



**Nashua Region Complete Streets Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
7/21/2020**

ATTENDEES:

Chris Buchanan, Town of Amherst Julie Chizmas, City of Nashua Ryan Friedman, NRPC	Rick Katzenberg, Amherst Natasha Kypfer, Town of Amherst Matt Waitkins, NRPC
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CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Waitkins called the meeting to order at 1:07pm.
Informal approval of June meeting minutes

AGENDA ITEM #1: NH101A RAIL TRAIL DISCUSSION

Continued the discussion about the feasibility of developing a rail trail and/or rail-with-trail bike path along the NH101A corridor.

Buchanan provided an update about progress being made on the NH101A corridor profile.

- Draft has been sent to Nashua CSAC for comment.
- Buchanan provided a high-level review of the draft document and asked for assistance with several pieces of information:
 - In a recent decision by the Surface Transportation Board (STB) regarding the right of the Milford-Bennington RR to operate on Pan Am tracks between Wilton and Milford, the STB decided to allow Milford-Bennington RR to continue to operate on those tracks. Buchanan wanted to know if there was an end date for that permission. Waitkins said he would find out.
- The corridor has been divided into three sections, each with different needs, characteristics, and recommended treatments. Each section has an associated table that provides section length and estimated cost of development.
- Design guidelines are included in the document. Buchanan is trying to identify local examples.
- Treatments for where the trail will cross roadways are described in the design guidelines.
- Next steps:
 - Committee will review the draft document and provide feedback by August 4.
 - Finalize document
 - Bring Jay M. into the loop for discussion about how to approach Pan AM and how to approach decision makers such as NH Executive Council, congressional delegation, others.

AGENDA ITEM #2: NH RAIL TRAILS ASSOCIATION KNOWLEDGE NUGGET VIDEO

The group watched the 6-minute NH Rail Trail Coalition “Knowledge Nuggets” video that Tom Christensen had shared in a recent email. The subject of the video was to share the experience and lessons learned regarding the use of stone dust as a surface for rail trails.

AGENDA ITEM #3: STATEWIDE, REGIONAL AND LOCAL UPDATES

Waitkins provided an update of statewide activities:

- The NHDOT Active Transportation Engineer position has not been filled because there is a hiring freeze. The position will be filled once the freeze is lifted.
- NHDOT is holding off on finalizing the Statewide Bike-Ped plan until the Active Transportation Engineer position is filled. The consultant’s (Alta) contract for completing the plan has been extended (pending GACIT approval) to August 2021.
- NHDOT has committed to completing the plan even if the Active Transportation Engineer position is not filled by then.
 - LTS results still need to be finalized.
 - There will be additional opportunities for stakeholder feedback into the statewide plan.

Regional update:

- NRPC is continuing with its bike-ped counting program
- Summary to be provided in late fall.

ADJOURN:

The meeting adjourned at 2:02 pm

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, August 18, 1:00 pm.