If elected, what would be your top priorities for improving safety and comfort for people walking and biking in Newburyport? Are there specific locations that you would like the City to focus on in the next few years? Are there specific initiatives or policies you would support?*

I would love to see improved connectivity for walkers and bikers in the West End neighborhoods. I have attended Walking Audits on Storey Ave and Ferry Ave and would love to see outcomes from these audits including sidewalks and crosswalks as needed. A path connecting the Philips Drive neighborhood to Cherry Hill would also be useful, as well as the proposed shared-use path along Hale St.

2. *What do you think the City is doing well in terms of bike and pedestrian facilities and infrastructure? What could be improved?*

The City is doing well with connecting up the Rail Trail and establishing the Bike Share program. I'd like to see some signage with biking safety rules/etiquette posted on the Rail Trail. Folks have told me they see good signage on the Salisbury side of the trail, which would be beneficial here too. The introduction of e-bikes in particular has made walkers feel unsafe on the trails.

3. *Snow and ice can block sidewalks, curb ramps, bus stops, and bike lanes for days, making it difficult for people who walk, roll, bike, or rely on transit to travel safely. Clearing these areas quickly is essential for maintaining year-round accessibility. How do you envision improving accessibility for walkers and bikers during winter weather events?*

Snow removal from sidewalks is a challenge for many, especially renters and elderly, and the city street plows can make it much harder to get the sidewalks and curb cuts cleared out. It may require a public service campaign about being a good neighbor, expanding the snow angels program, and having a number/contact that folks can call for assistance.

4. *Safe walking and biking routes to school help children have the freedom and independence to move around the community and reduce car trips for parents and guardians. Is there anything the City should do to promote safe options for kids walking and biking to school?*

The bike busses happening on Fridays are a great start! They are raising awareness in all neighborhoods about the challenges that cyclists face along the routes to the schools. There may be potential to use feedback from bike bus riders to gain some Safe Routes to School grant funding for improvements. Again, the shared-use path on Hale St will be key to connecting all the West End neighborhoods to the schools as well as the new Rec Center.