

Transportation Advisory Committee

MINUTES

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

7:30 p.m.

Present from TAC: Franny Osman, Jim Citro, Michael Fisher

Guests: Mike Gowing (liaison from BoS), Jim Snyder-Grant, Dana Snyder-Grant, Bettina Abe, Roland Bourdon, Kate Chung Two other persons whose names I don't know show up at 8:15: Charlie Aaronson and ???

Minutes of October meeting approved, pending corrections by Jim Snyder-Grant

Franny opens meeting with review of the discussion from previous meeting about TAC's new mission: what should it be?

Franny asks: Do we want to brainstorm on this question?

Jim S-G starts with updates. He met with Kristen Alexander, the town GIS coordinator. She can add trail data to the town's GIS.

Jim also met with Christian Spindring, who taught them about "open street maps," and how to get GIS data into and out of open street maps.

The GIS system that we have in town has two separate databases: private data accessible within town hall (missing trail data); and public data that you can get from town's website—layers from state and from the town. Trail data will be added to both databases.

Mike points out that GIS is not and never will be a replacement for a survey.

Jim and Mike discuss a "friendly streets" approach for Route 27. Relates to problem of having continuous sidewalks when property owners don't cooperate.

Mention of BFRT plan for bridge over Route 2. Mike G. mentions alternate route to cross Rt. 2 involving Piper and Taylor Roads.

Franny quotes from BFRT web site.

Mike says that MAPC has approved \$8 million for the construction of new segment of BFRT over Rt 2 to the Concord Prison with a starting date in 2014.

Other goals for TAC?

Mike mentions need for work around the construction of the new train station. Discussion of walking paths under rt. 27 near train station.

Mike suggests joint meeting of TAC and SATSAC to talk about these issues. Talk to Dave Martin of SATSAC. He knows what the plans are for walking paths around train station.

Discussion of possibilities for Kelly's Corner. Grants have been applied for. Subway (sandwich shop) will open next to Sorrento's. Mike says the key to Kelly's Corner is what happens with K-Mart. Did K-Mart

just sign a 10-year lease? Mike says he's been hearing this forever. Stop and Shop owns the property. If Sears Holdings goes under, then K-Mart will go down with it. One scenario would have town being able to buy the property from Stop and Shop and then work with developer. Baker Whitney has 21e issues which will prevent them from selling the property. Verizon building is "CO" and has its FIOS service located there, would be difficult to move it.

Franny summarizes at 8:30

Train station concerns, Kelly's corner concerns, bike rail-trail, something with 20-20

Jim S-G wants to talk about area around Concord Road and ____? near 2A. Acton doesn't have power to install cross-walk on 2A because 2A is a state road.

Mike has investigated parking areas along Acton's portion of rail trail to avoid situation in Westford where residents are posting nasty signs about parking near that portion of BFRT.

Bike racks? Mike mentions the program that supports purchase of bike racks.

Two priorities:

Get the trail maps in order.

Find out the results of the 20/20 map meeting.

Franny also says that TAC should look inwardly about what it wants to do.

Or perhaps TAC could attach itself to a current project and offer help.

Franny wants a clear path from high school to Dunkin Donuts.

Sidewalk along 111 from West Acton to Boxborough. One attempt ended in frustration with state funding.

Franny says MassDOT is trying to reinvent itself, and we should take advantage of it.

Franny says MAGIC meetings seems so random. Mike says MAGIC is more deliberate than that.

Mike mentions plan to change traffic pattern at Crosby's Corner... in 2014.

Next meeting should try to capture information from these two meetings and . . . what?

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

