

**CITY OF CONCORD
TRANSPORTATION POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2021**

The Transportation Policy Advisory Committee (TPAC) met at 6:00 pm on September 30, 2021, in the Second Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 41 Green Street.

Members Present: Dick Lemieux (Chair), Gregory Bakos, Craig Tufts, Terri Paige, Mayor Bouley

Members Absent: Councilor Todd, Councilor Rice-Hawkins, Councilor Rob Werner

Guests: Ian McGregor

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

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm. Members and guests introduced themselves.

2. Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes – August 26, 2021

The meeting minutes of August 26, 2021 were approved as amended. *Motion:* Tufts. *Second:* Bouley. *Abstain:* Paige. *Unanimous.*

3. Public Comment

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

4. New Business

a. *Discuss Main Street outdoor seating and bike rack locations.*

It was discussed that TPAC would send a memo to Council recommending safety measures and specific guidelines to be considered if allowing outdoor dining in the parking spaces to continue next season. Concerns raised included ADA accessibility, safety of dining in the clear zone, speed limit, pedestrian sidewalk clearances, and encroachment into the bike lanes.

Staff will draft a memo for TPAC to review at the next meeting.

5. Old Business

a. *Discuss South Street and S State Street potential improvements with FY23 paving program.*

Hill presented concept sketches to TPAC for the following intersections: S State @ Fayette, Thompson and South @ Fayette, Thompson. TPAC was in support of 6'

wide bumpouts and expressed the need to coordinate the S State at Fayette intersection with the redevelopment of the Employment Security Building. Hill reminded the committee that there will be a Neighborhood Meeting held on October 13th @ 5:30 pm at Abbott Downing School.

Next steps are for General Services to include the work in the pavement bid as an alternate in order to estimate additional funds that will need to be advocated for. TPAC will need to submit a report to Council.

- b. *Discussion surrounding neighborhood traffic and speed and cut through concerns.* Hill will ask Councilors for list of top streets with speeding and traffic concerns. TPAC can discuss list of streets and revisit neighborhood traffic recommendations at a future meeting. Mayor Bouley discussed the importance of addressing these safety concerns especially in areas where development is occurring and the issues can potentially be mitigated through development projects.
- c. *ADDED: Mayor Bouley expressed the need for public transportation advocacy.* He mentioned that as the City population increases, traffic is going to increase and our roadways and signals can only handle so much. Advocating for a robust public transportation system will encourage folks to ride instead of drive and alleviate the roadway network.

6. **Consent Reports**

- a. *Acceptance of Subcommittee Minutes*
 - i. *TPAC-BP: None*
 - ii. *TPAC-PT: None*

7. **City Council Meeting Update**

Hill reminded the committee that the N Main Street bus stop relocation public hearing will occur at the October Council Meeting.

8. **TPAC Referrals from City Council, Staff and Chair**

- a. *Discuss referral from Councilor Rice Hawkins for speeding concerns on Portsmouth Street in the vicinity of the Conservation Area.*
Item deferred until TOC discussion and when Councilor Rice-Hawkins is present.

9. **Status Report on Subcommittees**

- a. *Traffic Operations Committee (TOC), Karen Hill*
Hill shared the latest TOC agenda. No questions were asked. Hill mentioned that the committee had a lengthy discussion about the Beaver Meadow School traffic backups that had been occurring in the beginning of the school year.
- b. *Public Transportation Committee (TPAC-PT), Terri Paige*

Paige mentioned that CAT would need approximately \$70-80k/year to expand the bus route to Manchester Street, it would require an additional bus. She informed the committee that they need bus drivers. Paige mentioned that the new passport bus was delivered this week, the last of the new buses to arrive.

Paige discussed the rebranding effort, stating that the hope is to get more people on the buses. She added that ridership is pretty much back to pre-COVID levels.

Paige provided an update on the financials, mentioned that they need approximately \$130k additional match to stay fare free, increase wages, and add routes. She is working on securing grants and reaching out to local businesses for additional funding.

- c. *Bicycle / Pedestrian Committee (TPAC-BP), Craig Tufts*
Tufts mentioned that TPAC-BP has been focusing on the S State and South Street pedestrian improvements.

10. **Staff Updates**

- a. *Storrs Street Extension (CIP 18)*
The project is on hold.
- b. *Whitney Road / Hoit Road Intersection (CIP 30)*
The contractor has mobilized and will begin work next week.
- c. *Merrimack River Greenway Trail (CIP 543)*
Opportunity to advocate for the trail through the Brady Sullivan re-development on Stickney Ave.
- d. *Langley Parkway Phase Three (CIP 40)*
None.
- e. *Loudon Road Bridge (CIP 588)*
City met with VHB last week. No update, Cedarholm absent.
- f. *I-93 Bow-Concord*
None.

- 11. *Other Discussion Items*
Main Street center cobble loading zone parking restrictions and pedestrian safety concerns. Parking committee to discuss at their next meeting.

- 12. *Adjourn*
Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm by unanimous consent.

13. *Upcoming Meeting Dates*
October 28, 2021
November 25, 2021