



**CITY OF DOVER**

## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting  
Meeting Location: Police Department community room, 46 Chestnut Street  
Meeting Date: **Monday, September 27, 2021**  
Meeting Time: **6:00 pm**

**Members present:** Maurice Olivier (Chair), Marn Speidel (Police), Amelia DeGrace (Community Services), Chris Parker (Planning), Elizabeth Goldman (Clerk), Peter Schmidt (Alternate), Michael Williams (COAST), Susan Tremblay

**Members Not Present (excused):** Dennis Ciotti (City Council Rep), Dennis Munson (Vice Chair), Dustin Gray (Alternate)

**Members Not Present (un-excused):** None

### 1. Roll Call

Olivier called the meeting to order at 6:10 PM. In the absence of Ciotti, Alternate Peter Schmidt was designated as a voting member for this meeting.

### 2. Old Business

#### A. Review/Approval of Minutes from May 24, 2021

**Motion:** Parker moved, Goldman seconded, **to approve**. No amendments were suggested.

**Vote:** Motion passed (8-0).

### 3. New Business

#### A. Bicycle ordinance language – citizen concern

Speidel gave overview of citizen's correspondence expressing concerns with certain sections of the current ordinance.

Kean McDermott of 128 Back River Road addressed the committee. Stated that ordinance should be commensurate with current practice; has learned from police that the bicycle registration section is encouraged but not enforced, and has concern with audible signal language. Speidel handed out copies of City Code Chapter 53 and also NH RSA excerpts 265 and 266 pertaining to Bicycles. Speidel noted that this ordinance has not had any significant overhaul in at least 25 years, but noted in State statute where municipalities are specifically given power to make ordinances regarding the use and equipment of bicycles, including licensing.

Parker noted that in conversing with the chief of police and with Speidel, it seems the police department would not object to making the ordinance language less strict. Parker suggested an amendment to Chapter 53 to change language from "required" to "encouraged" for bicycle registration, and offered requisite amendments to section A to fulfill this. Discussion ensued pertaining to the language of (A)(2), as to whether an audible signaling device and brakes should be stated in the ordinance. Schmidt offered that ordinances making reference to NH RSA frustrate the reader by making him conduct additional research; Parker responded that listing out everything that is already contained in statute requires a City Code amendment every time a change is made in State law. Speidel suggested removing the section altogether.



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**Motion:** Parker moved, Williams seconded, to amend the language in Chapter 53-2 relative to bicycle registration to encourage - rather than require - people to register with the Police Department, and to strike the language requiring audible signaling device and brakes, thereby deferring to NH statute pertaining to bicycle equipment. Speidel stated that this ordinance amendment would be forwarded to the Legal Department to prepare for a future City Council vote.

**Vote:** Motion passed (7-0), Schmidt abstained.

**B. Tolend Road speed awareness sign request – review of citizen correspondence**

Speidel reviewed recent correspondence from a Tolend Road resident. Speidel reminded the committee that 3 signs have recently been installed, and 2 more are budgeted for the current fiscal year. The TAC will be asked to prioritize the next 2 locations at a future meeting. Speidel noted that Tolend Road has already been identified by the TAC as a suggested location. Other correspondence, phone calls, and feedback from citizens has been received in various forms seeking such signs on Glenwood, another on Sixth, on Middle Road, and on Spur Road.

**C. Washington Street Community Trail crosswalk – review of citizen correspondence**

Speidel reviewed recent correspondence expressing gratitude from a Washington Street resident and a number of Washington Street neighbors for the City's efforts to install a crosswalk and flashing beacon system at the community trail. Speidel noted that the RRFB beacons had not yet been delivered, but all other groundwork has been constructed.

**D. Exit 8 interchange – review of citizen correspondence**

Speidel reviewed recent correspondence from a citizen suggesting that the northbound on-ramp at the Exit 8 interchange be eliminated. Speidel noted that various City staff had already responded to the resident, and that this issue is within the jurisdiction of NH DOT, not the City. Speidel also noted that while the cloverleaf style on ramps are antiquated and dangerous, it would change the traffic dynamics substantially at the Silver Street roundabout by putting all of that on ramp traffic through the roundabout. Discussion ensued.

**E. Discussion on alternative transportation measures**

Goldman spoke on this topic, indicating she believes the committee should attempt to broaden the discussion of how to promote alternative modes of transportation in the City. Goldman asked several questions, such as: How can we help COAST grow? How can we make things safer for pedestrians and bicyclists to get around? Parker noted that the Planning Department is looking at bike lanes, and an overall plan for addressing bicycles on various corridors. Parker noted that during the design of the lower Central Avenue project, bicycles were incorporated into the plan within the limits of the right-of-way and input from COAST was sought for connectivity within the corridor. Parker noted the City's Master Plan has identified pedestrian connectivity as an objective in the Stark



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Avenue/Dover Point Road corridor (north of Pointe Place), and another focus will be to look at sidewalk capacity along upper Sixth Street. Discussion ensued.

Parker noted that the City is trying to replicate some of the features that were included in the Silver Street reconstruction project in other areas where the right-of way allows.

Williams noted that every transit passenger is also a pedestrian, and expressed his approval with the City's involvement of COAST in many facets of planning.

#### 4. Citizens Forum

Kean McDermott, 128 Back River Road, expressed support for continued discussion and efforts to expand alternative transportation modes. Stated he is looking forward to reviewing the bicycle plan currently in the works.

#### 5. Member Comments

Williams noted that there are GACIT (Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation) hearings available for citizens to provide input and bring forward their priorities. A GACIT hearing is scheduled for Monday, October 4 at Dover City Hall.

Parker noted that an RFP for the Downtown Pedestrian Plan is going out soon. Also noted that Rutland Street rehabilitation project (addressing drainage and infrastructure but also incorporating Complete Streets design elements) is being looked at for 2028. Parker stated he would send the TAC members additional information on the GACIT program.

Speidel noted future agenda items under consideration for the next meeting: 1) conversion from two-way to all-way stop at Mount Vernon/Abbott/Roosevelt Streets 2) resident request for stop sign on Glencrest Avenue at Glenwood Avenue. Discussion ensued regarding the stop sign on Glencrest; Speidel noted it is one of many intersections where a stop sign was historically never needed but which clearly meet the warrant requirements if the street were constructed today.

**Motion:** Parker moved, Williams seconded, **to endorse an amendment to City Code to add a stop sign on Glencrest Avenue at Glenwood Avenue.** Discussion ensued. The consensus was that this suggestion did not require further resident support beyond what was covered in the correspondence, unlike the Mount Vernon/Abbott intersection.

**Vote:** Motion passed (7-0) (DeGrace abstained).

#### 6. Confirm Next Meeting Date

A tentative meeting date of November 22, 2021 was identified. Discussion ensued regarding alternative dates for December and committee members' availability during Thanksgiving week. Consensus was that this meeting date would remain as scheduled, pending staff review of agenda items once the date grows closer.

#### 7. Adjournment

**Motion:** Parker moved, Williams seconded, **to adjourn** at 7:15 PM. All in favor (8-0).