

# Cape Cod Joint Transportation Committee

*Transportation Advisory Group for the Cape Cod Metropolitan Planning Organization*

C/O CAPE COD COMMISSION, P.O. BOX 226

BARNSTABLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02630-0226

Telephone: (508) 362-3828 Facsimile: (508) 362-3136

E-mail: ccjtc@capecodcommission.org

World Wide Web address: <http://www.gocapecod.org/tip>

## Cape Cod Commission Conference Room

3225 Main Street (Route 6A), Barnstable, MA 02630

### Minutes - Friday, May 1, 2009

<i>Name</i>	<i>Representing</i>
Robert Burgmann, P.E., Chairman	Town of Barnstable, Town Engineer
Rick Tellier	Town of Bourne, DPW Director
Bob Bersin, P.E.	Town of Brewster, Director, Department of Public Works
Joe Rodricks, P.E.	Town of Dennis, Engineer
Paul Lagg	Town of Chatham, GIS
Neil Andres	Town of Eastham, Superintendent DPW
Charleen Greenhalgh	Town of Truro, Assistant Town Administrator
George Allaire, P.E.	Town of Yarmouth, Director, Department of Public Works
Elizabeth Taylor	Brewster, Cape Cod Commission
Frank Hogan	Orleans, Cape Cod Commission
Greg Taylor	AECOM
Carol Spade	Brewster
Jillian Newton	Student
John Powers	Yarmouth
Diana Lamb	Brewster
John Lamb	Brewster
Rachel Bain	EOT Office of Transportation Planning
Dennis Walsh	Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority
Robert L. Gregory	Mass Highway District 5
Timothy Kochan	Mass Highway District 5
Martha Hevenor	CCC Planner II
Heather McElroy	CCC Natural Resources/Open Space Specialist
Priscilla N. Leclerc	CCC Senior Transportation Planner
Glenn Cannon, P.E.	CCC Transportation Engineer
Andrew Koziol	CCC Transportation Analyst
Lev Malakhoff, Ph.D.	CCC Senior Transportation Engineer

**Call to Order:** Chairman Robert Burgmann, P.E., Barnstable, called the meeting to order at approximately 8:37 a.m.

**Minutes of April 3, 2009** With a name spelling correction—Rodericks to Rodricks—on page 4, the minutes were approved.

**Nominating Committee** Chairman Bob Burgmann appointed Joe Rodricks to Chair the Nominating Committee, and added the following members: Rickie Tellier, Bob Bersin, and George Allaire.

### **Preliminary Draft Cape Cod Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for Federal Fiscal Years 2010-2013**

Priscilla Leclerc, Cape Cod Commission Transportation Planner, presented a brief PowerPoint for the NEW TIP, and reported that the schedule and financial information is not yet available. This information is likely to be brought to the CCJTC in June, with a possible TIP release for public comment in July. The statewide meeting to discuss financial information has no set date yet.

Rachel Bain, EOT OTP, mentioned that the Bourne stimulus project for Scenic Highway resurfacing had received a Notice to Proceed, and Route 6A bids were opened.

Rachel Bain, EOT OTP, added that the local projects that were submitted to the Lt. Governor's office for stimulus funding consideration are being reviewed by EOT for second round stimulus funding. The projects are already screened for federal aid, and now are being reviewed for readiness; projects need to be MHD design ready projects.

Neil Andres, Eastham, inquired about the Route 6 at Bracket Road intersection improvements that had been submitted, and reminded those present that the project on a National Highway System roadway will consume three years of the local Chapter 90 funds leaving local roadways in need. Neil added that the Town has awarded the project, but perhaps there is an opportunity to break up the project into two separate projects for a portion to be through stimulus funding.

Joe Rodricks, Dennis, questioned whether there is any specific project information yet – such as, the Highbank Bridge submitted for stimulus that is on the Dennis-Yarmouth Town Line over Bass River.

Rachel replied that there is not a list for second round stimulus yet. Priscilla Leclerc followed with a question on whether a stimulus second round project list would be brought to the Quarterly Issues / financial discussion meeting, and Rachel replied that it is EOT's goal to have the list by then.

Bob Burgmann, Barnstable, mentioned that the Town had to sign an amended MOU for the Route 132 landscaping project, and asked about advertising for that project.

Tim Kochan, MHD District 5, responded that he still had the advertising date as May 2, 2009, and both Priscilla and Rachel said that it is not on the list for tomorrow. Bob Gregory, MHD District 5, added that the landscaping for Route 132 will not be able to be implemented until next year now anyway. Priscilla responded that if the bid opening and award were expedited as for stimulus projects, it could be possible, and this gateway area is important to have landscaped.

Discussion concluded for now with the TIP development to continue toward public release this summer, and a final TIP following public outreach and comment.

**Route 6A Corridor Management Plan (CMP) Update** Martha Hevenor, Cape Cod Commission Planner, presented an overview of both the 1995 plan and the 2009 CMP update currently underway. Martha mentioned that the Route 6A Scenic Byway corridor has unique features that comprise its character, such as, great marsh and other scenic views, historic resources, village centers, and modern transportation demands in the pre-auto age way now operating as a major east-west regional roadway. Martha noted some of the changes-to-date as a result of the previous CMP, along with outstanding issues that remain problematic.

