



CITY OF CONCORD

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MINUTES

Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee of the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee of the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee met at 5:30 p.m., on December 6, 2021, in the second-floor budget room, City Hall 41 Green Street.

Attendees: Craig Tufts, Dick Lemieux, Boyd Smith

Staff: Sam Durfee, Senior Planner, Staff Representative

Absent: Greg Bakos

1. Minutes of the July 12 and September 13, 2021 Meetings

A vote on the July 12, 2021 and September 13, 2021 meetings minutes was postponed to the January meeting.

2. Striping Policy and Paving Program

The group had a broad discussion over what a striping policy should look like, how it should function, and what it should accomplish. The group reviewed and discussed the latest draft policy that Craig provided. After substantial discussion, the group concluded that an annual paving review meeting take place, perhaps each winter, to discuss the paving and striping projects programmed for the next three years. At the meeting would be key Planning, Engineering, and General Services staff, and possibly a member or two of TPAC. The objectives of the meeting would be to:

1. Identify and align any potential CIP projects with the paving schedule, such as new sidewalk construction or other streetscape enhancements. CIP#17 (sidewalk, bikeway, and streetscape) or new project specific CIP items may be relevant.
2. Identify any low-cost improvements that can be incorporated into construction that might require a lead time for engineering, public comment, or other review. Projects such as bump outs, tree planting, sidewalk construction, and general streetscape enhancements could be introduced as a bid option when construction goes out to bid.
3. Review for potential lane striping and other lane marking changes for the upcoming paving season. This may include re-allocation of roadway space, shoulders, bike lane configurations, turn lane configurations, crosswalks, or other markings.

The purpose of the annual paving meeting would be to identify no or low-cost transportation

improvements that could be incorporated into the paving program, and to take advantage of efficiencies that may come about through combining roadway reclamation projects with other needed infrastructure improvements.

A general striping policy with best practices may still be developed, but the annual meeting will be necessary as there are many unique situations and road layouts throughout the City that a striping policy could not sufficiently address. This striping policy could codify the annual paving review meeting.

Dick proposed that the general policy be an Engineering policy, adopted by City Council. In addition to providing general guidance on striping, the policy should also serve to codify the authority of Planning and Engineering staff to review and comment on the annual paving/stripping plan for the purpose of ensuring roads are striped to accommodate adequate shoulders for bicyclists wherever possible, and to identify options for meeting other transportation objectives. Discussion of general standards to include in the policy consisted of a base lane width of 10 feet and a base shoulder width of 5 feet or more wherever possible.

For improved coordination on larger projects, the annual paving review meeting should be concluded in advance of the CIP project submission and review process. Deadlines for striping suggestions should be identified and noted to TPAC-PB.

This annual paving review meeting was also discussed in the context of the South State St and South St paving project that was reviewed this year for possible streetscape improvements and tree plantings. Such a meeting may have streamlined this evaluation.

3. Bike Event for 2022

Boyd shared ideas for a bike event for 2022 that included closing streets, getting people out riding bikes and providing opportunities for engagement and learning. Craig suggested teaming up with CNHBC and suggested reviving Biketoberfest. Boyd said he would be interested in working with CNHBC and will reach out and report back.

4. General Transportation Project Updates

The Group discussed the proposal by CSX to buy PanAm and what that could mean for the Merrimack River Greenway Trail. Also discussed was the recent news that the State submitted a letter detailing its intention to exercise its right of first refusal to buy the rail corridor the City has been working with PanAm to purchase. It is unclear if the State has the funds to purchase the corridor or what implications might come with State ownership.

Meeting adjourned at 7:09 PM