



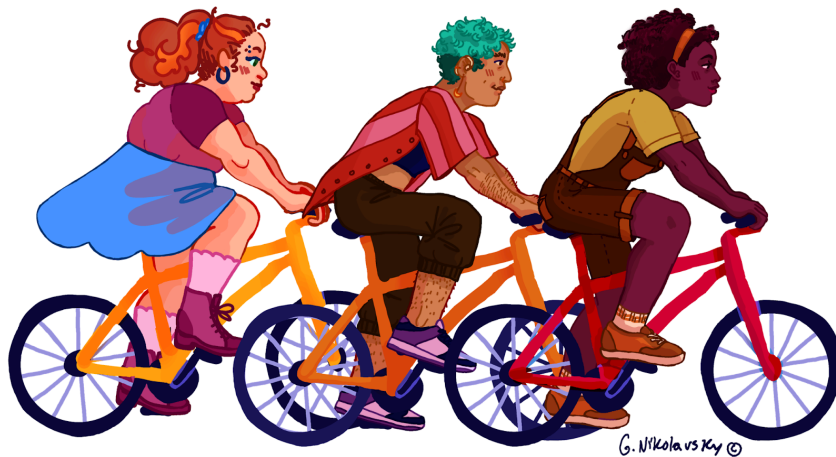
NEWSLETTER

March 2024 (Volume 2, Issue 3)

First Annual SWAG Bike Fest

SWAG BIKE FEST

Syracuse Women's & Gender Nonconforming People's Bike Fest



Keeping with the tradition of women's bike fests that have taken place across Upstate New York, the Syracuse Urbanism Club is having the first annual SWAG Bike Fest! SWAG stands for Syracuse Women's and Gender Nonconforming People. Our goal is to foster and facilitate a radically inclusive cycling community by creating a cycling festival specifically for ALL women and gender nonconforming people.

This is a celebration of our diverse cycling community with workshops, refreshments, and good vibes. Cycling is for everybody. Free event.

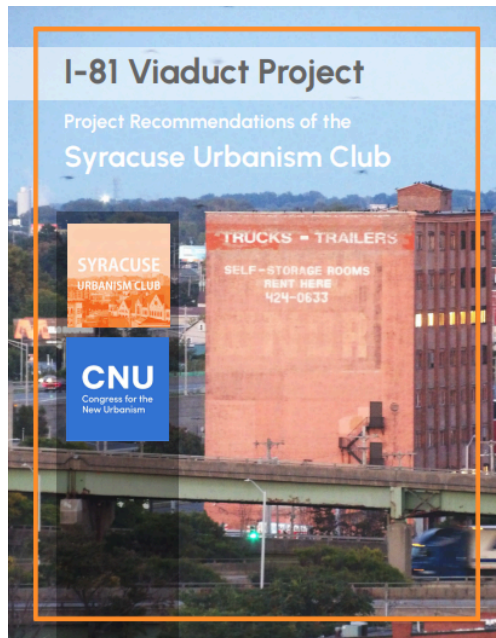
When: Saturday, June 15, 2024, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Where: 701 N. Salina Street, Syracuse, NY 13208

For more information, please send a message to syracuseurbanismclub@gmail.com.

For fastest response, put Jaynelle/SWAG Bike Fest in the subject line.

Meeting with NYSDOT



Members of the Board and Media Team recently met with the I-81 Viaduct Project Team, including members of the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and City of Syracuse to discuss our Project Recommendations (previously called our Public Comment). They were particularly amenable to the following recommendations:

- **Protected bike lanes in an interconnected network** throughout the project, separated with bollards or flexible delineators where a raised curb separation is not possible.
- **Longer bridge spans** over local roads **to ensure the possibility of constructing wide sidewalks below** in the future.
- Incorporating **locally designed public art and** artistically designed **utilitarian objects** such as unique trash cans, bike racks, benches, etc. by allocating project money to the city for this purpose.
- Safer traffic signals such as **eliminating right on red and** incorporating **leading pedestrian and cyclist interval crossing signals.**
- **Native plantings and meadows** instead of lawns and hardscaped surfaces, also considering a vibrant winter appearance.

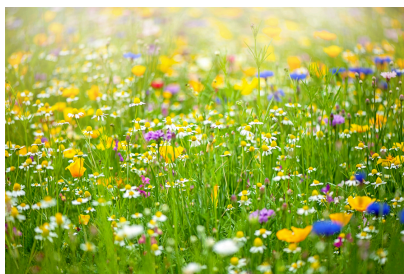
- A **crosswalk at West Street & Park Avenue** to give access to **NYSDOT's Creekwalk extension** to the directly adjacent Park Avenue Neighborhood.
- Creating a **safer and more inviting pedestrian entrance** underneath I-690 **to the Hawley-Green neighborhood** at the north end of the reconstructed Almond Street with art, wide sidewalks, and fun lights, while ensuring the protected bike lanes on Almond Street don't transition to unprotected bike lanes underneath the highway bridge.
- Creating safer and more frequent **pedestrian and cyclist crossings of Almond Street at Madison, Monroe, and Cedar.**
- Adjusting the curvature of Genesee Street to **eliminate the** triangular pedestrian island and **slip lane** at the southeast corner of **Almond and Genesee.**

We ask that they continue to consider the following recommendations:

- **The Almond Street Median as a linear park.** If the median is to be 20 ft wide, we've attached a photo of **Broadway Malls in Manhattan** for reference, which is also 20 ft wide.
- **Mature trees at key project locations** to create a welcoming pedestrian space from day one.
- **Business remediation funds** for those affected by the construction process.
- **Right of way reductions.**
- **Reconnecting East Washington Street** between Forman Ave and University Ave as a pedestrian/cyclist path.
- The many **other recommendations from our document, which is attached** along with our agenda from yesterday's meeting.
- **Ensuring that no upcoming contracts will be design build.**

Project Updates

Mini Meadows



The Mini Meadows project is seeking to do citywide grass-to-native meadow/wildflower conversions with an emphasis on community involvement and sustainable long-term maintenance.

Right now we are targeting a \$2,000 grant offered by the Syracuse Parks Conservancy. We are seeking any and all input regarding meadow location, design, seed mixes, and so forth. Anyone looking to provide input may do so by clicking on the following link: [Mini Meadows Survey](#).

We meet regularly during the Urbanism Club general meetings, with upcoming plans for field trips and outdoor meetups as we continue to design and implement our first mini meadows.

More Syracuse News



General Information:

Please stay up to date on infrastructure improvements throughout the city. The [Syr.Gov](#) site includes updates on [Traffic and Infrastructure News](#), the [Municipal Sidewalk Program](#), and [Bicycle Infrastructure](#).

Call for Features



Would you like your organization, project, or event featured in the Syracuse Urbanism Club newsletter? Please send the following to syracuseurbanismclub@gmail.com:

- 150-200 word description of your organization, project, or event.

- Picture or image you would like to accompany your feature.
- Deadline/special dates for projects and events.
- Contact person for any follow up questions.

March Meeting: Temporary Time & Location Change



Our meetings take place on the last Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 25, 2024. For this meeting only, we will meet at the **Salt City Market Community Room** at **6:30 pm**.

Location: 484 South Salina Street, Syracuse, NY 13202

Sign up to have the Syracuse Urbanism Club monthly newsletter sent directly to your email:

