

PACTS Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

AGENDA

Thursday, April 2, 2020

9:30 AM -11:00 AM

Remote Meeting

In Attendance:

Name	Affiliation	Attendance
Tad Redway	Arundel	N
Greg Tansley	Biddeford	Y
Maureen O'Meara	Cape Elizabeth	Y
Carla Nixon	Cumberland	N
Kara Wooldrick	Portland Trails	Y
Theo Holtwijk	Falmouth	Y
VACANT	Freeport	N/A
Carlos Pena	FHWA	N
Leah Sirmin	FTA	N
Tom Poirier	Gorham	N
Carol Eyerman	Gorham	Y
Chris Mann	MaineDOT	Y
Patrick Adams	MaineDOT	Y
Vanessa Farr	North Yarmouth	N
Anne Lang	North Yarmouth	N
Michael Foster	Old Orchard Beach	Y
Bruce Hyman	Portland	Y
Don Willard	Raymond	Y
Emily Cole-Prescott	Saco	N
Jamel Torres	Scarborough	Y
Eric Sanderson	SMPDC	N
Justin Barker	South Portland	Y
Tex Haeuser	South Portland	Y
Zach Mosher	Standish	N
Art Handman	South Portland	Y
Jennie Franceschi	Westbrook	Y
Amanda Lessard	Windham	Y
Alex Jaegerman, Chair	Yarmouth	Y
Staff:		
Harold Spetla		
Kristina Egan		
Phaeng Southisombath		
Ryan Neale		

1. Welcome- Alex Jaegerman, Chair

Alex opened the meeting.

2. Remote Meeting Etiquette

Maureen opened the meeting, acting as Chair in place of Alex Jaegerman who dialed into the meeting.

3. Acceptance of 3/12/20 Minutes

Chris motioned to approve 2/6/2020 minutes; motion seconded by Tex; All were in favor.

Brief introductions of those in attendance of the meeting took place.

4. Public Comments

No public comment.

5. Motion to Replace Jay Chace as Vice Chair of the Committee

There was a brief conversation between Alex and Jamel about stepping into the Vice Chair position. Jamel agreed that he was willing to step into a role as Vice Chair.

Tex officially moved to nominate Jamel as Vice Chair and Chris Mann seconded. The Committee voted using the “Yes” and “No” buttons available on Zoom. Jamel was appointed unanimously with all in favor.

6. Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) Ad Hoc Committee Update

As a TIP Ad Hoc Committee member, Alex addressed the Committee. He noted that he and Maureen would be attending the first meeting on April 21st. Staff confirmed that AECOM had been hired as the consultant. The Committee and staff will work with AECOM to work on integrating the scoring process for transit funding and review how PACTS makes funding criteria decisions. Alex also noted that there will likely be no capital funding until 2023.

Alex sought insight into how the Planning Committee would like to be represented on the TIP Ad Hoc Committee. Tex mentioned that he hoped there would be funding for intersections and signals, which were identified as high PACTS priorities. Maureen sought feedback on the need to expand transit to currently unserved communities and how to balance that with quality and frequency in communities that are already served.

The Committee also spent a portion of time discussing potential federal transit funding that may arise due to the COVID-10 crisis. The situation is fluid and uncertain at the moment, so it will be important to stay tuned in and be ready to take action for funding.

7. Maine Climate Council Strategies Discussion—45 min.

The Committee performed a comprehensive review of the recommendations drafted by climate interested

volunteer planners. Alex advised the Committee that the intent was not to wordsmith the recommendations, but to offer suggestions to add to the draft. There was not time to go through multiple iterations, so Alex asked that the Committee be prepared to act by the end of the agenda item.

Chris Mann and Kristina reiterated that anyone who would like to attend future Transportation Working Group meetings is welcome and that they should contact Harold to arrange an invitation.

Maureen motioned to approve the recommendations as written, Chris Mann seconded. The topic was opened to discussion.

Alex emphasized that the volunteer planners intentionally steered away from providing too much detail in the recommendations. The intent is to keep the recommendations from being hung up on small details that may keep them from being approved as PACTS public comment by the Policy Committee. The presented draft recommendations were condensed from the original working document.

Tex provided an additional recommendation for a development impact fee based on trip generation and clarified that it was not only an impact fee on the driver.

Justin clarified the intention of providing grants and loans to existing development water and sewer infrastructure, as opposed to new development infrastructure, and Carol Eyeran clarified that this should be public water and sewer.

Maureen revised her motion to incorporate the highlighted changes made to the recommendations during the meeting and Kara seconded. All present voted in favor.

Kristina asked the Committee to consider how they would present the recommendations to the Policy Committee on April 23rd. Alex and Tex volunteered to attend and planned to follow up with other members for support. It will be important for the Committee members attending to arrive prepared for discussion surrounding the recommendations.

Staff planned to clean up the document to reflect the recommendation changes made throughout the meeting.

Finally, Tex advised the Committee members read "Climate Change: What Everyone Needs to Know" by Joseph Romm.

8. Adjourn.

Bruce made a motion to adjourn; Maureen seconded; All in favor.