

**Town Administrator's Advisory Committee on Pedestrian Bicycle Pathway  
Minutes of the Meeting on Wednesday, May 19, 2021**

**(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 6:02 p.m. by Mr. McPherson.

Public Comment: None

Approval of the minutes: *A motion to approve the minutes of the Committee's April 21, 2021 meeting was made by Mr. Carroll, and seconded by Mr. Slade. The motion passed, 5-0.*

Updates on design work - Phases 1, 2 and 4: Mr. Lydon reported that there has still been no public meeting scheduled by MassDOT on the 25% design of Phase 1. We are advised that a couple "fundamental" issues remain (including placement of signals at crossings and the Bell Road layout), until after resolution of which no meeting will be set. These issues have been raised by Jacobs, MassCoastal's representative. The Committee members discussed the need to apply political pressure to break the logjam. The suggestions were made that our legislative delegation should be contacted and that the governor's office be asked to help characterize the BRT as a "regionally significant project." Mr. McPherson volunteered to contact both Rep. Vieira and Sen. Moran. With respect to Phase 2, Mr. Lydon suggested that funding for the balance of design could be sought from the CPC. The end of August is the deadline for application for grants at the fall town meeting. Mr. McPherson suggested that design of Phase 4 should take priority over Phase 2. The request was made of Mr. Lydon that, for the Committee's next meeting, he provide cost estimates for completion of design of Phases 2 and 4.

Discussion of draft Transportation Improvement Plan: Comments have now been submitted on the regional 2022-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Efforts are being made to restore Phase 4 to that TIP for construction in 2026. JTC sent a letter advocating instead for the inclusion of Phase 4 in the state TIP. This was an unusual action of the JTC. Mr. McPherson will send the JTC a thank you letter on behalf of the town and the Committee. The CIP (remote) public hearing is on June 3. Mr. Lydon suggested that is an important meeting at which to advocate for the BRT and all members of the Committee who are available were urged to attend.

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Discussion of RAISE Grant program: On May 6, Mr. McPherson talked to Steve Tupper of the CCC regarding an application for funding for construction from the RAISE program. Grants may be sought for as much as \$20 million. A 20% local match is needed. Mr. Tupper indicated that an application is a great deal of work, with very strict requirements imposed. Mr. Tupper suggested that our best application would be a joint one with Sandwich (and perhaps Falmouth) for a "planning grant" (i.e., design). Applications are due in July. Mr. McPherson suggested that we wait to apply until next year, when we will presumably be further along with design of the BRT.

Future meeting dates: June 9, 2021, and July 14, 2021, and August 18, 2021, 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.

*Adjourn: Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Carroll, seconded by Mr. Cheitlin. The motion passed, 5-0 and the meeting was adjourned.*

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Cheitlin, Clerk

*These Minutes were approved by a 4-0 vote of the Members on July 1, 2021.*