

**TOWN OF CONCORD
SELECT BOARD MEETING
MARCH 14, 2022 | 6:30 PM
TOWN HOUSE
22 MONUMENT SQUARE**

MEETING SECOND FLOOR OF TOWN HOUSE AND VIA ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84092395810?pwd=TnMyWmprWHBlaz09>

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Meeting ID: 840 9239 5810

Passcode: 865209

(updated 3/10/22)

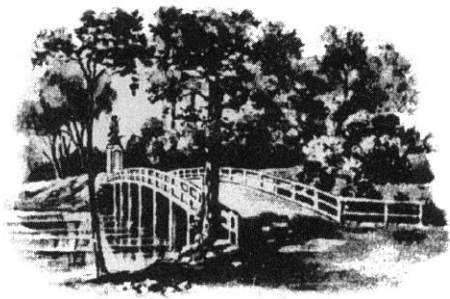
AGENDA

#	Time*	Agenda Item
1.	6:30pm	Call to Order
2.		<p style="text-align: center;">Roadmap to Concord: Transportation and Mobility</p> <p>Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) presentation: Nick Pappas, SMT</p> <p>Discussion and Q & A</p>
3.		Take Position on Town Meeting Articles 8, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 (time permitting)
4.		<p>Committee Nominations:</p> <p>1. Elizabeth Cobbs, 31 Pond View Lane, to the Personnel Board</p> <p>2. Daniel Drazen, 197 Belknap Street, to the Concord Housing Development Corporation (CHDC)</p> <p>3. Nancy M. Crowley, 5 Concord Greene #7, to the Public Ceremonies and Celebrations Committee</p>
5.		Committee Appointments: Keith Bergman, 56 White Avenue, Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC), Town Representative
6.		Public Comment
7.	9:00pm	Adjourn

**Times are approximate and subject to change*

Current Board and Committee Vacancies
Concord 2025 Executive Committee
Concord Housing Development Corporation (CHDC)
Concord Local Cultural Council
Conservation Restriction Stewardship Committee
Council on Aging

Cultural Council
Historic Districts Commission
Natural Resources Commission
Personnel Board
Planning Board
Public Ceremonies and Celebrations Committee
Tax Fairness Committee
Trustees of Donations
West Concord Advisory Committee
Zoning Board of Appeals



OLD NORTH BRIDGE

TOWN OF CONCORD

TOWN HOUSE - P.O. BOX 535
CONCORD, MASSACHUSETTS 01742

March 9, 2022

Transportation Advisory Committee
Planning Board and Planning Division
Economic Vitality Committee
Natural Resources Commission/Division
Council on Aging
Minute Man National Historical Park
Concord Public Works Commission/Department
Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Advisory Committee
Community Services Coordinator
Trails Committee
Commission on Disabilities
Concord Public Schools Committee and Superintendent
League of Women Voters
Commission on Disabilities
Climate Action Advisory Board
Concord Sustainable Energy Committee
News & Notices
Traffic Safety Group
Concord Housing Authority
Historical Commission
Historic Districts Commission
DEI Committee
Finance Committee
Interim Town Manager

The Select Board would like to invite you to an upcoming meeting focused solely on transportation issues. The session will be held Monday, March 14, 2022, at 6:30 pm at the Town House. Participants may attend in person or via zoom link.

The new Transportation Advisory Committee has been hard at work researching, discussing, and preparing a “roadmap” to improve transportation systems in Concord. They will be presenting their ideas and looking for input from the community.

The specific transportation goals of Envision Concord 2030 are to:

- 1.) Identify and implement opportunities for enhancing transportation throughout town to support economic, social equity and recreational needs.
- 2.) Increase use of shuttle buses, school buses, on-demand transportation, the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail, the Assabet River Pedestrian Bridge, and village center wayfinding improvements.
- 3.) Coordinate the efforts of town bodies to support the Complete Streets goals of enhancing pedestrian safety and managing the increased use of bikes and other non-automobile motorized vehicles while protecting our natural conservation areas and trails.

