

**Town Administrator's Advisory Committee on Pedestrian Bicycle Pathway
Minutes of the Meeting on Wednesday, February 9, 2022**

(Zoom Remote Public Access Meeting)

Members in Attendance: David McPherson, Chair; John Carroll, Vice Chair; Ken Cheitlin, Clerk; Mark Emmons; and George Slade (Members absent: none)

Others in Attendance: Timothy Lydon

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Mr. McPherson.

Public Comment: None

Approval of the minutes: *A motion to approve the minutes of the Committee's January 12, 2022 meeting was made by Mr. Emmons, and seconded by Mr. Slade. The motion passed, 4-0 (with Mr. Carroll not yet in attendance at the meeting).*

Updates on design work - Phases 1, 2 and 4: Mr. Lydon reported, with respect to Phase 1, that the geotechnical work on Phase 1 will be finalized next week, with the 75% design submittal expected in April or May. Submission of a notice of intent to the Conservation Commission is still pending, with exact timing unknown. The committee members indicated interest in railroad safety training, that would allow them to walk the tracks. Mr. Lydon indicated his willingness to arrange for that training. Mr. Lydon also reported that the town submitted a MassTrails grant application for just under \$50,000, that would fund a Shared Use Path feasibility study, with such path(s) being interconnected with the BRT. With respect to Phase 2, Mr. Lydon said there is a conceptual design, but no progress was made since the committee's last meeting. As for Phase 4, next week Mr. Lydon will meet with representatives of Falmouth and VHB to review the 25% design, but there is no estimate at this point when that 25% design will be submitted to MassDOT.

Discussion of design for Phases 1 and 4: The members inquired of Mr. Lydon whether there was anything that could be done to accelerate completion of the design of Phases 1 and 4. Mr. Lydon indicated there was not, absent an accelerated schedule and funding for same. At this point, Phase 1 is only contracted with VHB for 75% design. Mr. McPherson asked how much additional cost will be entailed in taking Phase 1 to 100% design. The same question was asked with respect to Phase 4. Mr. Lydon indicated the most efficient approach to answering those questions would be to ask a VHB representative to attend a committee meeting. The members then reviewed funding to date, relying on a spreadsheet prepared by Mr. McPherson. VHB is under contract for \$577,210 and the town has secured \$910,000 of funding for the project to date. The question is whether the delta of \$332,790 is enough to achieve 100% design of Phase 1. Mr. Cheitlin pointed out that it will have cost between \$700,000 and \$800,000 by the time we

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have 100% design of Phase 1 (with some portion of that money having funded early work on Phases 2 and 4). Disappointment in the progress made and performance by VHB was expressed.

Discussion of Right-of-Way issues: This matter was deferred to a future meeting.

Discussion of Transportation Improvement Program process: Mr. McPherson advised the members of a meeting regarding the TIP this Friday at 8:30 a.m., with a meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization on February 28.

Review of Cape Cod Commission Bike Committees meeting on Jan. 27, 2022: This meeting was attended by Messrs. McPherson, Carroll and Cheitlin. The BRT project was held up at the meeting (perhaps prematurely in the view of some committee members) as a shining example of a successful bike path project.

Discussion of future public information sessions: It was decided that the committee would sponsor another public information session on May 11, 2022, to which VHB (but not MassDOT) would be asked to be in attendance. Mr. Cheitlin suggested that the meeting be publicized to the Falmouth community as well, since Phase 4 (in which MassDOT includes the Shining Sea Bikeway extension) will be the likely focus of the meeting.

Future meeting dates: March 9, 2022, April 13, 2022, and May 11, 2022, each at 6:00 p.m., at the Pocasset Community Building, or as a Zoom remote public access meeting, depending on the state of pandemic-related restrictions. Mr. Carroll suggested that the March 9 meeting be held on site in Cataumet.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Emmons, seconded by Mr. Slade. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Cheitlin, Clerk

These Minutes were approved by a 4-0 vote (with one abstention) of the Members on March 23, 2022.