

Town of Needham
Mobility Planning & Coordination Committee

Minutes for Monday, March 11, 2024

HYBRID

Charles River Room, Public Services Administration Building
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or

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89968969859>

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ADOPTED APRIL 8, 2024

- 7:00 p.m. Call to Order:
A meeting of the Mobility Planning & Coordination Committee was convened by Justin McCullen, Chair. Those present in-person were Timothy Bulger, Tyler Gabrielski, James Goldstein, Moe Handel, Carys Lustig, and Paul Molta. Duncan Allen and Alex Clee were present via Zoom.
- 7:01 p.m. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:
Motion by Mr. Handel to approve the meeting minutes from February 12, 2024.
Second: Mr. Bulger. Unanimously approved 5-0.
- 7:02 p.m. Update on Transportation Plan Scoping Grant from MAPC:

Tyler Gabrielski provided an update on the Transportation Plan Scoping Grant from MAPC and noted he would be meeting with them on March 12 to review the scoping of the project. Carys Lustig added that the Rail Trail would be considered a component of the comprehensive transportation plan. James Goldstein asked whether there is a distinction in the Minneapolis Street Guide between roads with a designated bike lane and roads without a designated bike lane, as this distinction may be useful in our own Town's classifications.

Discussion ensued on the various classifications that will be important to include in the comprehensive transportation plan, using GIS programming to establish a streets inventory and using the Road Condition Index data in GIS and Sidewalk Condition Index data in this effort. There was also discussion about the process of scoping this plan, such as evaluating how roads are being used now compared to how they may be used most efficiently and analyzing this through traffic modeling and other engineering, design, and traffic management methods. Committee members also began to consider other factors affecting traffic including zoning and housing density. Mr. Gabrielski added that the timeline for this project includes 6 months to develop and release the Request for Proposal and approximately 1 year for whoever is selected to develop the plan. He also added that he is working on activating the MPCC email address and will use this to circulate documents being developed.

7:22 p.m. Review Draft Agenda and Format for Semi-Annual Transportation Committee Summit:

The Committee then discussed the upcoming Semi-Annual Transportation Committee Summit on Monday, March 18 at 6:30 p.m. in Powers Hall. The committees to be represented are the Mobility Planning & Coordination Committee, Transportation Safety Committee, and Rail Trail Advisory Committee. The purpose of the joint meeting is to align activities, projects, and planning initiatives to facilitate public awareness of current and planned Public Works projects. These meetings will constitute a regular committee meeting for each committee.

Mr. Goldstein noted that the Rail Trail Committee has been relatively inactive recently and therefore does not have any projects listed. Ms. Lustig noted that this meeting is focused on the projects currently in the queue for construction, and the next Semi-Annual Transportation Committee Summit in the fall can include discussion of any specific Rail Trail projects the Rail Trail Committee works on.

Committee members then discussed the importance of introducing each committee and incorporating public education in the public forum, specifically communicating each committee's main priorities to the public. Duncan Allen suggested giving a brief overview of other projects of significance such as the Quiet Zone. The Committee agreed that presenting a high-level overview of each committee will be helpful for the public to hear and discussed the structure and nature of the dialogue they hope to engage with the public during the meeting.

A social media post and the agenda will be posted before the meeting.

7:53 p.m. Justin McCullen informed the Committee that he is the only candidate running for one position on the Planning Board and will likely need to adjust his commitment to the MPCC to accommodate this change. He will provide the MPCC with an update in the upcoming weeks on the status of his leadership role. Mr. McCullough welcomed feedback from members on this topic.

7:55 p.m. Adjourn:
Motion by Mr. Handel that the Mobility Planning & Coordination Committee vote to adjourn the meeting of Monday, March 11, 2024.
Second: Mr. Bulger. Unanimously approved 5-0.

The next Mobility Planning & Coordination Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 8, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.