Topics to be discussed at the March 14 meeting include:

- ✓ What public transportation exists in Concord today
- ✓ Ride Services Comprehensive Plan
- ✓ Complete Streets Prioritization and Plan
- ✓ Prioritizing Road Safety Improvements
- ✓ Retail and Food Service Delivery
- ✓ Sustainability impacts
- ✓ Equity impacts
- ✓ Community outreach
- ✓ Identifying Specific Challenges:
 - Pedestrians
 - Bicycles
 - Motor vehicles
 - Students
 - Senior Citizens
 - Disabled persons
 - MBTA
 - Regional transportation efforts
 - Workforce transportation
 - First mile, last mile to/from commuter rail
 - Tourist flow for 2025 and beyond

Thank you in advance for marking your calendar and joining us for a lively discussion on March 14.

Sincerely,

Terri Ackerman
Select Board Chair

Roadmap to Concord Transportation and Mobility

Background

Lack of comprehensive transportation plan and funding mechanism
Many complaints (traffic, parking, lack of service...)

Long Range Plan

Implement a focal point in town government
Implement Sustainable Solutions
Equity: provide service to the under-served
Support local businesses
respect our history and natural assets

Roadmap to Concord Transportation and Mobility

Longer Term Issues

Complete Streets Comprehensive Plan

Areas of Need (define, prioritize)
Begin design

Ride Services

How will it mesh with existing services (COA, Schools, Private shuttles, tours)?
Fixed route bus service, regional bus service, on-demand rides.
Networked with other public ride services.

Transportation for Students

For all grade levels

Retail and Food Delivery Services

Long Term Funding Plan

Upgrades to infrastructure
Adequate staff to plan and manage
- Transportation Planner

Immediate Work

Public Transportation

Document all available public ride services in Concord
Tours, taxis, Transportation Network Companies, bike share, commuter rail, rideshare services

Winter Transportation Conditions

Impact of weather on transportation
What services are available for clearing, how is it prioritized

Road Safety

Prioritizing projects, developing criteria

Maintenance and Management Plan

Funding based on extent of infrastructure
Maintenance plus safety enhancements

*Overarching Themes

Sustainability

Equity

Businesses/Economics

Mobility Challenges

Student Use

Senior Use



TOWN OF CONCORD

Department of Planning and Land Management

141 Keyes Road - Concord, MA - 01742

Phone: 978-318-3290

MEMORANDUM

To: Kerry Lafleur, Interim Town Manager
From: Marcia Rasmussen, Director DPLM
Re: **Update of various Transportation-related grants/programs**
Date: March 7, 2022 (update of December 3, 2020 memo)

- 1. Route 2A improvements in Lincoln and Concord** – In 2019, MassDOT District 4 staff and MassDOT Consultant Toole Design began meeting with stakeholders from Lincoln, Concord, MMNHP, Hanscom and the Battle Road Scenic Byway committee, among others, to discuss design options and next steps for Route 2A improvements. During the summer of 2020, stakeholders were informed that MassDOT had determined to move the improvement projects forward, to be implemented in phases. It is anticipated that Phase 1 would consist of resurfacing the corridor and implementing several of the traffic calming elements. Currently that project is scheduled for 2024. Phase 2 will consist of the larger improvements (such as re-alignment of Lexington Road at By-Pass Road (a.k.a. Route 2A).

Update: Over the past 6-8 months (2021/2022), the Concord Historical Commission has raised concerns about the proposed “improvements”, particularly about changes to the intersection at Lexington Road and Route 2A/By-Pass Road as well as the pedestrian crossing design that is out of character with the historic aesthetic of this corridor and does not connect to trails/paths within the federal-owned land that is the MMNHP. This has created conflicts within the Battle Road Scenic Byway Committee and has pitted the bicycle/pedestrian safety interests of Lincoln with the historic preservation interests of the MMNHP and Concord’s Historical Commission.

