

ROUTE 6 REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2010

CALL TO ORDER: 9:00 am by Jonathan Luiz

PLACE: Columbia Town Hall Meeting Room

ROLL CALL: Eric M. Trott (Planner – Town of Coventry); Terri-Ann Hahn (LADA, Land Planners); Carol Polsky (EDC – Town of Coventry; Lia Huang (CRCOG); Mark Waterhouse (Garnet Consulting Services, Inc); Don Cianci (Columbia – delegate); Robert Burbank (Selectman – Andover); Chris Korbel (LADA, Land Planners); Jana Butts (Planner – Town of Columbia); John Pagini (Planner – Town of Bolton); Jonathan Luiz (Town Administrator – Town of Columbia)

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS: No Comment.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Pagini and seconded by Trott to adopt the minutes of the January 11, 2010 meeting as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

CRCOG TRANSPORTATION STUDY:

Lia Huang from CRCOG reported that they are negotiating fees with the consultant and they should be on board in a couple of weeks.

DISCUSSION ON STEAP GRANT WITH CONSULTANT:

Terri-Ann Hahn distributed a number of revised maps of the corridor. A utility map, slope/topographical map and site analysis map were reviewed.

The nature and location of the transition zones were discussed at length. The transition zones/future nodes in Columbia need to be considered further due to the fact that a portion of those areas contain residential uses at present. Although the area may be zoned for business, the area is primarily residential in nature. It is important to agree on these nodes/zones as the planning proceeds.

The existing character mapping will also be helpful in identifying the future growth nodes. The series of recommendations that are provided with the planning efforts of the Council will translate ultimately into regulations and guidelines that will be adopted by the individual Town Planning and Zoning Commissions.

It was agreed that the existing/proposed corridor map will be reviewed at the next meeting.

The Columbia West node needs to be considered further with respect to the Town Garage, existing zoning, existing uses/constraints, infill development opportunities.

Page 2

RTE 6 EDC

January 25, 2010 minutes

It was pointed out that the terms 'mixed use' and 'multiple use' be utilized properly to describe what is being projected for the corridor.

Infill 'enhancements' for the corridor were discussed. These can take the form of improvements which direct the attention of the driver, such as landscaping and other streetscape improvements in and adjacent to the right of way. These will need to be accepted by DOT.

Nodes and 'mini-nodes' in the corridor were discussed. These can take the form of small scale commercial development in a primarily residential area.

The individual Town key sites and visioning will be an important next step. Concept site plans will be provided that will give prospective views of development opportunities. The following sites/areas are ones that will be potentially considered: Andover Plaza, Hebron Road area, intersection of RTES 6/66, Coventry Holistic Center property, Post Farm – Andover, Bolton Ice Palace/Munson's area.

A smart growth audit will be utilized to demonstrate how the prospective development will coincide with responsible growth measures. The goal is to comply with OPM's responsible growth principles.

OTHER BUSINESS:

It was agreed that the Economic Development and Planning and Zoning Commissions respectively in Bolton and Columbia need to meet to discuss the progress of the planning in the corridor to ensure that there is agreement early on.

It was reported that additional Hop River Trail work will continue in the spring. The bridge matter is still slowly progressing.

NEXT MEETING DATE/AGENDA: The next meeting is scheduled for February 8, 2010 at 9:00am in the Columbia Town Hall.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 10:40am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric M. Trott

Secretary