

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF RAIL AND TRANSIT**

MEETING REPORT

DATE OF MEETING: October 25, 2017

LOCATION & TIME: NHDOT, 5 Hazen Drive, Concord NH, Room 205 – 11am to 1pm

SUBJECT: Complete Streets Advisory Committee (CSAC) Monthly Meeting

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Present:

Craig Tufts, CNHRPC (Chair)
Dave Topham, Granite State Wheelmen (GSW) (phone)
Will Schoefmann, City of Keene
Liz Strachan, DES – Air Resources
Erik Paddleford, NHDOT – Rail and Transit
Greg Disanto, North Country Council
Tim Blagden, Concord-Lake Sunapee RT (phone)
Scott Bogle, RPC
Jeff Latimer, Gus' Bike Shop
Mike Whitten, MTA

Absent:

Terry Johnson, HEAL
Scott Bourcier, Dubois & King
Eric Feldbaum, DRED
Kathleen Mullen, DHHS
Rebecca Harris, BWA-NH

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS/ OTHERS PRESENT:

Jim Kirouac, NHDOT - Highway Design
Larry Keniston, NHDOT – Rail and Transit
Simon Corson, Town of Amherst
Matt Waitkins, NRPC
David Sky, CNHBC (phone)

NOTES ON MEETING:

Approval of September Minutes

The minutes of the September 27 meeting were approved by the Committee.

Data Collection Van

At the September meeting, Nick Alexander discussed the Department's asset management plan and in doing so brought up the Collection Van Taskforce that is gathering business needs for a new collection van. The previous van purchased by DOT is approximately 10 years old and coming to the end of its useful life so the data needs from various groups around the Department are being sought out.

Nick asked the Committee to provide a list of needs the Committee sees as important data that should be collected by a new van. During the last month the Committee generated a list of needs to send to Nick. This list was included needs like shoulder width and condition, lane width, number of curb cuts, mid-block crossing locations, presence of parking, presence of a bike lane, number and presence of transit stops, to name a few.

The Committee discussed the collection needs and came up with some new needs including the presence of street trees and other place – making devices. Erik and Craig will work to finalize the list and provide it to Nick Alexander for consideration by the Collection Van Taskforce.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Conference – Fall 2018

Select a date and reserve room at DES

Committee members decided that either a Thursday or Friday in October would be best. Liz will look at the availability and get back to the group.

Road Scholar Program participation

Committee members thought a presentation on the STAR guide would be a good addition to this program. Matt Waitkins has been in contact with UNH and a curriculum is usually determined in the spring, so it will be important to stay in contact with the UNH T² as they develop a curriculum if CSAC wants to participate. Will Schoefmann and/or Matt Waitkins will touch base with Phil Goff who conducted the STAR guide training at NHDOT to see if he would be willing to conduct another training if CSAC is provided an opportunity through the Road Scholar Program.

Tri-State Transit Conference participation

There is potential to have a presence at this conference. Scott Bogle mentioned a presentation on local economic benefits of Compete Streets. Committee members felt a Compete Street oriented presentation could have the most potential for attracting attendees considering the conference focus is transit. A date for the conference has not yet been set.

CSAC logo

Review concepts/ ideas

Erik presented the logo that was developed in house as well as some other samples from the internet. Overall, committee members thought the “in house” logo was too aggressive and too athletically/recreationally oriented. The logo should feature a child/ parent and a bicycle commuter, a car, maybe a bus and a wheelchair. A 2-dimensional streetscape seemed to be a high priority for the background. Erik will obtain another logo design and provide an update to the committee when progress has been made.

General Info & Updates

[Smart Growth America – Accelerating Practical Solutions workshop](#)

The date for this training workshop has been set for Tuesday March 6th at NHDOT. Erik shared the draft agenda for the training session with the group. Will Schoefmann and Craig Tufts represented CSAC in a

conference call that took place on October 11th for program facilitators to gather information on NHDOT and NH processes and for CSAC and DOT Bicycle and Pedestrian staff to provide input into the program.

Bike and Ped Infrastructure Improvements Realized in Communities of 10K or less

Erik discussed this research project that will look at Compete Street project implementation in small communities in Maine, Minnesota, and New Hampshire. NHDOT is providing funding for this research along with the other two states. The primary objective of this research is to identify the characteristics that enable communities with less than 10,000 people to successfully implement pedestrian and /or bicycle infrastructure. So far, Erik has provided the researcher with NHDOT related documents and names and contact information for communities that have implemented Compete Street projects with a population below 10,000. Erik asked committee member to send him contact information for any communities that members know of that have had successful Complete Streets related projects as well as communities who have not had success since it's important to learn what works and what doesn't in these communities.

