

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

MEETING REPORT

DATE OF MEETING: January 24, 2018

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
Alex Belenz, North Country Council
Tim Blagden, Concord-Lake Sunapee RT
Kathleen Mullen, DHHS
Eric Feldbaum, DNCR (phone)
Scott Bogle, RPC
Simon Corson, Town of Amherst

Absent:

Scott Bourcier, Dubois & King
Mike Whitten, MTA
Jeff Latimer, Gus' Bike Shop
Greg Bakos, BWA-NH

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS/ OTHERS PRESENT:

Larry Keniston, NHDOT – Rail and Transit
Matt Waitkins, NRPC
Mari Brunner, SWRPC (phone)
Jim Kirouac, NHDOT – Final Design

NOTES ON MEETING:

Approval of November Minutes

The minutes of the November 29 meeting were approved by the Committee.

“At Large B” – vacant position

Craig indicated that Greg DiSanto is leaving North Country Council. Alex Belenz, a new planner at NCC, attended the meeting in Greg's place. Committee members discussed the vacant position and if the position (At-Large B) should be filled with someone from NCC. Consensus was that since NCC has been engaged and a constant contributor to the committee it made sense to keep a NCC representative on the committee. Alex indicated he would discuss who from NCC would be their new representative

follow up with the committee. It would most likely be himself or possibly one other person. The committee will revisit the position next meeting and likely take a vote.

Plymouth State Research Project – Level of Traffic Stress (LTS) Map

Erik showed the committee the Plymouth State draft LTS online map. Amy Villamagna sent an e-mail in early January asking for feedback on how to improve the map. Some discussion took place about how the LTS in some areas seemed too high and that a previous iteration of the LTS algorithm seemed to more accurately align with what LTS was expected by people on a particular roadway.

Will Schoefmann indicated he has sent Amy roadway data for Keene and asked why the Keene area wasn't one of the "LTS more intensive" calculation areas. Will said he would send the data to Amy again to see if it could be incorporated.

Tim Blagden made a motion to send the LTS web map link to all CSAC members so members could provide comments. Tim suggested taking 30 minutes using a mobile device, or range of different devices to check usability since the map will likely work and look differently on various devices. Be as specific as possible about what device and browser that is being used. The motion was seconded and approved. Erik will send the link out to the committee. Committee members should provide their comments back to Craig and Erik so only one set of comments from the group goes to Amy.

Conference

The committee agreed that the next step would be to get a "save the date" flyer or e-mail together to send out to people since we do have a date set (October, 19). Maybe at the same time, we could ask for a call for speakers/presentations. Committee members thought a theme should involve complete streets since the committee now has a transit member and has been renamed. Some potential speakers/ organizations were mentioned including the League of American Bicyclists, Smart growth America, Walk score, maybe someone from USDOT (an FTA person?), or Rails to Trails Conservancy who could do an economic impact session and/or discuss the [counting app](#) they have.

The conference could have a session on winter maintenance of sidewalks and what towns have found to help ease the maintenance costs. A town may only have a few hundred yards of sidewalk in the town center to maintain. Towns may not even know where to purchase maintenance equipment for sidewalks. The [New England Bike Walk Summit is in April](#) and maybe some of the presenters would also want to present at our conference. Dave mentioned that there will be a NH-related session discussing rail trail aspects of the Granite State Rail Trail. Another NH-related session will discuss matters related to OHRVs potentially securing access to certain rail trails that are currently open only to non-motorized use and snowmobile use in winter. There will be a Granite State Rail Trail poster session. [The National Bike summit is in March](#), and similarly, a presentation from that conference might work for our conference.

The Bicycle Mayor of Keene may be interested in conducting a session and Phil Goff could do his STAR guide presentation that he previously conducted at NHDOT. [The Great Allegany Passage Trail Town Guide](#) was mentioned as a way to discuss economic and community development and what has occurred in other parts of the country and might be a good presentation topic or part of a session.

