Town Administrator's Advisory Committee on Pedestrian Bicycle Pathway Minutes of the Meeting on Wednesday, January 12, 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)

Clerk; Mark Emmons; and George Slade (Members absent: none)

Others in Attendance: Timothy Lydon and Mary Jane Mastrangelo

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by Mr. McPherson.

Public Comment: None

Approval of the minutes: A motion to approve the minutes of the Committee's November 10, 2021 meeting was made by Mr. Cheitlin, and seconded by Mr. Slade. The motion passed, 4-0 (with Mr. Emmons abstaining).

Updates on design work: Phases 1, 2 and 4: Mr. Lydon reported, with respect to Phase 1, that the 75% design submittal on Phase 1 is expected in May. After that, conversation will ensue will the Conservation Commission. The right of way acquisitions process begins around the time of 75% design. With Phase 1, that will mostly involve staging areas for construction of the trail. Mr. Lydon reported that MassDOT likes the idea proposed by the Friends of the Bourne Rail Trail in its comment letter on the 25% design concerning the connection to the Cape Cod Canal Pathway. MassDOT has not yet commented on the concerns about the fencing raised by the Friends in its letter and by the public at the 25% design hearing. Apparently, VHB has responded to comments, but thus far its response has only been delivered to MassDOT and not yet to its client, the town of Bourne. Next month, it is expected that a diagnostic team will review the area around Bell Road with a view toward the separation between the rail line and the BRT. This will be at MassDOT's expense. Mr. Lydon suggested that another public hearing be held at the 75% design stage, although this is not required of MassDOT. With regard to Phase 4, Mr. Lydon reported that a comment review meeting was held in mid-December. A principal issue with Phase 4 (which, for MassDOT purposes includes the extension of the Shining Sea Bikeway), will be the crossing at County Road where the Shining Sea Bikeway now terminates. In February, there will be discussion initiated concerning the challenges at the Cataumet Station area. Mr. Lydon is not sure when the 25% design of Phase 4 will be complete; MassDOT controls the timing. There was nothing to report with respect to Phase 2, and there is nothing happening with Phase 3 at this point, a Project Notification Form not even having yet been submitted.

Discussion of MassTrails 2022 application: There was considerable discussion by the committee members concerning the desirability of and purpose for submission of an application. Mr. Lydon reported his receipt of advice from a MassTrail's representative that any application be for a very specific project, rather than a more general request for funding for design as in the past. A motion was made by Mr. Carroll and seconded by Mr. McPherson that the committee supports the town using its discretion to apply for a MassTrails grant in an amount appropriate to fund a feasibility study of access and parking options related to Phase 1 of the BRT. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0. It was agreed that the required matching funds for such a grant would come either from CPA funding received by the town or the town itself.

Discussion of Transportation Improvement Program process: Mr. McPherson encouraged the committee members to attend the virtual Cape Cod Joint Transportation Committee meeting on Friday, January 14, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.

Future meeting dates: February 9, 2022, March 9, 2022, and April 13, 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.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Carroll, seconded by Mr. Slade. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Cheitlin, Clerk

These Minutes were approved by a 4-0 vote of the Members on February 9, 2022.