

**CITY OF CONCORD
TRANSPORTATION POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF JANUARY 28, 2021**

The *Transportation Policy Advisory Committee* (TPAC) met at 6:00 pm on January 28, 2021. Due to the COVID 19 Coronavirus Pandemic and in accordance with Governor Sununu's Emergency Order # 12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee was authorized to meet electronically. The City of Concord utilized the WebEx platform for this electronic meeting. There was no physical location to observe and listen to the meeting, which was authorized pursuant to Governor Sununu's emergency Order # 12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04.

All members of the Committee had the ability to communicate during this meeting through the WebEx platform, and the public had access to listen and participate in this meeting as necessary.

Members Present: Dick Lemieux (Chair), Gregory Bakos, Rebecca McWilliams (joined the meeting late), Terri Paige, Councilor Brent Todd, Craig Tufts, Councilor Rob Werner
Members Present: Mayor Jim Bouley, Councilor Meredith Hatfield
Absent:
Guests: Councilor Zandra Rice Hawkins. Melissa Reopel (no audio or video).
City Staff Members: David Cedarholm (City Engineer), Sam Durfee (Senior Planner), Karen Hill (Transportation Engineer)

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes – December 17, 2020

The meeting minutes of December 17, 2020 were approved. *Motion:* Paige. *Second:* Tufts. *Roll call vote:* Todd, Werner, Lemieux, Tufts, Paige, Bakos, Rice Hawkins. *Unanimous.*

3. Public Comment

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

4. New Business

a. Discuss Loudon Road Bridge Preferred Alternative

Cedarholm presented a plan of the preferred alternative, for the bridge and roadway layout, that is being presented in the Engineering Study. The preferred alternative is a compromise of previous alternatives that were shared and discussed at a prior City Council meeting. The preferred alternative will include a 6' sidewalk on one side, 5' shoulders for bicycle use, a five-lane travel way section with a 4' median, and a two-way, 14' multi use path on the north side of the

bridge. Bakos inquired about the double right turns out of Fort Eddy Road. Cedarholm agreed to follow up with the consultant to confirm the lane layout at the intersection.

Lemieux led a discussion surrounding the multi-use path and which side of the bridge it should be constructed on. It was requested that Cedarholm and Hill work with the TPAC Bike-Ped Subcommittee and FMRGT to develop a trail master plan for the area to better understand which side is best, and report back to TPAC.

b. *Discuss TAP Project Solicitation*

Durfee reported that a Letters of Interest (LOI) for projects are due to NHDOT on February 5, 2021. He discussed that the plan is to submit a list of new sidewalks to be recommended for construction that would need to be approved by Council prior to an application being submitted. Paige would like an opportunity to coordinate the new sidewalks with the transit system. Durfee presented a short list of sidewalks from the overall priority list, some from each neighborhood. After considerable discussion, Hill asked that any additional comments from the committee be submitted by January 29th.

Motion: TPAC's preference for new sidewalks to be submitted in a LOI for the NHDOT TAP Round includes the sidewalk segments along Sewalls Falls Road and Hutchins Street.

Motion: Tufts. *Second:* Werner. Roll call vote: Todd, Werner, Lemieux, Tufts, Paige, McWilliams, Bakos, Rice Hawkins. *Unanimous.*

5. Old Business

a. *Finalize TPAC's Council Report in response to Mayor Bouley's TPAC discussion on October 24, 2019 (Tabled).*

No discussion.

b. *Discuss formation of Traffic Calming Subcommittee (Tabled).*

No discussion.

6. Consent Reports

a. *Acceptance of Subcommittee Minutes*

i. TPAC-BP: August 3, 2020, September 9, 2020, October 5, 2020

Minutes approved by consent.

ii. TPAC-PT: None.

7. City Council Meeting Update

Councilor Todd noted that there were no transportation items discussed at the most recent Council meeting.

8. TPAC Referrals from City Council, Staff and Chair

- a. *Referral from Councilor Rice Hawkins from residents in the Freedom Acres community in East Concord who are increasingly concerned about the high speed, high volume cut through traffic from I-93 southbound that disrupts neighborhood activities and poses serious risks to children during the weekend rush hours.*
Councilor Rice Hawkins commented that the issue will be discussed in the future once she has the opportunity to discuss the options brought forth at the TOC Meeting with community.
- b. *Update on Horse Hill / Carter Hill / Bog / River Road intersection study.*
Item tabled until report goes to Council. Cedarholm noted that TOC did not reach a consensus, and that the Engineering Division is preparing a memo to Council that recommends a four-way stop.
- c. *Discussion on Audible Pedestrian Signals along Pleasant Street.*
Item tabled until report goes to Council.

9. Status Report on Subcommittees

- a. *Public Transportation Committee (TPAC-PT) Terri Paige*
Paige reported that there will be a meeting on February 2nd. She invited two regular bus riders that would like to contribute to the subcommittee. Bus service is being maintained despite some COVID related employee absences; there is daily surface cleaning and fogging of the buses, as well as bi-weekly deep cleaning. There was a successful trial run on January 23rd of the route changes proposed in the NHDOT CAT Bus Service Study.
- b. *Bicycle / Pedestrian Committee (TPAC-BP) Craig Tufts*
Tufts reported that the committee has been working on the sidewalk priority list. He requested that staff submit a letter of interest for the rail trail project. A non-profit group has raised funds for a bicycle fix-it station and he will report more information in the future.
- c. *Traffic Operations Committee (TOC) Karen Hill*
Hill reported that the committee discussed Councilor Hatfield's City-wide striping inquiry, and that members from Engineering and General Services will be meeting with Councilor Hatfield to discuss. TOC also discussed the Loudon Road Bridge project, and the potential for a Road Safety Audit at the intersection of Hoit and Mountain Roads.

10. Staff Updates

a. *Storrs Street Extension (CIP 18)*

Cedarholm noted that there was no new information to report.

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

Cedarholm noted that the project may go out to bid next week even though the City has not received NHDOT's final comments. Hill will be managing the project.

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

Bakos reported that they are having ongoing discussions with NHDOT in regards to the trail alignment along the river and therefore have not begun the design yet.

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

No discussion.

e. *Loudon Road Bridge (CIP 588)*

The project was discussed during agenda item 4a.

f. *I-93 Bow-Concord*

No discussion.

11. *Other Discussion Items*

Councilor Todd extended his gratitude to Ursula Maldonado for her many years of service to TPAC; her participation has been a great service to the public.

12. *Adjourn*

Motion: Todd. Second: Bakos. Unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.