Bike Friendly State Ranking 2017

Erik showed the committee the [2017 "Bicycle Friendly State Report Card"](#). NH was ranked 34th overall this year and ranked last in the Eastern Region. Two factors contributing to this were that NH does not have a statewide pedestrian and bicycle plan completed within the last 10 years and NH does not have a Compete Street law or policy. (NHDOT is currently in negotiations with a contractor to update the statewide plan, so an improvement in ranking may occur in the future.)

[New England Bike Walk Summit](#)

The Summit is scheduled for April 26-27, 2018. Currently there is a call for proposals for speakers to present at the Summit if anyone is interested.

[Safe and Active Community Grant](#)

The Safe and Active Community Program is a new initiative of the Injury Prevention Center at Children's Hospital at Dartmouth-Hitchcock (CHaD) made possible by a grant from Kohls Cares. This collaboration provides vital program support for local initiatives to promote safe and healthy activity for children and their families throughout New Hampshire. The grant is for programs that will encourage outdoor recreation for children and their families with a focus on pedestrian and/or bicycle programs. Any local organization with the capacity to engage members of their community is invited to apply. This could include police and fire departments, schools, service clubs, health care providers, and senior centers. The deadline to apply is January 2, 2018.

Other Items

- [BWA-NH is raffling off a hybrid bike](#) donated by Goodale's bike shop. Winners will be announced November 11th.
- A NH Driver's Ed Instructors conference is scheduled for Nov. 4. Tim Blagden will give a presentation titled Cyclogy and Peducation. He asked for ideas for slides and topics he should consider. Some ideas were the "Dutch reach", the risk of pedestrian death as vehicle speed

increases, and Complete Streets. Dave Topham said he would provide Tim an old BWA-NH presentation he has used in the past.

- David Sky introduced a CNHBC program that he is starting up called the Bicycle Friendly Driver program. It aims to be a certification based program where insurance companies could provide discounts to drivers who attend the training. There will be a review of the rules of the road and how to share the road with cyclists and pedestrians. Dave envisions conducting “lunch and learn” sessions as a starting point. Dave indicated that all of Waste Management’s employees have gone through training related to pedestrian and cyclists.
- Scott Bogle noted that the presentation given at the GACIT hearing he attended did not discuss anything relating to transit, pedestrian, or bicycle needs. He suggested that during the next GACIT cycle there should be some sort of unmet needs cost that should be discussed related transit, pedestrians, and bicyclists. A needs assessment should be conducted and included in a presentation for the next cycle.
- 2017 AASHTO Annual Meeting in Phoenix Arizona

Participants at the [American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials](#) (AASHTO) meeting are assigned to various subcommittees based on participants’ respective expertise and interest in subtopics. Commissioner Sheehan participated in person in AASHTO’s new “Council on Active Transportation,” held concurrently with other ongoing councils at the 2017 AASHTO Annual Meeting in Phoenix. Participants at the annual meeting determine the contents of AASHTO’s engineering guidance as contained in its “A Policy on the Geometric Design of Highways and Streets, which to date persists as the “Bible” that engineers have depended upon to design public ways for several generations.

With Bureau of Rail and Transit Administrator Shelley Winters and Larry Keniston participating in a conference via phone, along with the Commissioner present in Phoenix, the Department had a considerable presence at AASHTO’s Council on Active Transportation.

AASHTO instituted the Council on Active Transportation in response to competing engineering advice now disseminated in new manuals such as the [National Association of City Transportation Officials](#) (NACTO) Guide, FHWA’s [Small Town and Rural Multimodal Networks](#), [Achieving Multimodal Networks: Applying Design Flexibility and Reducing Conflicts](#) , [Incorporating On-Road Bicycle Networks into Resurfacing Projects](#) and many other resources that consider safety and access to the public way in balance with auto-mobility and occupant safety. Through its Council on Active Transportation, AASHTO is striving against the potential inertia that can internally hold any organization’s evolution back as it tries to remain relevant for a new generation. For more details about the 2017 AASHTO Council on Active Transportation, see on the web page at <https://www.nh.gov/dot/programs/bikeped/advisory-committee/index.htm> the documents:

- [AASHTO Council on Active Transportation \(CAT\) Welcome Letter](#)
- [AASHTO CAT General Purpose Statement](#)
- [AASHTO CAT Meeting FINAL Agenda](#)
- [AASHTO CAT Notes - 20170926 Council on Active Transportation Meeting](#)
- [AASHTO CAT Resources for Active Transportation Planning and Design Practitioners](#)

The meeting adjourned at 1:15pm

Next Meeting: November 29, 2017 11:00-1:00pm, NHDOT: Materials and Research, Room 205

Future Meetings:

December 20 – Tentative – Do people want to meet?

January 24

February 28

March 28

April 25

May 23