

Transportation Implementation Committee Meeting

March 28, 2017

Attending: Allan Bowdery, Harry Ellis, Gail Gallerie, Tom Rocco, Josh Tabak and Tom Weiner

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

Motion made by Allan and seconded by Harry to accept the minutes of the February 28th meeting as distributed adopted.

Chair's Report. Gail welcomed back Scott Levine, a member of the college's Geography Dept. with specializations in urban and transportation planning.

Committee Reports

BPC.

Tom R. reported that the "Two-Way-Street" educational initiative for motorists and bicyclists was advancing. BPC is likely to have a competition for the design of the flyer and will be meeting with the NPPD Chief about this project. Tom W. suggested that BPC have an attorney review the draft language since there may be enforceability issues with some of the draft language. Scott suggested having the college's parking office distribute the flyer when students and faculty are getting new permits.

Tom W. also announced that DOT is undertaking a Pedestrian Safety Action program which will focus first on urban areas with state highways. The Village of New Paltz would be included in the study currently being conducted with design of improvements this summer. Local highways will be studied the following year. Signage for signalized crosswalks is an example of the safety improvements expected.

Loop reports (January/February 2017)

The meeting with students and college representatives had been scheduled for April 4.

Significant drop in both weekday and weekend ridership in January compared to the same period last year

Old Business

Village Crosswalks. There was no further information about the Village's request in this regard. Tom R. reported that the owner of the gas station on the corner of Prospect and Main Streets has an application before the Village Planning and Zoning Board for the addition of a second story. The plans being considered include restoration of curbing which might address the current obstacles to DOT approving a

crosswalk at this location. It was noted that curbing would still have to accommodate the large, commercial vehicles entering the gas station and that accommodation might still preclude the approval of a crosswalk.

So. Putt Project. Shortly after the last TIC meeting, Ulster County confirmed that needed tree removal had been accomplished by the end-of-March deadline so that this project will be commencing this year.

Rte. 299/N. Putt intersection. The Planning Board attorney had contacted Gail regarding his understanding that TIP funding might be available to keep traffic signals between Ohioville Rd. and the Wallkill bridge coordinated and synchronized. Subsequently, Dennis Doyle clarified that he had suggested having the traffic consultant for the CVS/5 Guys proposed project develop a synchro model that could be used as a base line which subsequent developers would need only to update .

New Business

There was discussion of the 9 suggestions Harry had made for TIC consideration:

1: the suggestions for improving Loop ridership will be considered during the April 4 meeting

(Cf. Loop reports above)

2-4: Harry's discussions directly with Highway Superintendent Chris Marx has already addressed the overgrowth and parking issues on Gatehouse/ Butternville Roads

5: The suggestion that a "stop" be written on the pavement at Springtown Rd./ Rte. 29 since that has been so successful at Albany Post/Butternville Roads . It was further suggested the need at this intersection might be met by moving the current stop line closer to the intersection.

6: Tom R. confirmed that the Village Board had already approved the closing of Huguenot St., from the monument to Broadhead so that the suggested alternative of making that portion one-way had been rendered moot.

7: There was general consensus that making Church St. one-way from N. Front to Broadhead would make access to the library and businesses on N. Front too difficult to be practical.

8. Harry had spoken with the Village's DPW chief and learned that the college's experiment with "magic salt" to remove mounds of ice had proven that alternative to be ineffective. However, the Village was having greater success with the salt compound it used this winter.

9: Renew recommendation to Village Board for the removal of the parking space in front of Taziki's. Will be on the agenda for next month.

Suggestions by BPC member. Allan, Harry and Josh commented on the impracticality and considerable expense of the suggestion to lower Rte. 299 at the Albany Post intersection.

Zero Place. Harry suggested that a traffic light be installed at the entrance to Stewart's and the proposed development, making both in/out entrances. He also suggested relocating the bus shelter in

front of Stewarts. There were several comments about the complications that would result particularly for Stewart customers but Tom R. suggested that Harry might bring this idea to the attention of the Zero Place developer.

Tom W. announced that he is retiring from DOT in June and does not believe that the Ethics Law will allow him to continue as a citizen member of this committee

The meeting was adjourned at 9;00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail K. Gallerie, Secretary Pro Tem