

**CITY OF CONCORD
TRANSPORTATION POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF JANUARY 27, 2022**

The Transportation Policy Advisory Committee (TPAC) met at 6:00 pm on January 27, 2022, in the Second Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 41 Green Street.

Members Present: Dick Lemieux (Chair), Councilor Todd, Councilor Brown, Councilor Rice-Hawkins, Gregory Bakos, Craig Tufts, Terri Paige

Members Absent: Mayor Bouley

Guests: Ian McGregor

City Staff: David Cedarholm (City Engineer), Karen Hill (Transportation Engineer), Sam Durfee (Senior Planner)

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm. Members and guests introduced themselves.

2. Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes – December 16, 2021

The meeting minutes of December 16, 2021 were approved as amended. Motion: Todd. Second: Rice-Hawkins. Abstain: Paige. Unanimous.

3. Public Comment

Chair opened the meeting for public comment; no comments were presented.

4. New Business

a. Discussion on FY23-32 CIP Priorities.

Durfee provided background on the intent of this exercise and the result being a report to Council to recommend CIP priorities based on TPAC rankings. Hill shared preliminary ranking results for each category that were derived from averaging all individual member's rankings. The committee discussed a number of categories and associated projects:

Intersections – The committee generally agreed with rankings. McGregor discussed maintaining our existing infrastructure should be a high priority, for example CIP 550 – Roundabout Maintenance. The committee discussed that it is important, but the funding is allocated each year and typically gets funded. In contrast, there are certain projects that are continually pushed out that TPAC

would like to advocate for. A question was raised about why the N Main Street and Storrs Street intersection improvement project is no longer shown in the CIP, is this project still funded. The committee mentioned it should be a priority and it should not fall off the City's radar.

Street Corridor Improvements – The committee agreed with the rankings.

New street construction – It was discussed that Storrs Street North was ranked as highest priority but it should be broken out from Storrs Street South as that is a lower priority. It was discussed that so many traffic issues in the City revolve around Langley Parkway, but the City needs the Hospital to partner on the project for it to move forward. Councilor Todd mentioned that is important to look at these new roadways from an economic development stand point, but also emergency response.

Sidewalk/Streetscape – The committee agreed with rankings. CIP 17 is always important to continue to fund.

Bridges – No discussion, the committee agreed with rankings.

New projects – No discussion.

Rice-Hawkins moved that the rankings be approved by TPAC and recommended to Council in a report drafted by Hill. Second: Todd. Unanimous.

5. Old Business

a. *South and South State Street status update.*

Durfee provided an update on the project status. A report will be presented to Council in February, for a public hearing in March. The improvements were included as a bid alternate with paving program. Results concluded that the improvements would require additional funding of approximately \$88,000. Durfee stated that City Administration is recommending using highway reserve funds. Durfee will circulate the report to TPAC. He mentioned that if these improvements are approved, it will be used as an example for future projects. He added that the bike-ped subcommittee will take a hard look at similar improvements in the future.

6. Consent Reports

a. *Acceptance of Subcommittee Minutes*

i. TPAC-BP: None

ii. TPAC-PT: None

7. City Council Meeting Update

None.

8. TPAC Referrals from City Council, Staff and Chair

- a. *Referral from Councilor Brown in regards to request for a sidewalk on the southern side of Pleasant Street from S Fruit to where the sidewalk begins near 111 Pleasant.*

Councilor Brown provided a brief summary of request. Durfee confirmed it is ranked #6 of 117 on the recommended sidewalk priority list. Everyone agreed it is a heavily used walking path, which is worn down today. Hill will look into if it is schedule to be paved in the near future, potentially adding it to CIP #17 and developing a conceptual cost estimate. Bakos noted that the guardrail clear distance may be an issue at the stream crossing. It was noted that other than this pinch point, it appears there is ample right-of-way.

9. Status Report on Subcommittees

- a. *Traffic Operations Committee (TOC), Karen Hill*

Hill discussed items on TOC agenda.

West Street – one-way concern. Hill to look up history of prior TOC discussion.

She also mentioned McKee Square improvements are forthcoming, which will likely include improvements to the intersection of Broadway and West Streets.

Tufts mentioned frequency of delivery drivers going wrong way and asked about the possibly of making the roadway two-way for a certain section.

- b. *Public Transportation Committee (TPAC-PT), Terri Paige*

Paige reported that CAT is still recovering from the malware attack and trying to rebuild their scheduling system. Paige reported that CAT is fully staffed and that the pay increase has helped. Paige mentioned that their next big project is planning for Franklin-Laconia Route, to be in place in July. She mentioned that a new bus is not needed for this route at this time, but local match is needed. Paige discussed a plan to install customer information systems on buses that communicate with phone apps, TVs and can advertise. Lemieux asked Paige to request toll credits for match.

- c. *Bicycle / Pedestrian Committee (TPAC-BP), Craig Tufts*

Tufts discussed a CIP 17 programming request, to add the Gully Hill cycle track project. He added that it would improve transportation and neighborhood connectivity issues for the underserved Heights community. It was mentioned that with the Loudon Road bridge improvements and MRGT expansion, that it is an important connection to improve. Mayor Bouley discussed that new projects are typically added through City Council advocacy.

Tufts discussed a future public outreach event to promote bike transportation advocacy through proof of concept. He mentioned that they are still in the

planning phase, and looking for ideas. Councilor Brown mentioned the Concord Police Department Bike Rodeo as a potential partnership opportunity.

10. Staff Updates

a. *Storrs Street Extension (CIP 18)*

No discussion.

b. *Whitney Road / Hoit Road Intersection (CIP 30)*

Cedarholm discussed that the construction is moving forward, although it has been slower with winter weather conditions.

c. *Merrimack River Greenway Trail (CIP 543)*

Tufts discussed grant application that is being processed that would help to build the boardwalk portion of the trail from Terrill Park. Lemieux discussed other grants that are available. Lemieux mentioned that there are a lot of moving pieces right now but Council is in full support.

d. *Langley Parkway Phase 3 (CIP 40)*

No discussion.

e. *Loudon Road Bridge (CIP 588)*

Cedarholm discussed that the final engineering study went to NHDOT. HDR is working on scope and fee for preliminary design, hope to get going in Spring.

f. *I-93 Bow-Concord*

Cedarholm informed the committee that the City and State recently met to discuss a path forward. It has been confirmed that Loudon Road will go under I-93, as it does today. NHDOT and McFarland Johnson are modifying plans to address some City concerns. Next step will be a presentation to City Council, around March.

11. *Other Discussion Items*

Sam discussed the proposed zoning changes surrounding methadone treatment facilities. TPAC recognizes the transportation and access needs for these medical-type facilities.

Hill provided a brief summary of the status of the Black Hill Road Development.

Councilor Todd mentioned that the Council priority setting session will be held on February 7th.

12. *Adjourn*

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm by unanimous consent.

- 13.** *Upcoming Meeting Dates*
February 24, 2022
March 24, 2022