- 2. Complete Streets:** The MassDOT Complete Streets funding program awarded Concord Public Works \$399,852 in 2020 for Town-wide multimodal accessibility improvements, which includes: adding sidewalks and grass buffers on Hubbard Street along with curb extensions, high visibility crosswalks, signage, and curb ramps. A second project focused on pedestrian improvements is slated for the Sudbury Road/Oxbow Road/Seven Star Lane intersection, which is being further developed by CPW-Engineering. A third project included in this funding is improved accessibility and traffic-calming on Commonwealth Ave. Additional design and construction funds from the Brookside Square and 13B Commonwealth Ave. developments will supplement these funds. Construction/implementation has been delayed due in part to the pandemic.

Update: Pedestrian improvements at the Sudbury Rd./Oxbow Rd./Seven Star Lane intersection were completed in 2021. The improvements on Hubbard Street were started in 2021 and will be completed in 2022. The design for improvements to Commonwealth Ave. were completed in 2022 with construction anticipated to be done in 2022.

- 3. Workforce Transportation Grant:** In February 2020, the Town and CrossTown Connect/Transaction Associates were awarded \$160,860 for a Concord Shuttle anticipated to provide more reliable and convenient travel options for workers. This grant was to be matched with local funds in the amount of \$38,000, which was available in the Planning Division FY19 budget. Town staff coordinated the contract with the State and began development of an RFP for an outside consultant to implement the program but

did not want to move forward too quickly given the pandemic and changes in people's commuting patterns. The Planning Division was informed in September 2020 that MassDOT Rail & Transit Division would not consider an extension of time for this project and would be taking back funds that had not been expended or encumbered.

Update: The Planning Division is waiting to learn of new grant funding opportunities and will resubmit this grant or similar application, with assistance from Transaction Associates, when the opportunity arises again.

- 4. CrossTown Connect:** The Town of Concord has been a participating member community in the CrossTown Connect Transportation Management Association since 2017. CrossTown Connect TMA serves the residents and businesses in the seven participating communities, providing programs and services designed to reduce traffic, maximize local mobility options, coordinate transportation resources, and improve economic vitality. CTC staff was a partner in preparing the Workforce Transportation Grant application.

Update: With the massive decline in use of public transportation and questions raised by the lead community, the CrossTown Connect Inter-Municipal Agreement lapsed and the CTC has been on hiatus due to the pandemic. Transaction Associates, provider of dispatch services and drivers, remains available to assist Concord in the future.

- 5. MinuteMan National Historical Park – Shuttle Feasibility Study:** In the spring of 2020 the Volpe Center staff began working with the towns of Concord, Lincoln and Lexington to conduct a feasibility study for a town-led shuttle service that would bring visitors to and through the Minute Man National Historical Park.

Update: The study was completed in 2021 and is available here: <https://rosap.ntl.bts.gov/view/dot/59100>. Concord town staff have continued discussions to identify ways to move visitors around Concord (including pick-up and drop-off at the Thoreau Depot commuter rail station) through purchase of a transit vehicle or contract with a trolley service, especially as celebrations are considered for 2024 and 2025.

- 6. Shared Streets and Spaces Program:** In June 2020 the Town submitted a grant application to the MassDOT Shared Streets and Spaces Program, requesting funds of \$247,285 to convert on-street parking spaces to outdoor dining locations, add tables, chairs and shade-sails to existing open spaces in the village centers, etc. This application was not funded.

Update: A second grant application was submitted in the winter of 2020/2021, for use of public outdoor spaces during the winter to support economic vitality, which again was not funded. Third time is a charm, when a third grant application was submitted in June 2021 and approved for bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements on Old Marlboro Road and the BFRT along with a bicycle share program. Contracts were issued and underway in the fall of 2021 and work will be completed in the spring 2022 when the bicycle share program kicks off on April 2nd (with 5 bikes available at the Concord Center Visitor Center and 5 bikes available near the West Concord train station. Additionally, the Town has submitted a 4th grant application to consider pedestrian improvements/enhancements in Concord Center.

