

City of Concord
Transportation Policy Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes
Special Meeting to Consider Concord Downtown Complete Streets Project

Wednesday, October 10, 2012 - 6:00pm to 9:00pm
Fire Department Training Room

1. Call to Order/Introductions

Dick Lemieux called the meeting to order. Those in attendance included:

Committee Members Present:

Dick Lemieux (Downtown - Chair)
Jennifer Kretovic (City Council)
Keith Nyhan, City Council
Ursula Maldonado (At-Large)
Alex Vogt (Pedestrian Community)
Craig Tufts, (Bike Community)
Brent Todd (Penacook)
Tom Irwin (North/West Concord)
Ed Roberge, City Engineer - Staff Representative

Committee Members Not Present:

Rob Werner, City Council
Jim Sudak (Concord Area Transit) (Public Transit)

Staff, Visitors and Guests Present:

Robert Baker (Guest)
Sam Brown (NH Bicycle Coalition)
Rob Mack, Traffic Engineer - Staff Representative
Gloria McPherson, City Planner - Staff Representative

2. Overview

This is the second of three TPAC special meetings scheduled to discuss the Downtown Complete Streets Project and formulate a recommendation(s) to the Mayor's Downtown Complete Streets Advisory Committee on conceptual street cross-section (number of lanes, sidewalk width/pedestrian crossings, parking layout, bike lanes, and public transit). TPAC's recommendation will generally consider the transportation-user aspects of the corridor and its compliance with the City's Complete Streets Policy. The objective of TPAC's effort will be to provide the advisory committee with a range of potential street cross-sections, coupled with a comparative analysis of the vehicle, pedestrian, bicycle and public transit modes of travel. A TPAC recommendation on preferred alternatives, coupled with the comparative analysis, is anticipated to be presented to the advisory committee in late October 2012.

3. Discussion

Meeting discussion items included:

- a. Staff presented a draft matrix spreadsheet that included 16 potential Main Street cross-sectional alternatives. Alternatives included the eight initial alternatives envisioned by TPAC at the last meeting, as well as additional alternatives and sub-alternatives that TPAC might want to further consider. The matrix included alternative descriptions, space for recording comments, and columns of comparative factors that could assist in rating/ranking individual alternatives insofar as complying with complete street objectives and TIGER grant objectives.
- b. TPAC members, staff and guests had considerable discussion of each of the 16 alternatives. Minor adjustments/refinements to select alternatives were considered. A comparative rating system was refined and attendees came to consensus on a draft rating of each alternative regarding ability to meet (minimally or exceptionally) complete street objectives. Following a general overview of the completed matrix ratings, TPAC came to consensus on six of the 16 alternatives that reasonably met complete street objectives. Staff would refine this matrix to document TPAC's considerations on each of the 16 potential alternatives.
- c. Staff will develop an additional matrix highlighting the comparative assessment of the six acceptable alternatives, above. TPAC will continue its discussion of these alternatives next week with goal of refining the list and providing a TPAC-preferred ranking of each. TPAC members felt that its rankings should be focused on meeting complete street objectives. Consideration of compliance with TIGER Grant requirements, while included in TPAC's deliberation, would not be detailed in the comparative matrix. Staff would provide estimates (or approximate ranges) of potential impacts on numbers of parking spaces for each alternative. TPAC concurred that availability/quantity of on-street parking, while a very important consideration for the overall project, was not a complete street objective and thus would not be directly factored into the matrix rankings.
- d. Brent Todd offered to prepare a draft report summarizing TPAC's findings and recommendations. This report will be refined by TPAC members over the coming weeks and will provide the basis for TPAC's formal presentation of findings to the Downtown Complete Streets Advisory Committee (anticipated October 25, 2012 meeting).

4. Adjourn

Meeting to be continued on October 17, 2012 at 6:00 PM in the City Hall 2nd Floor Conference Room.