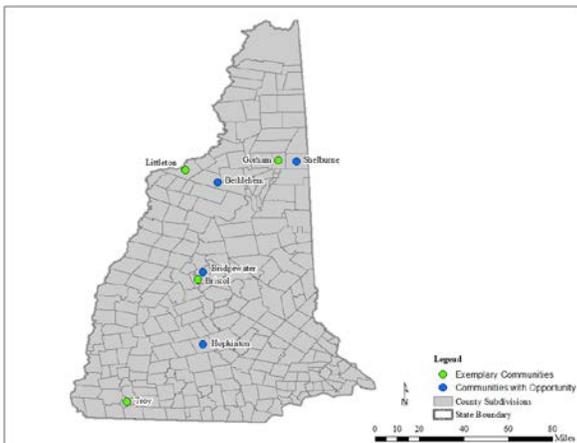
General Info & Updates

Smart Growth America – Accelerating Practical Solutions Workshop at DOT

Erik provided an update of the “Accelerating Practical Solutions” workshop scheduled for March 6, at NHDOT in Concord. Erik discussed the draft agenda and showed the group the flyer and registration page at Eventbrite. Currently, for the workshop we are looking for a “case study” project that is in the pipeline. One project that was discussed by the group was in Swanzey. Will mentioned another potential project located in Keene known as the Keene by-pass project. Sara Carbonneau was mentioned as a municipal official that may be available to speak. Kurt Bloomquist from the city of Keene was mentioned as a potential speaker. Scott Bogle suggested a project in Newmarket and said he would send along information on that.

Bike and Pedestrian Infrastructure Improvements Realized in Communities of 10K or Less - Research

Erik updated the group on the status of the project. Natalie (the researcher from Montana State) has selected the NH communities that have had success implementing complete street infrastructure as well as the communities that have room for opportunity.



Exemplary

- Troy (2,067)
- Bristol (3,055)
- Gorham (2,626)
- Littleton (5,882)

Opportunity

- Hopkinton (5,623)
- Bridgewater (1,081)
- Bethlehem (2,555)
- Shelburne (346)

The towns were selected based on knowledge regarding complete streets, background research, and geographical location. The next step in the research is to contact local officials of the selected towns for interviews.

The next conference call check-in is scheduled for March 16 at 11am. Let Erik know if you would like to participate in the call.

Draft Ten Year Plan (TYP)

Rail Trail Priorities

Craig asked about the origins of the Rail Trail priorities list in the TYP. Erik showed the list and map and indicated the DOT front office asked the Rail and Transit Bureau to provide the list of priorities. Rail and Transit worked with the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (DNCR) to provide the listing for state owned and non-state owned properties with reasons for the prioritization, a cost estimate for each section, and a map showing the approximate property locations. There is no funding for these projects and we do not know if the list will stay in or be removed from the TYP.

Legislative Updates

Click on the links for updated information:

[HB 1731-FN](#) - Relative to regulating bicycles and requiring that driver's license applicants be informed of and examined on laws relating to bicyclists rights and safety.

[SB-560-FN](#) - Relative to updating the state trails plan and making an appropriation therefor.

Other Items

CSAC Logo – The committee looked at a page of logos and selected 3 that stood out as potential designs. Erik will send the comments and logos to LJ to see what can be put together and get back to the group with another design.

Meeting time – Committee members discussed the current meeting time and decided to change the normal meeting time from 11am-1pm to 1pm-3pm on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Note new meeting times.

Next Meeting: February 28, 2018 1:00-3:00pm, NHDOT: Materials and Research, Room 205

Future Meetings

<i>March 28</i>	<i>Sep. 26</i>
<i>April 25</i>	<i>Oct. 24</i>
<i>May 23</i>	<i>Nov. 28</i>
<i>June 27</i>	<i>Dec. ??</i>
<i>July 25</i>	
<i>August 22</i>	