CITY OF CONCORD TRANSPORTATION POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF JUNE 26, 2025

The Transportation Policy Advisory Committee (TPAC) met at 6:00 pm on June 26, 2025, in the Second Floor Conference Room at Concord City Hall, 41 Green Street.

Members Greg Bakos (Chair), Councilor Todd (Vice-Chair), Nicole Fox, Ian McGregor, Chris

Present: Nadeau, Peter Roth, Mickey Shoemaker, Craig Tufts, Councilor Brown

Members

Councilor Foote

Absent:

Guests: Bryan Christiansen – Pembroke Board of Selectman

Lou Cote - 434 Rosedale Lane Pembroke, NH

Jon Huntington - Pleasant View Gardens, 830 Pembroke Road

City Staff: Mike Bezanson (City Engineer), Karen Hill (Transportation Engineer), Alec Bass

(Assistant City Planner - Community Planning)

1. Call to Order

Bakos called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

2. Introductions

3. Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes – May 29, 2025

On a motion made by Todd, seconded by Nadeau, the meeting minutes of May 29, 2025 were approved by unanimous consent.

4. Public Comment

None.

5. TPAC Referrals from City Council, Staff and Chair

Administrator requesting consideration be made to removing no thru trucking signage near the North Pembroke Road bridge. (Continued from May)

Bryan Christiansen, Pembroke Board of Selectman, mentioned that the request was discussed extensively at the last TPAC meeting, and the last two TOC meetings.

Christiansen summarized that the request is largely due to Pleasant View Gardens.

Christiansen summarized that the request is largely due to Pleasant View Gardens seeking 24-hour access to Route 106 via approximately 900 feet of North Pembroke Road and past two Concord residences instead of traveling through the town of Pembroke for approximately 3 miles and past about 70 houses to access Route 106.

The Committee reviewed the vehicle count data provided by Pleasant View Farms.

Christiansen shared that since the last meeting, they have also spoken with F.L. Merrill who owns and operates the gravel pit next to Pleasant View. He explained that they would not anticipate a large change in their trucking volumes, stating that they would likely use the route if they had night jobs, which would maybe result in about 10 truck/day. Their current hours of operation are typically 7 AM to 5:30 PM.

Lou Cote, a resident on Borough Road in Pembroke, shared that typically he sees the Pleasant View Gardens trucks begin driving through around 4 AM. With about a dozen box trucks per hour during the peaks.

McGregor asked what an agricultural exemption would mean. Christiansen shared that he is not very familiar, but there are laws which regulate it, which Pleasant View Gardens is very familiar with.

Hill provided a summary of responses she received from the two concord residents who live on North Pembroke Road. Hill shared that a resident of 220 N Pembroke Road stated that he hears noise 24/7 and is indifferent to allowing the overnight trucking. Another resident at 216 N Pembroke Road is opposed to allowing the overnight trucking on North Pembroke Road. He stated that North Pembroke Road is a local street, and no other local streets are being considered, or would be considered for such a request. He already feels like he suffers truck traffic more than most residential homes do. Stating that even during the daytime hours, the amount of trucks passing by his home is a lot. He stated that in 2007 this same request was brought up and discussed by Council, and doesn't think that decision should be reversed. He noted a recent uptick in truck traffic, and does not believe the road is designed to handle it. He is concerned about interrupted sleep if it is permitted, adding that he is already disturbed by trucks that are not following the current restrictions.

Christiansen shared that he believes Pleasant View Gardens has been there since 1998, though it has expanded through the years, and again recently.

Fox recalled at the last TPAC meeting, there was an inquiry if a sound barrier could be installed if something like this moves forward.

Nadeau asked if the City has a list of streets which permits overnight trucking.

Hill shared Schedule XV with the Committee, adding that she is still working with the Legal department to properly interpret the Ordinance. Hill shared that there is history with the Ordinance involving a lawsuit and that specific language was modified. She mentioned that the Committee just needs to vote on N Pembroke Road and that she and Legal will work through the Ordinance language.

