



TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

May 24, 2023

5:30 p.m.

VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

Present: Rama Balakrishna (Chair), Franny Osman Paula Walsh, .

Absent: Zhengyu Huang ;There is currently one open position on the committee

Select Board Representative: Jim Snyder-Grant

Invited guests: Emi Azar and Nirupama Valankar - Council of Aging Liaisons; QinRui Pang-Town of Acton Engineer

1. Opening

Chair Rama Balakrishna opened the meeting at 5:48 p.m.

2. Regular Business

A. Approval of Meeting Minutes –

- a. There were no available minutes for review, any outstanding minutes will be reviewed at the next meeting..

B. Select Board Update:

- a. Jim Snyder-Grant updated TAC on the Select Board's upcoming Goal Setting Meeting in June. Jim recommended that TAC send the Select Board an email with specific long and short term goals. The goals should be specific enough to know when progress is made. June 12th is the deadline for the email; Franny Osman and Paula Walsh will meet separately from the committee to draft the goals email to the Select Board.

3. New/Special Business:

A. Engineering update:

- a. QinRui Pang from the Town Engineering Department updated TAC on sidewalks prioritization List. She raised the suggestion that the committee look at how the prioritization was done and if there is a more updated methodology to reassess which sidewalks we should be prioritizing. TAC was able to explain how the tier system was established as batches of streets were added to the list and prioritized within that tier without comparison to the streets in other tiers. QinRui will look closer at the system and how we might be able to improve the system of prioritizing.
- b. Great Road: the Complete Streets Project is ongoing and available for public review



- c. Massachusetts Ave: If the town has full responsibility for construction of a sidewalk, there are still multiple steps before the project can begin. With Massachusetts Ave, the town only owns a segment and the remaining sections are under the DOR (Department of Transportation) jurisdiction.
- B. CrossTown Connect: Franny Osman updated TAC on the Intermunicipal component to CTC. Some members of the town administration are in favor of discontinuing some of Acton's financial support to CTC, feeling we are paying more than the benefits we are receiving from CrossTown Connect. However, Franny was able to identify advantages to the town in continuing the funding.
- C. Uber/Taxi contracts: TAC has no knowledge that the town had signed any contracts.

At 6:57 pm, a motion to close the meeting was made by Franny Osman and seconded by Paula Walsh . Roll call was done and the motion was approved unanimously,

Documents presented or discussed during the meeting:

Acronyms:

ADA= Americans with Disability Act

ARPA= American [COVID-19] Recovery Program Act

Boston MPO= Boston Metropolitan Planning Organization, the part of MassDOT that disburses federal transportation funds

BAG= Bicycle Advisory Group (formed January 2021)

CMAQ= Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality

COD= Commission on Disabilities

COVID= Novel Coronavirus 2019 causing a worldwide pandemic in 2020

CTPS= Central Transportation Planning Staff, within the Boston MPO, within MassDOT

**Landline= a signage and wayfinding project to connect communities by bike and pedestrian, by MAPC and MassTrails of MassDOT.*

MAGIC= Minuteman Advisory Group on Interlocal Coordination, which is our 13-town subregion of the Metropolitan Area Planning Council

MAPC= Metropolitan Area Planning Council

MassDOT=Massachusetts Department of Transportation

MBTA= Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority

NRG=Nashoba Regional Greenways Coalition

SATSAC= South Acton Train Station Advisory Committee

TAC= Transportation Advisory Committee

TMA= Transportation Management Association