



## *Town of Scarborough, Maine*

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### **Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, January 16, 2018 @ 6:30pm Scarborough Town Hall**

1. Call to Order & Attendance:

In attendance: Chris Caiazzo, Steve Berg, Jen Ladd, Judy Roy, Roger Chabot, Roger Beeley, Carol Rancourt

2. Acceptance of November 28, 2017 meeting minutes

Angela highlighted member comments that were outlined in the meeting minutes related to the vote on recommendations that went to Council associated with the parking restriction on Gorham Road, near Nonesuch Brew Pub.

Judy Roy recommended that clarification be made in the meeting minutes that the Committee is acting in an advisory capacity to the Town Council.

Steve Berg motioned to accept the meeting minutes with recommended amendment. Judy Roy seconded the motion.  
Vote was unanimous.

3. Adaptive Traffic Signal Controls Overview

*(Adaptive Signal Control Technologies" handout was provided in advance to the committee members)*

Angela reviewed the current LED Street Light Conversion Project. This is a Town initiative that will either replace or retrofit the existing street lights in town with new high efficiency LED fixtures or bulbs. As part of this project, staff has been analyzing additional features that may be incorporated by the vendors such as smart controls. One of these additional features that staff has recommended pursuing is adaptive traffic signals. In order to fully evaluate the impacts that this system can provide in terms of capacity, staff recommends that a pilot project be implemented at the three (3) Dunstan Corner intersections.

Adaptive Traffic Signal Systems provide real-time adjustment to phasing and timing of the signal controllers based upon traffic volumes rather than the typical time-of-day programming. It also coordinates with the adjacent controllers so that they can anticipate platoons of vehicles that will be approaching the intersection and account for those in a more efficient manner. Staff believes that these three intersections at Dunstan Corner are particularly good candidates for this type of system due to the

fluctuation of traffic volumes based upon unpredictable factors such as seasonal shifts in traffic and weather dependent activities in the area, not to mention commuting traffic.

Since the Maine Department of Transportation recently upgraded these three intersections, the existing infrastructure makes this area of town attractive for this type of installation since the cabinets and cameras in the area will not need upgrading for this system to perform.

4. Comprehensive Plan Discussion

*("Transportation Committee's Vision for Scarborough" handout was provided in advance to the committee members)*

The Town of Scarborough is currently in the process of updating our Comprehensive Plan. Based on the work that the Committee has done over the past five years, many action items in the 2006 Comprehensive Plan have been addressed, are currently being addressed with specific projects, or need more work. In addition, the Committee has brought forth new ideas and initiatives that they believe are important to the community and should be key elements in formulating a vision of future transportation systems in Scarborough.

Angela reviewed a document that was drafted based on the work that the Transportation Committee has done over the past few years. The Transportation Committee's Vision for Scarborough highlights six (6) overarching themes and objectives that the Committee has been working on over the past few years or anticipate working on in the future based on need by the community. The Committee discussed each one of the following objectives individually. Comments from the committee members are outlined in italics after each objective.

- a) Create a sense of place in our town centers, and along roadways connecting village centers, that are designed to balance safety and convenience for everyone using the road. This multi-modal system would include finding a balance between mobility of traffic along our collector road network and traffic calming measures.

*The Committee has focused on implementation of our Complete Streets Policy throughout town. This initiative should continue to be advanced to create a sense of place rather than just a conduit to get from one place to another. The Committee highlighted the need for interconnectivity between these neighborhoods and discussed the demand that the dead-end streets in town have on municipal services and school transportation needs.*

- b) Identify and support the maintenance of mobility corridors to move pass-thru traffic through the community efficiently in order to preserve the character and safety of our local neighborhoods. This support of the mobility corridors should include analyzing the access point locations and limiting access points where feasible.

*The Committee has stressed in the past the need to maintain mobility corridors with limited access points to get from one side of town to the other (i.e. Haigis Parkway. This can be by way of access management studies and approaches to limit curb cuts on our many mobility corridors. With development pressures and neighboring commuting traffic traversing through our neighborhoods this is a challenge. The Committee supports the East-West Connector as a means to help eliminate many pass-through users from our congested parts of town.*

- c) Enhance our pedestrian and multi-modal network while looking for new opportunities to provide the community with additional recreational trails throughout Town, including enhance the interconnectivity between neighborhoods with both trails, sidewalks, and an interconnected street network.

*The Eastern Trail is an example of the connection of trails however more can be done on a small scale to provide and connect trails with many development projects in town.*

- d) Support continued advancement of our traffic management system by planning and designing for more advanced systems in order to increase the efficiency of the high- volume corridors, while reducing emissions and increasing safety.

*The Committee discussed the new technologies for traffic signals and traffic management including the work being done on Payne Road and the study coming this year on Route 22 and the Route 1 corridors. Limiting idle time for motorists is a goal in the Town's Energy Plan and one of the many ways this Committee and the Energy Committee can work together to move initiatives forward.*

- e) Provide a sustainable transportation system and consistent funding mechanism that is supported by continued updates to our asset management system, which includes all infrastructure within the roadway network: roadway surface, sidewalks, bike lanes, drainage infrastructure, etc.

*The Committee discussed the creation of the intermodal reserve account that can be used for pedestrian, bikes, and transit initiatives throughout town. In addition, the Town is working on a roadway assessment throughout town and Public Works and the Town Engineer are looking at ways to use this data to better predict the need on a year-to-year basis so that we can get to a consistent and sustainable funding level.*

- f) Plan for and enhance our means of mass transit and alternatives for commuters.

*The Committee has done some work and heard from the Assistant Town Manager on the link between the Town and the local transit providers. The Committee supports the continued collaboration with local transit providers and would like to receive more information related to transit opportunities for the town.*

Other general comments by members of the Committee –

- There is a need to provide a more walkable Route 1 corridor. We should evaluate the pedestrian connectivity along Route One from South Portland to Saco.
- We need to look at the Return on Investment (ROI) model being provided as part of the Comprehensive Plan update to look at the transportation infrastructure.
- There has been discussions in the past related to a crossroad between Haigis and Gorham Road. This should be looked at closer with the development of Scarborough Downs.

5. General Updates:

Eastern Trail update – The project has been funded by MDOT in full. Final design plans, environmental permitting, and land acquisition/rights are currently being worked on. The Town Engineer will continue to update the Committee as the project progresses.

The next scheduled meeting for the Transportation Committee is Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 6:30pm.

Meeting was adjourned.