The Committee discussed pros and cons from both perspectives. Including possible mitigation efforts or compensation measures which could be considered.

Jon Huntington, Pleasant View Gardens, arrived at 7pm.

Jon Huntington shared that while they are not a Concord business, they are Concord Community members, they deliver to many Concord businesses and some of their employees and family members are Concord residents.

Christiansen requested to table this discussion so they can reach out to the resident at #216 and determine a path forward.

Tufts made a motion to table this item, seconded by Todd. All in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

6. New Business

a. Appointments

i. Michelle (Mickey) Shoemaker

Bakos welcomed Mickey Shoemaker as the newest at-large member of TPAC, appointed by City Council on June 9, 2025.

7. Unfinished Business

a. Crosswalk Policy

Hill provided a summary of this item. She mentioned that the City has a lot of existing crosswalks, and often receives requests for new crosswalk locations. This has identified that the City may be served to establish a crosswalk policy.

Fox shared that one thing to consider would be warrants considered for the crosswalks. Would improvements be needed if justified, such as street lighting. Does the location have adequate existing conditions to be placed? She shared that some of the warrants might be wanted to be considered as future improvements, and not rule out a crosswalk at a location just because some warrants are not in place at the time.

The Committee discussed removing # of pedestrian trips as a criteria, it can be difficult to meet. Additionally, existing ped counts as criteria presents issues. As well as creating different criteria/warrants for mid-block and intersection crossings.

The Committee also discussed about being careful about what you put into a policy, because then you may be held accountable to follow it. It was recommended to consider establishing a crosswalk placement guideline and not create a policy.

Roth shared that it would be beneficial to include the statement and purpose to the beginning of the document.

Hill shared that staff will take this feedback into consideration and work to revise the document for additional review.

8. Consent Reports

a. None.

9. General Updates

a. <u>City Council Meeting</u>

No new updates.

b. Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee (TPAC-BP)

No update provided, the Subcommittee has not met since the last meeting.

c. <u>Traffic Operations Committee (TOC)</u>

Hill circulated the latest agenda for information.

Bezanson shared that CPD looked into recent incidents at the intersection of Green and School Street and believes them to be unrelated to the construction barrier.

McGregor asked if any speed mitigation efforts have been explored for Langley Parkway. Hill shared that not since its construction, however it is frequently enforced by CPD. She did mention that recent speed data showed a speeding issue and that CPD agreed to increased enforcement.

d. Public Transportation (CAT)

Ridership charts were circulated to the Committee. No further discussion.

Tufts shared that CNHRPC will be conducting a ridership count study in the Fall.

10. Project Updates (Staff)

a. CIP #17 – Sidewalk Projects

Hill shared that the Clinton Street improvements were approved as part of the budget and will be constructed with the paving program. Staff will look into speed data at the proposed crosswalk location.

b. <u>CIP #31 – McKee Square Intersection Improvements</u>

No new updates.

c. CIP #520 – Intersection Safety Improvements (Centre/Washington)

Hill shared that the intersection improvements were approved as part of the budget and will be constructed with the paving program.

d. <u>CIP #588 – Loudon Road Bridge</u>

No new updates.

e. <u>CIP #590 Green Street Pedestrian Safety Improvements</u>

No new updates.

f. CIP #657 – Deck Park Feasibility Study

Todd shared that Council approved the report and there is no future action anticipated. He recommended this item be removed from the agenda.

11. Other Discussion Items

Tufts shared that at a recent GACIT meeting, the State shared a large deficit in funding. He mentioned that there were conversations about cutting or delaying some programs, potentially including the I-93 Bow-Concord project.

Fox shared that at a recent Concord Greenspace meeting, they began reviewing the City of Concord master plan.

12. Adjourn

On a motion made by Brown, seconded by Fox the meeting adjourned at 8:27 PM by unanimous consent.

13. Next Meeting

July 24, 2025