

Town of Scarborough, Maine

Transportation Committee – Regular Meeting August 26, 2014 – TMCR, Town Hall

Call to Order and Introductions

Dan called the meeting to order at 6:30PM. The committee took attendance. Committee members Ron Mazer, Roger Chabot, Carol Rancourt, Judy Roy, Steve Berg and Jennifer Williams were in attendance.

Richard Sullivan was absent.

Town staff Dan Bacon, Jim Wendel and consultant Bill Bray were also in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

The committee approved the minutes of the Transportation Committee from the meetings of April 29th and May 27th. All were in favor.

Additional Consideration of Holmes Road / Payne Rd Intersection

Since the committee's last meeting, Bill Bray had been able to conduct traffic counts and an overall intersection evaluation at the Holmes / Payne Rd intersection as well as a design plan for improvements. Bill presented this evaluation and improvement plan to the committee. He reviewed the issues at this intersection and the fact that morning commuters were using Bridges Drive to avoid backups at the Holmes and Payne signal. Bill indicated that his recommendation is to improve the Holmes Rd approach to Payne Rd by adding an additional lane to provide a separate left turn lane and a thru/right turn lane. Further, his recommendation is to alter the signal timing to benefit Holmes Rd. Bill went on to describe how this improves the level of service at the intersection, particularly for Holmes Rd. These improvements would make taking a left from Holmes Rd easier and more efficient than bypassing the intersection on Bridges Drive. Bill also outlined the cost estimate to perform this work.

The committee discussed these recommendations and agreed that this project should move forward. There was some discussion about how these changes affect the Scarborough Downs driveway, and Bill confirmed that there were very few vehicles exiting the Downs in the morning, and therefore a little delay on that leg of the intersection will not have an impact. Dan mentioned that the Town has impact fee money that has been collected from past development projects that can cover the cost of these improvements. The committee voted to recommend this project be final designed and considered by the Town Council for construction.

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Discuss Additional Locations for Crosswalks (Route 1 / Sawyer Rd; Black Point Rd @ Black Point Park; Others)

Dan introduced this item and reviewed that the committee had previously discussed a desire to see a crosswalk at the Route 1 / Sawyer Rd intersection. The committee discussed that adding a crosswalk at this location is a good idea and would benefit residents at the Veterans Home and Bessey Commons, but also acknowledged that this effort would likely be more expensive than just adding pedestrian signals, because new sidewalks would be necessary to provide pedestrian connections to the town park and to the Veterans Home and Bessey Commons. The committee also discussed the fact that some drainage improvements and changes to the ditching along Sawyer Rd would likely be needed.

The committee asked that consideration be given to performing preliminary engineering on this effort to get a better handle on a design and cost estimate.

Update that the Town has ownership of the Jarvis Parcel @ Oak Hill

Dan indicated to the committee that earlier in the summer the Town took ownership of the 18 + acres of land former owned by the Jarvis Family behind the Citgo Station and Biddeford Savings Bank. This parcel was donated to the Town for land conservation and the potential for a future trail and pedestrian connection from the Eastern Rd and Route 1 / Oak Hill. With this parcel, the Town and committee could now reach out to the Stratton Woods homeowners association(s) to inquire about an easement to make such a connection possible.

Scheduling of the Next Meeting

The committee discussed and decided on meeting again on September 30th.

The meeting concluded at 8:15 PM.