



CITY OF CONCORD

New Hampshire's Main Street™

MINUTES

Transportation Policy Advisory Committee

March 23, 2017, 6:00 PM
2nd Floor Conference Room
City Hall, 41 Green Street, Concord, NH

Members Present:

Dick Lemieux (Vehicle Traffic Safety Operations; Chair)
Brent Todd (Council Representative)
Jennifer Kretovic (Council Representative)
Ursula Maldonado (Pedestrian and Trails Community)
Craig Tufts, (Bicycling Community)
Sheila Zakre (At-Large)
Rob Mack, Traffic Engineer (City Manager's Designee)

Members Absent:

Rob Werner (Council Representative)
Jim Sudak (Public Transportation Representative)

Staff and Guests:

Heather Shank - City Planner

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the February 23, 2017 meeting were approved with minor amendments (Motion-Todd; Second-Maldonado; Unanimous).

3. Presentations – None

4. Public Comment - None

5. New Business

a. Review of TPAC-Bike/Ped plans for a bike-lane/cycle-track demonstration

Craig Tufts presented TPAC-BP's latest plan for a bike lane/cycle track demonstration project. The current proposal looks at developing temporary buffered bike lanes on both sides of Broadway between Rollins Park and Pillsbury Street in conjunction with the National Night Out event in August. Using temporary pavement marking tape, one side of the road would have parking removed and a buffered (painted) bike lane marked. The other side of the street would

have the line of parallel parking shifted away from the curb to provide the buffered bike line between the curb and line of parked cars. Suggested is the potential use of existing parking lots on Pillsbury Street for National Night Out guests to park, some of whom might then bicycle to the event along the demonstration lanes. This additional parking could also offset the temporary parking loss along Broadway due to the demonstration lanes. Under consideration are options to maintain the demonstration for a period of days or weeks following the National Night Out event.

TPAC attendees were favorable to the demonstration project and suggested that TPAC-BP solicit input from the Concord Police Department (event enforcement, parking and traffic control) and Code Administration (event permitting). Also suggested was outreach to abutting properties to get resident feedback on potential temporary parking changes.

6. Old Business

- a. None.

7. Consent Reports

a. Acceptance of Subcommittee Minutes

The following subcommittee reports were accepted by unanimous consent: Bicycle/Pedestrian – January 10 and February 6, 2017; Public Transportation – January 19, 2017; and Traffic Operations – February 21, 2017.

8. City Council Meeting Update

Rob Mack reported that at its March 13, 2017 meeting, City Council accepted TOC's report responding to a resident request for a city-funded street light on East Side Drive. For City Council's next meeting, TOC will be submitting a recommendation to revise the traffic signal operation at the Pleasant/Green/South intersection.

9. TPAC Referrals from City Council, Staff and Chair – None.

10. Status Report on Subcommittees

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

Craig Tufts reported that TPAC-BP met earlier this month and worked on the bike-lane/cycle-track demonstration project as described in Item 3, above.

b. Public Transportation Committee (TPAC-PT), Sheila Zakre

Sheila Zakre reported that TPAC-PT met earlier this week and continued to discuss the issue of sidewalk snow maintenance at bus stops. Photographs of sidewalk conditions at 13 bus stops were compiled after four different storms this past winter. A 'top-10' list of high-use bus stops is being developed as a suggestion for prioritizing snow removal efforts. In addition, CAT is considering provision of Wi-Fi service on the three replacement buses it is ordering.

Sheila Zakre noted that TPAC-PT discussed potential outreach efforts to encourage a representative(s) of the immigrant community to participate in TPAC-PT discussions. TPAC attendees suggested an option where TPAC-PT might schedule a few of its meetings at venues other than City Hall that might be more readily accessible to members of the immigrant community that don't have access to a private automobile.

Rob Mack noted that staff is working with CAT and the Parking Committee to relocate the two CAT bus stops from the Main/Pleasant intersection westerly to the new crosswalk on Pleasant Street just west of the Pleasant/State intersection.

c. Traffic Operations Committee (TOC), Rob Mack

Rob Mack reported that TOC met earlier this week and discussed: resident requests for crosswalks on Storrs Street and on Clinton Street; a concern from the public on pedestrian crossing safety at the Main/Pleasant intersection; and the potential removal of the outdated 'advance green' signal indications at the Pleasant/South/Green intersection.

11. Staff Updates

a. Loudon Road Corridor Improvements (CIP 19)

Rob Mack reported that staff is in the process of redesigning the corridor improvement plans to maintain the four existing lanes. Select driveway closures/consolidations/narrowings are being considered.

b. Mountain/Shawmut/East Side/Exit 16 Roundabout (CIP 24)

Rob Mack reported that construction is expected to commence in April. A neighborhood information meeting is also being planned for April.

c. Merrimack River Greenway Trail (CIP 543)

Rob Mack reported that VHB continues to develop alternative alignments for the trail at the request of NHDES to better facilitate their review of potential environmental impacts and avoidance.

d. I-93 Bow-Concord (NHDOT)

Rob Mack noted that there was nothing new to report since last month. NHDOT had indicated a goal to reach a consensus on a preferred alternative by the end of the year.

e. Storrs Street Extension North (CIP 18)

Rob Mack reported that Administration has put further development of this project on hold until the NHDOT better defines its intended alternative(s) for the I-93 Bow-Concord study.

12. Other Discussion Items

a. Pleasant Street Rezoning Proposal

Heather Shank noted that Concord Orthopedics is requesting consideration of rezoning an area of Pleasant Street west of Langley Parkway from residential to institutional. The applicant is preparing a traffic study of the rezoning proposal which will be reviewed by city staff prior to submission to the Planning Board. TPAC attendees expressed interest in also reviewing the results of the study and felt it would be helpful to provide feedback to City Council which would ultimately make a decision on the rezoning request. Staff will endeavor to include TPAC in the review process as the project's submission schedule, as well as TPAC schedule, allows.

b. Next Meeting Venue

Rob Mack noted that the Parking Committee has scheduled its next meeting for April 27, 2017 at 5:00 PM in the Second Floor Conference Room and would likely conflict with TPAC's 6:00 PM scheduled start in the same room. All concurred that staff explore alternate meeting space for TPAC's regular meeting at 6:00 PM.

13. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at about 8:10 PM.

Upcoming Meeting Dates: **April 27, 2017**
 May 25, 2017
 June 22, 2017