- 7. Assabet River Pedestrian Bridge:** Community Preservation funds for design and permitting in the amount of \$250,000 were approved at the 2020 Annual Town meeting for this project. In June 2020 the Town was awarded an additional \$135,000 from the 2020 MassTrails Grant program, for a total of \$385,000 for design and permitting. The contract has been awarded to Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. who is working with architectural firm LaDallman to design and permit this future bridge over the Assabet River. GPI is currently preparing a project notification form (PNF) for consideration by the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for inclusion of this project on the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP). Town staff has also been in discussion with the new owners of 300 Baker Ave. (as of spring 2020) about a trail easement that would connect to Baker Ave. just north of the current Baker Ave. commuter rail crossing.

Update: Additional funds have been requested in 2022 from the Community Preservation Funds (\$300,000), the MassTrails Grant (\$300,000) and the Town's Capital Improvement Program (\$110,000) for preparation of the final PS&E (plans, specifications and estimate) package for consideration of funding from the State as part of the State's Transportation Improvement Program.

8. **Community Connections Grant:** In November the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) announced the opening of the application period for the **Community Connections Program** grants. Applications will be accepted up to December 11, 2020. Funds will be awarded during the federal fiscal year 2022, which begins on October 1, 2021. After attending the introductory workshop and following up with MPO staff, it was determined that an application to purchase automatic counters to record the numbers of cyclists and pedestrians using the BFRT would likely not be approved. However, the Central Transportation Planning Staff (CTPS) Traffic Analysis and Design Group and the Community Transportation Technical Assistance Program staff may be able to provide some technical assistance in obtaining traffic counts on the trail.

Update: Concord and Acton participated in the annual rail trail count program sponsored by CTPS in May and will participate again in May 2022.

9. **Additional grants being considered:** DHCD Local Rapid Recovery Planning grant application is for planning purposes only but anticipated to address projects that could assist in local economic recovery. This is a technical assistance grant where funds need to be expended by June 30, 2021.
Update: no project was identified for this program so no application was submitted.

10. **Update: Making the Connections and Taxi Grant programs:** The "Making the Connections" initiative was intended to develop pilot projects to provide subsidized taxi and ride-hailing rides, and other innovative on-demand transportation options for seniors, people with disabilities, financially vulnerable residents, and veterans, with the objective of providing them with transportation services to health and community resources as well as economic opportunities, with funding provided from MAPC in 2019. Consulting firm Nelson/Nygaard was selected as Program Manager for this initiative. In 2020, the Taxi, Livery and Hackney Partnership Grant program was created by MAPC (Metropolitan Area Planning Council) with MassDevelopment to provide funding for state and municipal agencies to contract with taxicab, livery or hackney businesses for transportation and delivery needs. These funds were available through a portion of the MassDevelopment Transportation Infrastructure Enhancement Fund, which come from a fee on Transportation Network Companies such as Uber and Lyft. Concord attended many of the meetings but was unable to implement a program due to lack of staffing. The program is expected to be completed by June 30, 2022.

11. **Update: Bruce Freeman Rail Trail:** Construction of the bridge over Route 2, which will connect the Acton and Concord portions of the BFRT, is expected to be completed by the end of July 2022. It is hoped that construction of the last ½ mile in Concord from Powder Mill Road south to the Sudbury town line will begin in the spring of 2023 as part of the next phase of the BFRT, which will include the portion of the trail in Sudbury to Route 20. Completion of this phase is expected in the fall 2024 or summer 2025.