Comments, questions, and/or suggestions included:

- Underground utilities—it is a safety issue with the poles taking a chunk of space, sometimes right in the middle of the sidewalks.
- Joe Rodricks, Dennis, said that the Town of Dennis has put 900 feet of utility lines underground at a cost of \$122 per foot to NStar just to underground the lines. He added that the Town had negotiated to do 700 feet, and a restaurant adjacent to the end inquired and added in 200 feet, but the per foot cost for the Town versus the business was not the same.
- Historic buildings may not be able to be upgraded for underground utilities—Bob Bersin, Brewster, suggested that the underground lines could be accomplished and where the historic building could not be upgraded the pole could be placed out of the right-of-way and overhead lines connected to the building.

- Bob Gregory, MHD District 5, mentioned that reconstruction of the roadway requires bringing it up to federal and state standards.

Comments, questions, and/or suggestions on the Route 6A corridor included (continued):

- Bob Burgmann stated that the difficulty is in how to maintain the historic character with the conflicting desire to accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians. Granite curbing is not always acceptable to the public either.
- Bob Gregory, MHD District 5, suggested that in the long-term look at planting trees out of the roadway layout—many of the trees have been hit and others are diseased.
- Martha Hevenor reported that the tree inventory is being updated and "hazard trees" are being identified.
- Tim Kochan commended Martha on her presentation, and added that as a MHD representative he had to say that it was a little heavy on the preservation side, and safety was not mentioned—this is the dichotomy to make the road safer for users while considering the context.
- It is basically a death wish to bike on Route 6A.
- Because it is a state highway, MHD should be involved in the process.
- Bicycle accommodation is tough on this roadway.
- Good ideas, and if you could get regional consensus among all the Old King's Highway committees that would be extremely valuable.
- With a question on the source for planting and maintaining new trees, Bob Bersin responded that he worked with local residents and planted trees on private property and the owner takes care of the trees once they are in.
- John Powers stated that what we need is a complete streets policy—missing across the Cape are sidewalks; people want to bike and walk, but it is not safe to do so. The Cape Cod Rail Trail is good.
- Elizabeth Taylor agreed that the utilities are a problem, and the cost is high. She mentioned that in Falmouth the poles were moved back off of the street.
- Improving infrastructure is costly, but the utility issue is an important one, and we need to start moving the lines underground.
- Diana Spade suggested that perhaps there could be assistance in accomplishing underground utilities through state or federal legislation.
- The utility company is unwilling to change; their policy is that they have no interest in going underground.

Martha concluded with the information that there is a survey online for the Route 6A plan. She added that following public input on the corridor and its attributes, the steering committee will assist in developing proposed recommendations that will be brought back to this group for consideration.

### **Safety – For the 2009 Safety Study as outlined in the Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP)**

Glenn Cannon, P.E., Cape Cod Commission Transportation Engineer, gave an overview with slides of the proposed three safety study locations:

- 1) Eastham / Orleans Rotary
- 2) a proposed School Zone on Route 6 in Truro, and
- 3) the Route 6 / Shank Painter Road intersection in Provincetown.

Charleen Greenhalgh, Truro, reported that Truro has one school and one north/south corridor, and despite signs to notice drivers about the school, there are high speeds on Route 6. The school zone would allow for improved safety, especially with the sidewalk on the opposite side of the street.

Rickie Tellier, Bourne, mentioned that Bourne is looking into a school zone on Waterhouse Road, the school zone is typically 200 feet before and 500 feet after the school for schools with grades under 9—elementary and middle schools.

Glenn reported that Sharon Lynn, Provincetown Town Administrator, had requested that the intersection of Shank Painter Road and Route 6 be included instead of the Conwell St. intersection as originally proposed.

After a brief discussion, Bob Bersin moved, George Allaire seconded, and the CCJTC voted unanimously that the three locations presented today be included in the 2009 Safety Study.

**Construction Policy and Opportunities for Traffic Data Collection, Fiberoptics, etc.** This item was postponed to a future CCJTC meeting.

**Other Business**

TRAFFIC COUNTING 2009 UPDATE -- Andy Koziol, CCC Transportation Analyst, mentioned that he brought each Town's summer counting schedule, and to please see him on your way out.

BIKE FORUM IN HYANNIS – Bob Burgmann, Chairman, reminded those present that the Bike Forum in Hyannis, already underway, is today at the Hyannis Transportation Center.

CAPE COD BIKE PLAN WORKSHOPS are on Tuesday May 12, 2009, 10am-Noon at the Hyannis Transportation Center, and at 7 -9pm at the Wellfleet Senior Center. [Postcards with the workshop information were handed out].

**Public Comment**

John Lamb, Brewster, commented that he resides just off of Route 6A in Brewster, and it seems that there are two major issues – 1) the utilities, and 2) the roadway standards, and perhaps there could be two initiatives—an open study with the power company to reveal the real costs and seriously look at burying the utilities on Route 6A, and secondly, development of contextual standards or guidelines for this roadway type.

Tim Kochan, MHD District 5, inquired whether MHD could be on the steering committee. The response was that there will be opportunity for MHD input, and Martha Hevenor (who had left) will be scheduling additional meetings.

Bob Burgmann, Barnstable, added that it may be possible to coordinate with private property owners, where feasible, to put sidewalks on private property with permanent easements.

**Adjourn** - The CCJTC voted to adjourn at approximately 10:29 a.m.