



CITY OF CONCORD

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MINUTES

Public Transportation Subcommittee of the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee

March 21, 2017, 6:00 PM
2nd floor Conference Room
City Hall, 41 Green Street, Concord, NH

Members Present:

Sheila Zakre, Chair
Dean Williams (CNHRPC)

Staff and Guests:

Rob Mack (Traffic Engineer)
Jim Sudak (CAT)

Members Absent:

Dick Lemieux
Brent Todd
Pat Hutchins
Cathy Wyrenbeck

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the January 19, 2017 meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

3. Referrals - None

4. Public Comment - None

5. Updates/Old Business

a. Bus Stop Snow Maintenance

Following up on discussion from the last meeting, Larisa Djuvelek-Ruggiero compiled and distributed photographs of about a dozen select bus stop locations taken about a day after the snowstorms of January 18, February 8-9, February 12-13 and March 14-15, 2017. Attendees discussed the apparent snow-maintenance conditions at each bus stop location. Noted were apparent inconsistencies in the clearing of some stops after the different storms. The prompt clearing of Main Street bus stops was noted. The busy Loudon Road bus stops near Morning Star apartments appeared consistently cleared at the curb edge and it was speculated that one of the abutting properties might be doing this. The Chair suggested that the subcommittee present a

recommendation to TPAC requesting the city to consider improving snow-clearing times at the top-ten list of bus stops compiled by CNHRPC at the last meeting. Rob Mack will distribute this list to members for further discussion next month. The chair will update TPAC on TPAC-PT's efforts this Thursday.

b. CAT Vehicle Replacement Program

Jim Sudak reported that NHDOT and CAT are still negotiating three remaining specification inconsistencies with the single bidder that responded to the bus purchase request. The option of including Wi-Fi on the buses is also being considered. NHDOT is considering the option to purchase two buses under this contract since it is well into FY2017 and individual bus purchases had been programmed for 2016, 2017 and 2018. The manufacturer has a 270-day delivery window following NHDOT approval of the purchase.

c. CAT Quick Report – Attendees reviewed the CAT Quick Report and related CAT ridership statistics. Jim Sudak touched on highlights including: CAT's revised No-Show/Ride Cancellation Policy is awaiting comment from NHDOT; CAT drivers are keeping note of snow removal issues along all fixed routes; and the Travel Trainer is assisting CAT in servicing ticket outlets in Concord. Attendees discussed an apparent decline in ridership numbers since 2014. Jim Sudak noted that ridership was higher several years ago, but seemingly aligned with the period of very high gasoline prices.

d. NHDOT's CAT Bus Service Study

Dean Williams noted that CAT, CNHRPC, NHDOT and consultant RLS are still negotiating the study's scope of work and fee. At issue is coordination of work activities between CNHRPC and RLS. A July 2017 start of the study is anticipated.

e. CNHRPC's CAT Boarding and Alighting Study

Dean Williams noted that the draft study report was finalized per TPAC-PT comments received at the last meeting. A copy of the final draft will be emailed to members. It was noted that this study would be a resource for NHDOT's consultant for the CAT Bus Service Study (Item 5d).

6. Other Discussions

a. Rob Mack noted that TOC is working with CAT to potentially relocate both bus stops at the Main/Pleasant intersection to a block further west along Pleasant Street at the mid-block crosswalk in front of the South Congregational Church. This recently-constructed crosswalk is fully accessible.

7. New Business - None

8. Upcoming Meetings

The next meeting is scheduled for April 18, 2017 at 6:00 PM.

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at about 7:45 PM.