

TOWN OF STOW
COMPLETE STREETS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the April 25, 2019 Complete Streets Committee Meeting

Members Present: Bill Bosworth, Mike Clayton, Joe Landry, Margie Lynch, Jim Salvie, Kathy Sferra

Absent: Karen Kelleher

Discussion of Meeting Minutes

Minutes of March 28, 2019

Kathy Sferra moved to approve the minutes as written.

Mike Clayton seconded.

VOTED: 6-0 in favor (Bill Bosworth, Mike Clayton, Joe Landry, Margie Lynch, Jim Salvie, Kathy Sferra- Yea).

Old Bolton Road and Harvard Road Project- Review of Concept Plans

The Committee reviewed concept plans from The Engineering Corp (TEC) for intersection improvements at Old Bolton Road and Great Road and pedestrian improvements at Harvard Road over Great Road. Committee members questioned why the existing sidewalk to the west of the crosswalk at Harvard Road is proposed to be removed and whether existing wheelchair ramps are not ADA compliant. Regarding the concept plan for Old Bolton Road, the Committee discussed signage so that vehicles and bicyclists are adequately alerted to the proposed intersection alignment. The Committee also discussed granite curbing options and the need for turn radii at existing driveways. Comments will be sent back to TEC to be incorporated into draft design plans.

Review Existing Conditions Plan of Great Road

The Committee reviewed the existing conditions plan of Great Road in order to assess whether the road would need to be widened in order to construct bicycle lanes on either side of the road, as was funded through the Complete Streets program. The existing edge of pavement width is variable in this section of Great Road, usually at 28' feet though sometimes narrower. The Committee agreed that several questions should be asked of the Complete Streets Program to help determine the feasibility of the project without road widening. These questions include whether lanes may be as narrow as 9 feet, whether bike lanes are acceptable at 4 feet in width, and whether it is considered adequate to eliminate the lanes on particularly narrow stretches such as over Minister's Pond. The Committee acknowledged that if the bike lanes may be narrowed, other safety measures could be utilized, such as using extra wide pavement stripes between vehicle and bicycle lanes, and painting the bicycle lane another color to help the lane visually stand out.

Town Meeting Warrant Article

The Committee discussed the Town Meeting request of \$28,500 which would go toward construction funding of the projects on Old Bolton Road and Harvard Road. The Committee discussed their reservations of having multiple construction projects on Great Road during

the summer, including the continuing construction in Lower Village. The Committee agreed that staff should discuss with MassDOT whether the construction funding may be extended so that the Complete Streets projects may be completed next year.

Assabet River Rail Trail and Track Road

The Committee agreed to continue to actively discuss construction related to both the Assabet River Rail Trail and Track Road, as was communicated to the Community Preservation Committee earlier in the year. Kathy Sferra noted that the Town of Sudbury has reached out to assess interest in holding a multi-Town meeting with the new director of the Assabet River National Wildlife Refuge.

Resident Correspondence

The Committee discussed creating a policy to efficiently respond to resident correspondence. Members of the Committee agreed that resident questions should be forwarded to public safety, with any persistent issues or broader questions brought to the full committee. The Committee agreed that traffic and public safety data should be discussed at monthly meetings.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Valerie Oorthuys