



Meeting Notes

Attendees: See [Attached List Below](#)

Date/Time: May 30, 2002 6:30 PM

Project No.: 51272

Place: Plaistow Town Hall

Re: NH 125 Plaistow-Kingston
Advisory Task Force Meeting #4

Notes taken by: Marty Kennedy

Attendees

ATF Committee
Glenn Greenwood, RPC
Chris Waszczuk, NHDOT
Merilyn Senter, Plaistow
Leigh Komornick, Plaistow
Mark Heitz, Kingston
Don Briggs, Kingston

Others
Mike Dugas, NHDOT
Marty Kennedy, VHB
Tim Moore, Plaistow
Dave Walker, RPC

Committee Business

Glenn Greenwood opened the meeting and welcomed all of the committee members to the fourth ATF meeting. Glenn asked for a motion to adopt the 3/14/02 ATF meeting notes. The motion was moved, seconded, and accepted without modifications.

Leigh Komornick noted for the record that Plaistow and Haverhill, [Mass.](#) have agreed to split the cost to study the intersections near the state line to determine which intersection should be signalized. Study area is Wentworth Ave to the state line. The study will likely occur in late summer.

Tim Moore noted that Chris Waszczuk provided the town a reply letter responding to the town's concerns: [relative to the southern segment of NH 125.](#)

Draft Purpose and Need Statement

Chris distributed the latest version of the Purpose and Need Statement. This version included some minor revisions and incorporated some comments that Leigh e-mailed to Chris. Leigh wanted the statement to include a reference to the substantial population growth rates that have been experienced in the area.

A motion to adopt the revised Purpose and Need Statement (with some minor editorial changes) was moved, and passed unanimously. Chris will prepare a final version and send it to Glenn for distribution to Committee members. (Final version dated June 7th, 2002 is attached.)

Hunt Road/Newton Junction Road

Chris distributed a draft copy of the meeting notes from the [5/233/14/02](#) Public Officials meeting and proceeded to review the input received at the meeting.

Public Informational Meeting is scheduled for Thursday June 27th at 7:00 PM at the Kingston Town Hall.

Chief Briggs stated that he didn't think that the meeting minutes incorporated the full discussion with Mike Burlage of District 6 on what the District is doing on access management issues. Chris noted that the meeting minutes do reflect the issue but are just a summary. Chris went on to say that the NHDOT is working closely with the Attorney General's Office in the development of the Memorandum of Understanding and developing revised and consistent driveway permit policies.

Issues raised at the Public Officials Meeting:

Guptill House – Can the house be moved back? Chris doesn't see that happening. The Department has already done quite a bit to reduce impacts such as ~~relocating~~ shifting the roadway away from the house.

Can the driveway be relocated? The Department will have discussions with the owner.

As for vibration impacts, Chris doesn't expect the vibration impact to be much greater than it is today.

The R.O.W. remnant that will likely be available with the realignment of the intersection will either be turned over to the adjacent property owner or taken by the DOT. The Department will only purchase R.O.W. if it is needed for highway purposes.

Bayberry Property – The NHDOT may not purchase the entire property but will be taking the existing convenience store building. Access to NH 125 would likely be limited to right-turn in/right-turn out.

Parcel to the north of Kingston Motors has been to the Planning Board and has received approval. The residential subdivision will not have access to NH 125. The front parcel will likely be limited to right-in/right-out as it will be behind the proposed median island. Glenn will provide Chris a copy of the approved plan.

Some would like to see the improvements at Newton Junction Road extended further to the east to address the safety problem with crest in the roadway. Chris said that the problem with extending the project is that this area is within the Historic District and therefore would result in additional impacts. Extending the project could delay the intersection improvement from 6 months to a year. After some discussion, the Committee decided that fixing the problem at the crest should be pursued as a separate project so that there would be no delay to upgrading the NH 125 intersection.

Chief Briggs stated that he received a letter from the Fire Chief requesting opticom at the Hunt Road /Newton Junction Road signal as well as other signals on the corridor. The Chief also said that the NH 125 / NH 111 South signal improvements did not include opticom. He handed a letter stating such to Chris requesting these issues be addressed.

Notice for the June 27th Public Informational meeting will go out to abutters. It was suggested that notices also be placed in local newspapers including the Carriage Town News and Rockingham News. (Subsequent to the meeting, Chris verified with the Bureau of ROW that meeting advertisements were placed in the Union Leader and Carriage Town News. For future public meetings, advertisements will also be placed in the Rockingham News and Lawrence Eagle Tribune.)

Access Management

Marty Kennedy provided a brief discussion on our planned approach to the corridor wide access management.

We now have corridor plans with individual property lots shown so that we can start looking at connector roadways. The key to the access management plan is that it will be straightforward, coordinated, and consistently applied. When we refer to access management, we will be focusing on balancing traffic flow with access. We are not trying to restrict access. We will be trying to enhance access. We will be identifying the key signalized intersections where most of the left-turn movements will be accommodated, and where possible we will be looking to provide connections between parcels that will allow motorists to access the signals.

Chris followed with a discussion on upcoming access management and ATF meetings. The following meeting dates were proposed.

- Corridor Wide Access Management Meeting – June 13, 2002; 7:00 PM at Kingston Town Hall.
- Public Informational Meeting (Hunt Rd/Newton Junction Rd) June 27, 2002; 7:00 PM at Kingston Town Hall.
- ATF Meeting; July 25, 2002.
- Access Management Open House Workshop (1 in each Town); Week of August 5, 2002; afternoon session 2 - 4:30 PM and evening 6:30 – 9:00 PM.
- Public Officials Meeting in Plaistow week of Sept 9th.
- Public Officials Meeting in Kingston, week of Oct 14th.
- Informational Access Management Meetings (1 in each Town); Early October 2002.
- Corridor Wide Access Management Meeting; Early December 2002 at 7:00 PM; Location TBA.
- Public Informational Meeting (Plaistow Segment) January, 2003 at 7:00 PM; Location TBA.
- Public Informational Meeting (Kingston Segment) February, 2003 at 7:00 PM; Location TBA.

It was noted that following the September 9th meeting and extending through the end of the year, town officials will be very busy working on town budgets and may not be available for NH 125 meetings.

Chris discussed that the ATF will need to provide some element of outreach to —need the community to get the word out to get people to the upcoming meetings. Input from the abutting property owners and other members of the community will be very important.

Tim Moore suggested that PACE², a Plaistow local business group that is similar to operates somewhat like a Chamber of Commerce, be contacted to improve the outreach to the business community. Tim will get the word to them.

Memorandum of Understanding - Chris briefly summarized the discussions that came out of the meeting with the Attorney General's Office. The points raised were as follows:

- A consistent approach (statewide) needs to be developed for access management.
- The MOU is simply attempting to achieve improved communications between the State and the municipalities, not create a new authority.
- In addition to the Department's and the Town's' positions regarding access management, the applicant's rights must also be kept in mind.
- The Department does not Don't want the MOU to be challenged in court thus careful language will be required ~~– will need to be careful with language.~~
- NHDOT Driveway Permit Manual is being reviewed and will likely be modified to be consistent with the MOU.

Motion to adjourn.