



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

MEETING REPORT

**DATE OF MEETING:** August 22, 2018

**LOCATION & TIME:** NHDOT, 5 Hazen Drive, Concord NH, Room 205 – 1pm to 3pm

**SUBJECT:** Complete Streets Advisory Committee (CSAC) Monthly Meeting

**STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

*Present:*

Craig Tufts, CNHRPC (Chair)  
Will Schoefmann, City of Keene  
Erik Paddleford, NHDOT – Rail and Transit  
Alex Belensz, North Country Council  
Scott Bogle, RPC  
Simon Corson, Town of Amherst  
Greg Bakos, BWA-NH  
Dave Topham, Granite State Wheelmen (phone)

*Absent:*

Eric Feldbaum, DNCR  
Kathleen Mullen, DHHS  
Scott Bourcier, Dubois & King  
Liz Strachan, DES – Air Resources  
Mike Whitten, MTA - Executive Director  
Tim Blagden, Concord-Lake Sunapee RT

**SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS/ OTHERS PRESENT:**

Larry Keniston, NHDOT – Rail and Transit

**NOTES ON MEETING:**

**Conference Planning**

Craig reviewed the conference agenda and list of speakers with the committee. Currently, most of the speakers have been confirmed. We are waiting to hear back from a couple of presenters. There have been a number of sponsors that have donated money so that we are able to cover the cost of the lunches and food for break periods.

Craig noted that he still needs to confirm Chris Parker of Dover and asked the committee for ideas if Chris is not able to make the conference. Other ideas brought up were the economic development in downtown Newmarket with the mill area redevelopment. Jennifer Chinberg or Arlen Chaffee were two names that came up for people who could speak about Newmarket. Scott Bogle said he would reach out to Arlen. Alex Belensz thought the economic development of Littleton would also make a good topic and said he would see if someone would be able to discuss in case other ideas fall through.

Craig asked about having a legislative work group discussion at the conference. Currently, BWA-NH is focusing on two bills. One is a senate bill on e-bikes and the other is a resubmission of SB 560, relative to updating the state trails plan and making an appropriation therefor. Dave commented that there are

lots of misconceptions about e-bikes around the country. A handful of state have legislation in place regarding e-bikes concerning categorizing e-bikes and what is and isn't allowed on certain paths and trails etc. There will be an e-bike discussion at the conference. Dave has put together some research that he has shared with the group.

Overall, CSAC thought the list of presentations, topics, and speakers looked good. The conference committee is planning on having the registration open at the beginning of September.

### **Approval of June Minutes**

Scott Bogle provided Erik with a few changes he had for the June 27<sup>th</sup> minutes. The Committee then approved the minutes with the changes provided by Scott.

### **LTS Implementation Grant Application Update**

Scott handed out the FHWA grant application seeking to expand upon the work Plymouth State University has done using the level of traffic stress model. The grant was successful and notification of grant funding was received August 15. The grant amount is \$100K. One of the requirements of this grant is to incorporate one or more measures as a result of the project into the project selection process. The goal would be to use the LTS application as a way to prioritize project selection at the RPC level. Eventually, it is envisioned that these measures would be incorporated at the state level. The contract may need to be approved by G & C, which may result in a 9 month project timeline. This will be an ongoing agenda item.

### **CSAC Procedures for Communication to the Rest of the Department**

Erik discussed the communication process for bringing issues that CSAC believes should be brought to the attention of others within the Department. The process is still to notify the Commissioner and she would either come to the next meeting to discuss the topic or send a designee. CSAC members felt there should be a way to more informally notify/ discuss with other bureaus and/ or employees within the department without making things appear as a larger issue than may be by having to go through the commissioner for all communication. Erik explained that he didn't think items brought to the Department/ Commissioners attention was necessarily perceived as being larger than necessary. Erik normally brings items to the attention of Patrick and/or Shelley and would then follow up with a letter or notification to the commissioner as has been the policy for quite some time.

### **Statewide Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan**

Erik noted that the consultant has been selected and the contract has been sent to G & C for approval. It should be approved in September.

### **Bicycle Inventory Initiative**

Erik has contacted all task force members for this project. Members are Jim Irwin (DOT), Leah Savage (DOT), Sandt Michener (DOT), Erik Paddleford (DOT), Will Schoefmann (City of Keene), and Craig

Tufts (CNHRPC). A meeting is scheduled for August 30. The goal of that meeting is to inform members about the project and what we hope to accomplish and to develop the task force charter for submittal to the Inventory Workgroup for concurrence and approval. Erik will keep CSAC updated on this work.

### **Legislative Update**

BWA-NH plans to work to reintroduce another vulnerable user bill this legislative session. During the last session, it was determined the penalties were too severe. Another bill regarding classification of e-bikes and a resubmission of SB 560 from last year to conduct a statewide rail trail study are also planned.

### **Steering Committee Membership Update**

We are still looking for a bicycle industry representative. Dave said he would reach out to a couple of people he knows to gauge interest. We also have an at-large position open. Let Erik or Craig know if you have any candidates in mind.

### **Other Items**

#### *FHWA MUTCD Experimentation for roadway markings*

Simon asked about the experimentation process for advisory lanes. The town of Amherst may be interested in using advisory lanes on a segment of roadway that connect two trails. Erik previously directed Simon to the Traffic Bureau to check if they had any experience with the experimentation process. Some information was provided via e-mail to Simon. Another planner from Amherst had also called the Traffic Bureau looking for information on the topic. Based on information provided, it appears the experimentation process is rather cumbersome with the reporting requirements and likely difficult for a town to implement on its own without contracting with a consultant.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

<b>Next Meeting:</b> September 26, 2018 1:00-3:00pm, NHDOT: Materials and Research, Room 205
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<b>Future Meetings:</b>
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<i>Sep. 26</i>	<i>Nov. 28</i>
<i>Oct. 24</i>	<i>Dec. ??</i>