

Attendees

Jonathan Dwyer
Jane Herlacher
Deborah Howe
Chris Bibbo
Kevin Kennedy
Margaret Olson
Paula Vaughn-MacKenzie
Ginger Reiner
Bob Wolf
Ken Bassett
John Vancor
Jim Henderson
Sara Mattes
Geoff McGean
Don Hafner
Dan McCormick
Margie Coffman Brown

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the 21 January 2020 meeting were approved.

Bedford Road Path Extension to MinuteMan NHP

Margie Coffman Brown discussed MMNHP's on-going planning efforts related to bicycle and pedestrian access and safety measures in the Park/Route 2a corridor. The Park's planning parallels Mass DOTs program for repaving Route 2a which includes measures to enhance safety for bicyclists and pedestrians. Points of discussion included:

- The Park planning urges Route 2a traffic calming without road widening: reclassification of 2a from a minor arterial to a collector road; lower speed limits from 40 mph to 30 or 36 mph; narrow travel lanes to expand shoulder width; and discourage through truck traffic.
- 7 locations within Lincoln are of interest along the 2a corridor related to improved bicycle/pedestrian crossings/connectivity. Of particular interest to Lincoln is the connection from the Bedford Road roadside path to the Battle Road Trail.
- Park planning includes options for the Bedford Road roadside path extension and crossing at the 2a intersection, crossing at Ranger Station with connection to Bedford Lane, and connection from Bedford Road to the Ranger Station Crossing. Safety of the crossing at the Bedford Road intersection is a significant issue.

Timing of improvements relates to the 2a repaving project projected for 2023-2024. Lincoln's interest in the project is shared by the RTC, BPAC, the Planning Board, and the Conservation Commission. It was agreed that Jonathan Dwyer will provide coordination of the Town's interest in the next steps in the planning process.

BPAC Update

John Vancor presented current planning for the advisory shoulder pilot project proposed for Farrar Road. Highlights included:

- A key component of the pilot is a signage program designed to set expectations for motorists, pedestrians, and bicyclists as to safe use of the corridor.
- Roadway striping will create an 11 foot lane which will be discontinuous at intersections.

- An application for the pilot project will be submitted to Federal Highways with possible approval in 6 weeks. Pilot project implementation is projected for June.
- Public Safety expressed support for the pilot project.

The project includes a proposed crosswalk of Route 126 at the Farrar Road intersection. Options for the safest location for the crosswalk were discussed given the noted speed of traffic turning right onto Farrar Road from southbound 126. Further discussion of the options will be coordinated with RTC and BPAC.

Lincoln Historical Society Proposal

Sara Mattes and Don Haffner presented the Historical Society's proposal for installation of historic Lincoln Road markers in four locations. The signs, patterned after similar signs in Concord, would recall the Town's evolution over the past 267 years by noting historic connections and destinations that existed in c.1646/c.1751.

After discussion the RTC expressed support for the program and sign design and in our advisory capacity to the Selects recommended the program for implementation.

LLCT Proposal for Pollinator Plantings at Codman Road/Route 126 Intersection.

Geoff McGean gave a brief overview of LLCT's town-wide initiative in cooperation with the Conservation Commission for a pollinator planting program on public lands. The program also includes sales of pollinator plants to residents. The proposal before RTC is to implement a planting at one of the traffic islands at the 126/Codman Road intersection. Specific discussion points included:

- The plantings, consisting mostly of perennials, will not block site lines. Given the practice of placing community event signs on the island, an area of ground cover will be defined that will accommodate signs without undue damage to the plants.
- LLCT will be responsible for maintenance of the plantings. It is anticipated that some soil replacement/improvement will be needed. It was suggested that grading of the soil be completed in a manner to avoid erosion of soil into the roadway.
- The existing Swamp White Oak on the Island should be protected by avoiding excavation for plantings in the root zone.
- Chris Bibbo indicated the need for cooperation with DPW during planting in order to establish a safe worker zone.

Discussion included the possible future phase of construction of a stone or cobble strip around the perimeter of the island to protect the plantings. The project received endorsement from the RTC.

Improvements to the Sandy Pond Road Island at Five Corners

Schematic plans previously drafted for improvements to the Island were discussed and the consensus was to continue refinement of the plans for implementation. While significant alterations to the overall geometry of the intersection have been proposed from time to time, the conclusion of RTC was to proceed with the curbing and landscape improvements to the island as proposed.

Status Report on Complete Streets Path

Implementation of the Complete Streets Path project has been delayed due to a state requirement that bidders be prequalified. Bidders did not meet that requirement and thus the project will be rebid with bid opening set for April 27th. Project is still scheduled for completion by June 30th.