3/10/2022 15:41

DRAFT
TRANSPORTATION ACTION PLAN
Select Board Focused Meeting with TAC
3/14/2022

NEED	Timing	Priority	Action
Public Transportation	Immediate		
Winter Transp. Conditions	Immediate		
Road Safety	Immediate		
Maintenance Management Plan	Immediate		
Complete Streets Comprehensive Plan	Long Term		
Ride Services	Long Term		
Student Transportation	Long Term		
Retail & Food Delivery	Long Term		
Long Term Funding	Long Term		

Who When

Article #	Title	SB recommendation	SB vote
1	Choose Town Officers	(no motion expected)	
2	Hear Reports	(no motion expected)	
3	Meeting Procedure	affirmative action, unanimous	3/7/2022
4	Ratify Personnel Board Classification Actions	affirmative action, 4 approved (Hen	3/7/2022
5	Classification & Compensation Plan for Regular-Status Position	affirmative action, unanimous	3/7/2022
6	Personnel Bylaw Amendment	affirmative action, 4 approved (Hen	3/7/2022
7	Use of Free Cash	affirmative action, unanimous	3/7/2022
8	FY22 Budget Line Item Adjustments		
9	FY23 Town Budget		
10	Capital Improvement and Debt Plan		
11	Senior Means-Tested Property Tax Exemption	affirmative action, unanimous	3/7/2022
12	Appropriation for Senior Means-Tested Tax Exemption	affirmative action, unanimous	3/7/2022
13	OPEB Trust Fund Appropriation	affirmative action, unanimous	3/7/2022
14	OPEB Trust Fund Expense	affirmative action, unanimous	3/7/2022
15	Establishing an Electrification Trust	(no motion expected)	
16	Citizen Petition: Five-Year Moratorium on the Installation of Synthetic Turf on Town Land	affirmative action, unanimous	3/7/2022
17	Minuteman Regional Technical High School District Budget		
18	Concord Public Schools Budget		
19	Concord Public Schools Capital Projects		
20	Appropriation to Stabilization Fund		
21	Concord-Carlisle Regional High School Budget		
22	Concord-Carlisle Regional High School Capital Projects		
23	Citizen Petition: Ranked Choice Voting for Concord Elections		
24	Appropriate Funds for Affordable Housing Development		
25	Assabet River Bluff Preservation Project		
26	Community Preservation Committee Appropriation Recommendations		
27	Amend Departmental Revolving Funds Bylaw	affirmative action, unanimous	3/7/2022
28	Authorize Expenditure of Revolving Funds Under Mass. Gen. L.	affirmative action, 4 approved (Hen	3/7/2022
29	Annual Appropriation of Parking Meter Receipts		
30	Scenic Roads General Bylaw		

31	Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Additional Dwelling Unit		
32	Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Formula Business		
33	Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Zoning Map & Thoreau Depot Business District		
34	Citizen Petition: Zoning Map Amendment – Residence A & Industrial Park B Zoning District Boundary		
35	Citizen Petition: Zoning Bylaw Section 10 Planned Residential Development Update		
36	Adopt Local Ballot Option Pursuant to Mass. Gen. Laws 53	on hold	3/7/2022
37	Citizen Petition: Authorize Select Board to Petition to Impose a Checkout Bag Charge	on hold	3/7/2022
38	Citizen Petition: Development Plan for Municipal Solar Generation	on hold	3/7/2022
39	Light Plant Expenditures & Payment in Lieu of Taxes		
40	Solid Waste Disposal Fund Expenditures		
41	Sewer System Expenditures		
42	Sewer Improvement Fund Expenditures		
43	Water System Expenditures		
44	Authorize Expenditure from PEG Access & Cable-Related Fund		
45	Beede Swim & Fitness Center Enterprise Fund Expenditures		
46	Citizen Petition: Reformatory Branch Trail Feasibility Study		
47	Citizen Petition: Preserve Concord's Reformatory Branch Trail		
48	Unpaid Bills	no action, unanimous	3/7/2022
49	Debt Rescission	no action, unanimous	3/7/2022