

**CITY OF CONCORD
TRANSPORTATION POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MARCH 24, 2022**

The Transportation Policy Advisory Committee (TPAC) met at 6:00 pm on March 24, 2022, in the Second Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 41 Green Street.

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

Members Absent: Terri Paige

Guests: None.

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

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes – January 27, 2022

The meeting minutes of January 27, 2022 were approved as amended.

Motion: Todd. Second: Brown. Unanimous.

3. Public Comment

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

4. New Business

a. *Discuss Main Street TIGER report findings.*

Hill circulated the final TIGER performance measure report prior to meeting. The committee discussed each measure and compared pre and post values. Hill pointed out that the COVID pandemic skewed final values. Lemieux asked if it would be worth collecting data for one more year to confirm trends, post-COVID. The committee suggested Staff compile a report or presentation summarizing the benefits of the project to present to the public and City Council. Hill agreed to perform follow up research on the transit numbers, available economic information relating to the storefront vacancies, and inquire about presenting a public project summary.

b. *Discuss potential sidewalk snow removal policy.*

Upon request from the Chair, Hill circulated the City's current Winter and Inclement Weather Policy and Priorities in the prior to the meeting. She shared

that it is available on the City's website, with maps and appendices attached. Lemieux discussed that he initiated the request due to his continued concerns about neighborhood street sidewalks that are never plowed. The committee discussed budget, equipment, geometric and utility pole constraints that inhibit GSD's ability to plow all 100+ miles of sidewalk in the City. Concerns were raised about private plowing entities that push snow onto sidewalks, Hill added that this was addressed on the City's website and in the policy; the problem is ultimately the need for enforcement.

The committee discussed that GSD does the best they can with the resources they have. It was added that the City still receives complaints even on the sidewalks that are plowed.

Mayor Bouley discussed that if the committee would like to discuss further then existing priorities should be examined in regards to schools, Loudon Road etc. and should be discussed with GSD.

The committee tasked the Bike-Ped subcommittee with examining the existing priority map. It was suggested that if changes were suggested it would be important to look at associated cost and resource impacts and work on incorporating into a future budget process.

5. Old Business

- a. *None.*

6. Consent Reports

- a. *Acceptance of Subcommittee Minutes*
 - i. TPAC-BP: The minutes of June 7, 2021, July 12, 2021, and September 13, 2021 were accepted by consent.
 - ii. TPAC-PT: None

7. City Council Meeting Update

Councilor Todd discussed that at the February meeting, Council approved by consent resolution, the City's, in partnership with the Friends of the Merrimack River Greenway Trail, desire to apply for to the NH Community Development Finance Authority to secure an allocation of Community Development Improvement Program (CDIP) Tax Credits to support construction of a segment of CIP #543 Merrimack River Greenway Trail located between Terrill Park and Loudon Road.

He mentioned that report from the Transportation Engineer on behalf of the Traffic Operations Committee in response to a referral from City Council

regarding a petition for the City to examine traffic speeds, visibility exiting driveways, and illegal parking on Christian Avenue was also approved by consent.

Hill informed the committee that a public hearing was held at the March meeting on the Resolution appropriating the sum of \$88,575.00 for bumpout construction and associated drainage improvements in conjunction with the Annual Highway Improvement Project (CIP #78) and authorizing the use of \$88,575.00 in Highway Reserve Funds for this purpose; together with report from the Senior Planner on behalf of the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee. This motion was passed with one dissenting vote. The bumpouts will be constructed this summer in conjunction with the reclamation of these roadways. The six intersections include:

1. S. State & Fayette (Pedestrian Master Plan Recommendation)
2. S. State & Thompson (Pedestrian Master Plan Recommendation)
3. S. State & Concord (Pedestrian Master Plan Recommendation)
4. South & Fayette
5. South & Thompson (Pedestrian Master Plan Recommendation)
6. South & Concord

8.

TPAC Referrals from City Council, Staff and Chair

- a. *None.*

9.

Status Report on Subcommittees

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

Tufts discussed that the subcommittee did not meet last month. At their last meeting, they discussed the bike advocacy event, CIP projects, and briefly discussed sidewalk snow removal. Hill mentioned a few items for their next agenda, including examining pavement marking and bike lane improvements to South Street.

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

Paige was absent. Tufts discussed a new paratransit ride match website that is being improved. He informed the committee that the CAT buses are now equipped with GPS systems that will allow users to see real-time bus locations. Hill mentioned that the subcommittee will likely be meeting soon.

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

Hill shared the TOC agenda prior to meeting. She discussed the CNHRPC traffic count program and asked if anyone had any roadways to add to the request to collect speed and traffic data. Councilor Rice Hawkins mentioned Hoit and Mountain Road.

10. Staff Updates**a. *Storrs Street Extension (CIP 18)***

No discussion.

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

Hill discussed that the contractor has requested to NHDOT to begin work in Hoit Road during the first week of April. Traffic control plans and schedule are being finalized. The plan is to get the intersection operating as a single lane roundabout as soon as possible. Once the overhead signs are installed, the roundabout would be final paved and functioning as a hybrid roundabout.

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

Durfee summarized initial discussions that occurred with Brady-Sullivan, the developer of the Stickney Ave housing project, in regards to where the MRGT might cross through their property. It was also mentioned that the FMRGT are awaiting the results of two grant requests. Hill informed the committee that the MRGT segment from Boscawen to Sewalls Falls Road was included in the NHDOT Ten Year Plan (TYP).

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

No discussion.

e. *Loudon Road Bridge (CIP 588)*

Hill discussed that a municipal agreement is in process between the City and the State.

f. *I-93 Bow-Concord*

See above.

11. Other Discussion Items

Tufts informed the committee that DOT announced that applications are being accepted for massive federal transportation grants. President Biden, U.S. DOT announced \$2.9 Billion of Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Funding for Major Infrastructure Projects of Regional or National Significance. Tufts mentioned upcoming webinars and encouraged folks to think about projects that may be worth submitting, examples included: EV charging stations, climate change projects, trails, and complete streets.

Councilor Todd mentioned that he is willing to start some community outreach surrounding the roadways in Penacook that are slated for reclamation in FY 2023. The committee was supportive of examining Merrimack Street and putting it on next month's agenda.

12. *Adjourn*
Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm by unanimous consent.
13. *Upcoming Meeting Dates*
April 28, 2022
May 26, 2022