

**City of Concord
Transportation Policy Advisory Committee**

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 23, 2014 - 6:00pm to 8:00pm
City Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room

1. Call to Order/Introductions

Dick Lemieux, Chair, called the meeting to order. Those in attendance included:

Committee Members Present:

Dick Lemieux (At-Large - Chair)
Brent Todd (Council Representative)
Ursula Maldonado (At-Large)
Tom Irwin (At-Large)
Jim Sudak (Public Transportation Representative)
Rob Mack, Traffic Engineer (City Manager's Designee)

Committee Members Not Present:

Byron Champlin (Council Representative)
Rob Werner (Council Representative)
Craig Tufts, (Bicycling Community)
Sheila Zakre (At-Large)

Staff, Visitors and Guests Present:

Ed Roberge, City Engineer (Staff Representative)

2. Approval of September 25, 2014 meeting minutes

The September 25, 2014 minutes were approved as submitted (Motion-Todd; Second-Maldonado; Unanimous).

3. Presentations

There were no presentations.

4. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

5. New Business

There was no new business.

6. Old Business

a. Review/update Comprehensive Transportation Policy.

Following up on TPAC's discussion last month, staff distributed an updated draft version of the Comprehensive Transportation Policy. Featured were additional items and wording suggested in the Smart Growth America (SGA) 2012 Complete Streets report. The intent of the alternate wording was to better-describe current city practice on complete streets in terminology espoused by SGA. Attendees spent considerable time discussing aspects of each item in the policy as well as the specific wording of the item. Much discussion focused on

wording that balanced the need to attract through traffic to the collector/arterial street network with the need to minimize the adverse effects of that same traffic passing through residential areas. The description of the multi-modal nature of the policy was also discussed, and whether the policy was a 'comprehensive transportation policy' or a 'complete streets policy.'

The Chair asked that Rob Mack prepare a revised draft with markups, suggestions and other unresolved items as discussed by attendees tonight. The revised draft will be distributed to attendees for further review and comment, with a more refined draft being prepared for additional TPAC consideration next month.

b. Report from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittees with recommendations for improved non-motorized access between downtown and the Horseshoe Pond area.

The Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittees drafted a brief statement for TPAC review regarding a potential recommendation to City Council to consider improved non-motorized access between downtown and the Horseshoe Pond area. As Craig Tufts was not present, TPAC discussion of the item was deferred to the next meeting.

7. Consent Reports

a. Approval of Subcommittee Minutes (Pedestrian, Bicycle, Public Transit, and Traffic Operations).

The following subcommittee minutes were approved by unanimous consent: Public Transportation –September 16, 2014; and Traffic Operations – September 16, 2014.

8. City Council meeting update

At its October 14, 2014 meeting, City Council accepted TOC/TPAC reports on the following referrals from Council: the Washington/Borough/River intersection reconfiguration; the Borough Road sidewalk request; and the Snow Street speed concern.

9. TPAC Referrals from City Council, Staff and Chair

a. Referral from Councilor Herschlag regarding excessive traffic speeds in the West Village neighborhood in Penacook. (Council: 4/14/2014).

Item is pending additional feedback from Councilor Herschlag.

10. Status report on subcommittees

a. Pedestrian Committee, Ursula Maldonado

Not discussed.

b. Bike Committee, Craig Tufts

Not discussed.

c. Public Transit Committee, Tom Irwin

Tom Irwin reported that the subcommittee met on Tuesday and discussed CAT's proposed replacement of the aging Orion bus fleet. For funding purposes, CAT is proposing to purchase one new bus per year over the next three years (say FY16-18), as opposed to purchasing all three in one year. Jim Sudak described CAT's preference for new buses to include: smaller size than the Orion's (24-30 ft bus for 27 or less passengers, versus the Orion's 40 ft for 30 passengers); a medium-duty bus; a level floor versus steps and a lift; and fuel/maintenance economy.

TPAC discussed user amenities such as a 'level floor' (bus drops down for passengers rather than requiring them to use steps to climb in/out) which was felt to be an important offering for Concord patrons. Also discussed were the requirements of the state bidding process that might result in CAT not getting the most appropriate bus model desired. Jim Sudak noted that in recent discussions with the state, the option to advertise the purchase as a detailed 'request for proposal' rather than the traditional 'request for quote' might be considered by the state as a trial. Another option would be for the city to coordinate the bid/purchase process for CAT instead.

Ed Roberge will continue to compile a draft report for Council that includes a matrix providing a comparative analysis of the different types of buses available for purchase and attributes of each such as: capital cost; maintenance cost; fuel economy; number of seats; user amenities; and service life. The matrix will be used to support CAT's preference of bus-type to purchase. The updated draft report will be discussed and refined at next month's Public Transit Subcommittee meeting, with a final draft coming back to TPAC for discussion in November. It is anticipated that the final report from TPAC will be submitted to Council in January.

- d. Traffic Operations Committee, Rob Mack**
Not discussed.

11. Staff Updates

- a. Downtown Complete Streets Improvement Project - TIGER 2012 (CIP460)**
Not discussed.
- b. US Route 3 North Improvements (CIP 35)**
Not discussed.
- c. Sewalls Falls Bridge Replacement (CIP 22)**
Not discussed.
- d. Loudon Road Corridor Improvements (CIP 19)**
Not discussed.
- e. I-93 Bow-Concord Study (NHDOT)**
Not discussed.
- f. TAP application for funding for the MRGT (due at NHDOT 9/26)**
Not discussed.

12. Other Discussion Items

None.

13. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at about 10:00 PM by unanimous consent.

Upcoming Meeting Dates: Nov. 20, 2014
 Dec. 18, 2014
 Jan. 22, 2015