

Subject: Park Street Transportation Study – Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: November 27, 2017

Place: Town Hall, Orono, ME

Attendees:

Rob Yerxa	Town of Orono	Public Works Director	X
Belle Ryder	Town of Orono	Asst Town Manager	X
Evan Richert	Town of Orono	Planning	X
Janna Richards	Town of Orono	Planning	X
Rob Kenerson	BACTS	Director	X
Per Erik Garder	University of Maine	Transportation Engineering Professor	X
Stewart Harvey	University of Maine	Executive Director of Facilities and Capital Management Services	Via Google Hangout
Bill Mayo	City of Old Town	City Manager	Absent
Ron Harriman	City of Old Town	Economic Development	X
Kathy Pollard	Park Street	Resident Representative	X
Catherine Foxson	Crosby Court	Resident Representative	X
Dennis Cross	Cross Properties	Business Sector Representative	X
Kostas Bazmpas	Orono House of Pizza	Business Sector Representative	Absent
Ed Hanscom	MaineDOT	Project Engineer	Absent
Tom Errico	T.Y. Lin	Project Manager, Consultant	X
Mitchell Rasor	MRLD	Project Team	Absent

By: Janna Richards/Tom Errico

MEETING NOTES

1. Suggestions were made to collect traffic volume counts at Park Street and Crosby Street and At Park Street and the Reserve (Colburn). Rob Kenerson from BACTs acknowledged that he could help with updated traffic counts and that he did not have comprehensive bicycle/pedestrian counts.
2. Evan Richert, Orono’s consulting planner, offered the Town’s buildout analysis that was performed for Park Street. Tom Errico noted that the buildout analysis, the University of Maine growth projections, and BACTS data could be used for future growth modeling.
3. It was noted that The Avenue has their own shuttle bus and as part of their Planning Board approval they are supposed to collect ridership data; however, Evan Richert stated that they did not collect the data during year one and that the Town could follow up with them.

4. A discussion was had on developing a new entrance to the University near the Old Town/Orono town line. Stewart Harvey remarked that he was favorable toward this option. Rob Yerxa also noted that this option is high on his priority list, along with a more detailed bicycle and pedestrian analysis.
5. Rob Kenerson suggested an origin/destination investigation study to understand where University students, faculty, etc. are traveling to and from. Kathy Pollard suggested accessing the University's parking pass data to help with this type of study, and Stewart Harvey added that he could speak to the University's Parking and Transportation Group to see if he could obtain the data.
6. Some additions comments that were noted included:
 - It was noted that safety is a concern at the Reserve entrance.
 - Street lighting is an important consideration, particularly as it relates to pedestrian safety.
 - Roadways should be able to accommodate large wind turbine trucks to the University of Maine.
 - Some general thoughts on Park Street improvement principles:
 - i. Second Connection to University of Maine.
 - ii. No new traffic lanes on Park Street.
 - iii. Widening intersections may be needed for developments.
 - iv. Adding a 4th leg of the roundabout for provide connectivity to apartments.
 - Parallel Road from Washburn to the roundabout has been conceptualized and should be explored
 - The character of Park Street is an important consideration.
7. It terms of Schedule:
 - The Committee agreed on 9am meetings.
 - The Public meeting would be on January 9th. The meeting would start at 6pm (it is now scheduled for January 10, 2018).
 - A discussion was had on scheduling the next Advisory Committee and public meetings. Janna Richards will send out invitations along with the RFP and RFP submittal from T.Y. LIN for background information for the group. She will also speak with The Avenue about having a January 25th Advisory Committee and public meeting specifically aimed at reaching students at their facility.