



CITY OF CONCORD

New Hampshire's Main Street™

MINUTES

Public Transportation Subcommittee of the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee

January 15, 2019, 5:30 PM
2nd Floor Conference Room
City Hall, 41 Green Street, Concord, NH

Members Present:

Sheila Zakre, Chair
Dick Lemieux
Dean Williams (CNHRPC)

Staff and Guests:

Rob Mack (Traffic Engineer)
Jim Sudak (CAT)

Members Absent:

Brent Todd

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order. She noted that TPAC member Rebecca McWilliams had expressed interest in being member of the Public Transportation Subcommittee, but was unable to attend tonight due to an illness. It was also noted that subcommittee member Karen Davies had resigned earlier this month.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the October 16, 2018 meeting were approved with minor correction (Motion-Zakre, Second-Williams, unanimous).

3. Referrals - None

4. Public Comment - None

5. Updates/Old Business

a. CAT Web Site Update

Jim Sudak reported that he will be managing the new CAT web site. A tab was recently added to the web page that indicates potential service alerts and street closings.

b. CAT Vehicle Replacement Program

Jim Sudak reported that the two new buses went into service in the late fall of last year. The NHDOT is currently processing the purchase order for the third new bus. Delivery of the new bus would likely be about one year from when the purchase order is submitted.

c. CAT Quick Report

Attendees reviewed the January 2019 CAT Quick Report. Items noted include: Erin Mullin had been hired as CAT's new Mobility Manager; CAT would be undergoing some organizational changes and improvements over the next few months; the hiring of part-time and full-time bus drivers has been challenging; the provision of the stop-announcement and Wi-Fi systems on the new buses will be deferred until the third new bus is delivered; comment cards have been made available on the new buses; and CAT continues to work with NHDOT, CNHRPC and RLS on the CAT Service Study (Item 5.d below). CAT ridership graphs were also reviewed. It was noted that FY19 monthly ridership totals appear to be trending slightly higher than the same periods last year.

d. NHDOT's CAT Bus Service Study

Rob Mack was informed by NHDOT that RLS continues to finalize their recommendations which may be available for review in the near future.

6. Other Discussions

Jim Sudak noted that the current Federal shutdown has not yet impacted CAT operations as CAT is billing the state as usual but the state is delaying its bills to the FTA until the shutdown is over.

It was also noted that new ride-hailing services (e.g. Uber and Lyft) have been attracting some riders from otherwise using public transportation systems in other cities. It was felt that customers accept paying more for the convenience of the door-to-door ride-hailing service as opposed to finding alternative transportation to/from typical transit stations or bus stops.

7. New Business

- a.** Dean Williams noted that CommuteSmart NH had recently been awarded funding through NHDOT's Community Technical Assistance Program (CTAP) for Transportation Demand Management efforts for the next three years. Commute Smart NH, formerly known as Commute Green New Hampshire, is a partnership between the state's regional planning commissions, transit agencies and providers, state agencies, municipalities, businesses, and public health organizations. There is funding available, as part of this grant, for transit agencies to participate in the statewide and regional initiatives. CAT is encouraged to participate but would need to come up with a local match (about 15%) to access the funds. CTAP funding has been offered to municipalities for over ten years and is based on funds provided from NHDOT's I-93 Expansion project. The Chair asked that this item be added to the next meeting agenda for further discussion.

8. Upcoming Meetings

The next meeting was scheduled for February 19, 2019.

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at about 7:30 PM.