

TRANSPORTATION IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING

MAY 26, 2015

Present: Allan Bowdery, Harry Ellis, Gail Gallerie, Mark Sherman and Tom Weiner

Ariana Bosco, Mayor-elect Rogers and Sally Rhoads joined the meeting following Village Board meeting.

Also in attendance: Town of New Paltz Highway Superintendent, Chris Marx

Village Planner, Dave Gilmour

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Motion made by Allan, seconded by Mark to accept the minutes of the April 28 meeting as distributed. Motion carried.

Town Highway Superintendent Chris Marx and recently appointed Village Planner Dave Gilmour were welcomed to the meeting.

Chair's Report

Gail expressed for the record the committee's appreciation for Trustee Ariana Basco's exceptional service as Village Board TIC liaison. With the understanding that Ariana plans to remain in New Paltz, there was enthusiastic consensus for encouraging her to become a member of this committee.

Gail reported that she had met that morning with Mayor-elect Rogers. They had discussed a wide range of TIC matters including the appointment of a new board liaison, funding to replace State's committee to Main/Manheim improvements; a grant application for county funding for a study of event traffic/parking, access management and parking in the village.

The recent public meeting on the county's long-range transportation planning had not been well attended but was very informative. Gail thanked Harry for his attendance at that meeting and urged committee members to use the interactive link on the project's web site to note the importance of improvements to the Main/Manheim intersection as a county priority. Cf. BPC report for further intelligence acquired at that meeting.

The Ulster County Transportation Council had unexpectedly proposed an amendment to the current TIP for the addition of sidewalks on Huguenot, Church and Prospect Streets and Henry W. Du Bois Drive.

Committee Reports

BPC. Bill Weinstein's May 27 email detailing Ulster County planning for some local issues of concern had been distributed to the committee in advance of this meeting. That report, based on discussions with County Planning Director Dennis Doyle, noted plans for four-foot shoulders on all county roads; the current

plans to create four-foot shoulders on both sides of Libertyville Rd. at the Fairgrounds; and funding for design of widened shoulders on Rte. 299 to Route 44/55.

The discussion of wider shoulders on county roads led to Chris Marx reporting on his plans to create the same on Henry W. DuBois Drive. He plans to begin that work this year, starting at the N. Putt intersection and anticipates this entire project 's being completed over a 3 yr. period.

With reference to the BPC proposal for the creation of a Bikeway Over the Wallkill, Chris noted serious concerns about the proposed location near the Gardens for Nutrition as being in the flood plain.

Loop Reports. The April reports for weekday and weekend service had been distributed with the agenda materials. It is unclear as to whether weekend service will continue over the summer.

Updates

Carmine Liberta Bridge Project

Gail reported that the minutes of the last meeting were not yet available but the *New Paltz Times* report had provided a very accurate summary of the committee's progress on the selection of the bridge design and finish. Representatives of the Community Improvement Project had attended that meeting and had been very helpful with the discussions of lighting and painting. The CIP members urged that the bridge not be painted simply because the choice of color would likely lead to controversy. Because of safety issues related to glare, there will not be lighting on the bridge structure itself but lighting for the walkway is part of the preliminary budget estimates. Allan noted concerns about "weathered" or "Corten" treatment for the bridge, a consideration when the Wallkill Rail Trail bridge in Rosendale was being designed. The next meeting of the technical advisory committee was scheduled for June 16.

Intermodal Transportation Hub

A public meeting for presentation of the consultant's proposals had been held on May 7. TIC liaison Allan Bowdery was out-of state but Gail had attended. She reported that the meeting was well attended though there were fewer commuters present than were at the first meeting in November 2013. She also noted appreciation for two members of the Town Council, the Mayor-elect, Deputy Mayor and a Trustee-elect having attended. Preference for improvements at the current site was evident. There was some support for the Rte. 32 park & ride/SDT site and none for the Village Hall option preferred by Trailways. Subsequent to that meeting, opposition by Prospect Street residents had been mounted through letters-to-the-editor and representations to the village and town boards. It has been emphasized that any improvements will be contingent on the community's wanting them. The county is willing to provide funding and technical guidance but this would be a village/town project not a county project as So . Putt and the bridge replacement are.

Rte. 299 Speed Reduction

Gail reported that she'd been unsuccessful in obtaining a reply to her inquiry about the status of the Mohonk Preserve's 2013 request for a speed reduction on Rte. 299 from the bridge to the intersection of 44/55. TIC supported consideration of this request. Tom shared his observations, based on recent weekend travel on 299, that the conditions do not support the need for a speed reduction, at least not for the distance proposed.

Adjustments to So. Manheim/Main Street signal

There was no further information of the status of this committee's request that a left turn arrow be added to the signal at this side of the intersection.

Bus Shelters

Chris Marx reported that he had not yet received the DOT right-of-way permit and Tom agreed to follow-up. (While Tom disclaimed any credit for the progress made, Chris reported having received this permit shortly after this meeting.) Ariana reiterated that the owner of Metes & Bounds remained unresponsive and that the site approved by DOT across the street is different from what the gas station owner had been agreeable to. Ariana bequeathed resolution to her successor as village board liaison.

New Business

CVS/5 Guys project

There was discussion of the proposed elimination of the slip-lane from Rte. 299 to N. Putt. Mark raised the issue of the proposed improvements across the street, i.e. the creation of a right turn lane from So. Putt to Rte. 299. Tom reported that it was his understanding the funding for that improvement was no longer available. Sally suggested that perhaps the developer of the CVS/5 Guys proposal could be enticed to funding this other improvement. (Ed. Note: our liaison to the So. Putt project technical advisory committee, Alan Stout, subsequently ascertained from the county that the funding is still in place as part of the project.)

State Road Repair Funding

Chris Marx had recently attended a meeting with DOT reps responsible for road repairs. Chris expressed concern about what he'd learned with respect to the amount of funding the state has for road repairs compared with what the municipalities have. Chris noted that his budget for town roads is \$400,000 to meet the needs of 120 lane miles while DOT has only \$100,000 for 800 lane miles. Tom explained that State funding is allocated based on lane-miles and available funding. The figures cited for the State do not include salary costs. In addition, a considerable amount of state highway maintenance is done with DOT's capital funding.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail K. Gallerie, Chair & secretary pro tem