



# CITY OF CONCORD

*New Hampshire's Main Street™*

## Minutes

### **Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee of the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee**

The Bicycle and Pedestrian Subcommittee of the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee met at 5:30 p.m., on February, 5, 2024, in the Second Floor Conference Room, City Hall at 41 Green Street.

Attendees: Chairman Craig Tufts, Members Dick Lemieux, Nicole Fox, Greg Bakos

Absent: Member Boyd Smith

Staff: Alec Bass (Senior Planner), Karen Hill (Transportation Engineer), AnnMarie Skinner (Acting City Planner)

Guests: Ian McGregor (TPAC), Susan Woods

#### **1. Introductions**

##### **1. Call to Order**

Chairman Tufts called the meeting to order at 5:32pm

##### **2. Minutes – November 6, 2024**

On a motion made by Member Lemieux, seconded by Member Bakos the meeting minutes of November 6 were approved. All in favor.

#### **Paving Schedule and the CIP**

##### **3. CIP 78 –Annual Highway Improvement Program**

##### **a) North Main Street Improvement Considerations**

Mr. Bass and Ms. Hill provided a summary of the North Main Street project. Ms. Hill commented that the City hopes to resurface the roadway and sidewalks in 2026, the work could include reconstructing ramps and improving ADA compliance at some crossings, to the best extent possible. Hill also recommended future budgeting to install RRFBs (rapid rectangular flashing beacon) to improve pedestrian safety at the four un-controlled crossings of N Main Street in this area. She mentioned that there

is also a resolution going before Council in March to replace the signalized intersections of North Main at Washington and North Main at Ferry street. If approved, this work would include full signal replacement and improvements to sidewalk corners as necessary. North State street is also proposed to be resurfaced from I-393 to Penacook Street, however Staff recommended focusing on North Main Street as many of the existing pedestrian crossings are uncontrolled, whereas, the North State Street crossings are all signalized.

Member Lemieux would like to review and consider adding a bike lane on North Main Street Southbound with the intersection of Centre Street.

The committee entered into a working session reviewing North Main Street between Storrs Street and Bouton Ave to focus on improvements which could be made within the scope of a pavement overlay project, particularly to pedestrian safety at crossings. The committee came up with the following crossing considerations:

- 1) North Main at Pitman crosswalk: Recommendation to shift the crosswalk roughly 17' to the south and add a bump on the west side.

Resident Ms. Woods left and Resident Mr. McGregor arrived.

- 2) North Main at Court Street crosswalk: Recommendation, depending on being able to reduce the Cumberland Farms driveway width to 28 feet, to relocate the crosswalk to the north side of the intersection and add a curb ramp.
- 3) North Main Street at Chapel crosswalk: Recommendation to close in both North Main Street driveways for 169 North Main and add a bump out on the West side. May need to consider shifting the crosswalk to the north to allow for turning movements onto Chapel, in which case bump outs could be installed on both sides of the road.
- 4) North Main at Washington Street crosswalk: Recommendation to consider moving the crosswalk to the south side of intersection. Potential utility cabinet conflict. May need consider relocating the northbound stop bar.
- 5) North Main at Franklin crosswalk: Recommendation to close in the driveway of 242 North Main Street for a reduced one-way exit and 28' wide two-way driveway. The crosswalk could be relocated to the south of the intersection with road narrowing through striping on Franklin Street and an add a bump out on the east side. A second proposal could be to remove the second, one-way exit of 242 North Main Street. Additional consideration to close in driveways of 203 North Main Street.

The committee concluded their review indicating that other improvements to the corridor would be during the restriping, reduce to 10' wide lanes, especially on the inside to allow wider outside lanes, or more space between outside lane and curb to better accommodate bicycle safety. Improvements to the I-393 and Bouton pedestrian

crossings could be considered, particularly to reduce speed, or further discourage high-speed northbound right turns onto Bouton Ave.

Additionally, the committee agreed that that a parking study should be included in future traffic study of this corridor.

## **New Business**

### **4. TPAC 2024 Goals and Work Plan**

Chair Tufts shared that TPAC revisited their 2024 goals and work plans, which included sections for TPAC sub committees and would like Bike/Ped to review so that the TPAC 2024 Goals and Work Plan could be updated for this subcommittee.

After brief discussion the following items were determined to be included as TPAC Bike/Ped Subcommittee 2024 Goals and Work Plan

- Ebikes, E.Scooters and Bike Shares
- Review of city striping policy, design guide conversation.
- The August 22, 2022 TPAC Bike/Ped priority topics to be carried as additional 2024 Goals and workplans.

### **5. I-93 State Bike Path – Merrimack River Bridge Crossing (136/116)**

Chair Tufts shared that this item was a referral from TPAC to this subcommittee for consideration. The largest issue is that snow from the highway piles up on the sidewalk, rendering the sidewalk crossing unusable, unmaintainable and rather unsafe. This sidewalk is also too narrow for users and for snow removal equipment. Snow removal equipment cannot access the walk, and it is unsafe for users to pass by each other due to the narrowness and long length.

Resident Mr. McGregor mentioned this area could see increase use with the middle school is relocated.

Chair Tufts believes he has heard counts across this bridge may be as high as 300 trips / day.

Member Lemieux asked if It may be possible to lower the walkway and provide a roof overhead.

Chair Tufts noted that this bridge appears to be in the 10 year plan proposal and the first action would probably to be to determine who is the project managing team and reach out to them. Chair Tufts and Mr. Bass will review this further.

## **Private Development Update / Plan Reviews**

### **6. Bog Road Sunapee Rail Trail CUP**

The committee provided general support for the project.

Chair Tufts further suggested the committee review future phases, like the river crossing as a potential TAP grant discussion.

## **Other Business**

### **7. August 1, 2022\_Priority Topic List**

No updates

### **8. 2017 Pedestrian Master Plan**

No updates

### **9. 2010 Bike Master Plan**

No updates

### **10. E Scooters**

Member Lemieux shared that there is current legislation to reduce the maximum speed of ebikes to 15mph instead of 20mph.

### **11. TAP Grants**

Chair Tufts would like the subcommittee to review at the next meeting potential projects the city should consider for TAP grants.

Chair Tufts brought up Gully Hill Road project previously conceptualized by the Bike/Ped subcommittee, and referenced in the master plans as a potential project. This would need to be added to a CIP, and public outreach needed to gauge interest.

On a motion made by Member Bakos, seconded by Chair Tufts the meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm. All in favor.