

ROUTE 6 REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MAY 10, 2010

CALL TO ORDER: 9:00 am by Joyce Stille

PLACE: Columbia Town Hall Meeting Room

ROLL CALL: Eric M. Trott (Planner – Town of Coventry); Terri-Ann Hahn (LADA, Land Planners); Jennifer Carrier (CRCOG); Chris Korbel (LADA, Land Planners; Vera Englert (EDC – Town of Columbia); Jana Butts (Planner – Town of Columbia); Carmen Vance (Selectman – Town of Columbia); Leigh Ann Hutchinson (Andover – PZC); Mark Waterhouse (Garnet Consulting Group); Jeff Parker (CHA); Rod Bascom (CHA); John Pagini (Planner – Town of Bolton).

AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS: No Comment.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Pagini and seconded by Englert to adopt the April 19, 2010 minutes as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

CRCOG TRANSPORTATION STUDY:

Jennifer Carrier introduced Jeff Parker and Rod Bascom from CHA, the consultant working with CRCOG were present to discuss their findings to date.

It has been determined that rear end accidents at intersections are prevalent in the corridor, but not resulting in fatalities. The specific sites are being evaluated.

The auto traffic recorder work has been completed. Intersection traffic counts and analysis is in progress as well as travel time runs during the AM/PM.

A review of the existing intersection operations to determine delays and level of service was provided. A total of twelve signalized and unsignalized intersections have been evaluated. The poorly rated intersections will be examined carefully to determine courses of action, such as retiming signals, new signalization or through lane improvements.

Traffic volumes impact the particular recommendations. A discussion on the differences in volume based upon direction of travel occurred.

Speed data was also reviewed. For example, high speeds were noted coming downhill from 384. Enforcement is one solution.

The issue of statistics vs. perception was discussed at length.

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The potential information slides for the presentation were reviewed. The amount of time that should be focused on the transportation needs to be determined.

DISCUSSION ON STEAP GRANT WITH CONSULTANT:

Details on the meeting between Council representatives and the DOT were discussed. The potential streetscape improvements were reviewed. The meeting was viewed as successful overall and that there was no detail that DOT disagreed with, although there is no funding for such improvements.

It was agreed that there needs to be a high level of 'buy in' from the political figures in the region to support the efforts of the council and the respective plans.

The land use plan was reviewed. There are limited development opportunities in certain locations due to the presence of flood plain, wetlands and slope. Although the map is for planning purposes only, it provides clarity on the infill potentials in the corridor. More on-site research will be required on the parcels to determine feasibility.

The site plan/visualizations were reviewed. The Bolton Gateway sign image was considered. The Bolton Crossroads streetscape improvements that provide for a village style design with the Howard Road connections were evaluated. The Coventry parcel provided two development scenarios with alternatives for access. The Andover Plaza provides two options for façade/signage improvements. The Andover Center indicates two options for streetscape improvements. The Columbia Meadows area shows possible improvements for the Public Works Garage. The 6/66 intersection provides images of a mixed use village with infill development. A connection to Leventi's is provided. The proximity to a future roundabout is important.

A handout indicating the various slides for the presentation were distributed. A discussion regarding issues of development areas/level/type and potential concerns occurred.

It was agreed that the goal is to seek input to achieve a common goal and shared vision on the future of the corridor.

NEXT MEETING DATE/AGENDA: The next meeting is scheduled for June 1, 2010 at 9:00am.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 10:50am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric M. Trott

Secretary