



Town of Sudbury

<https://sudbury.ma.us/transportation/>

Zoom Virtual Meeting
Sudbury Transportation Committee
Minutes
Friday, July 10, 2020
10:30 AM

Core Members Present: Daniel Carty, Sandy Lasky, Adam Duchesneau, Doug Frey, Debra Galloway, Dan Nason

Core Members Absent: Alice Sapienza

Advisory Group Members Present: None

Guests: Linda Faust, Kay Bell, Mark Thompson

Confirmation of Quorum

The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, Dan Carty as chair convened the meeting at 10:33 AM.

Selection of Clerk

Debra Galloway volunteered to take meeting minutes.

Urgent COVID-19 Taxi-Livery Grant

Adam Duchesneau reported the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) has been inundated with Taxi-Livery Service grant applications and was still reviewing them. He stated a response from MAPC was anticipated in the next week or two. Dan Carty pointed out some of the legal language developed for the Taxi-Livery Service pilot may be transferrable to the Making the Connections pilot. Adam reported there was an agreement which needed to be executed between the Town and MAPC, assuming the Town was awarded grant funding. Additionally, he noted agreements between the Town and the two Taxi companies would also to be finalized before the service could be implemented. Adam stated he would send draft agreements and proposed waiver language to Town Counsel for review, and is hoping these documents could possibly be ready when the Town hears back from MAPC about the grant award decision.

Making the Connections Transportation Pilot Program Update

Adam Duchesneau reported the Town's contact at Uber, the Uber attorney, Town Counsel, Dan Carty, Alice Sapienza, and he had held a conference call the previous week and made progress on the Town/Uber Transportation pilot agreements. Adam stated the attorneys were working to finalize the remaining documents and he should be hearing back from them in the near future. Adam also noted the multi-municipal Making the Connections pilot project (working with Uber and other providers) is on hold for the time being, as the focus has been on communities dealing with the COVID-19 outbreak and the opportunity for the obtaining the special Urgent COVID-19 Taxi-Livery Grant from MAPC/Mass Development.

Concern was expressed about Uber's COVID safety protocols and Adam noted this was a detail which still needed to be worked out. He also stated it was probably unlikely the Making the Connections pilot would get underway until the pandemic had subsided.

Senior Center Van Service

Linda Faust expressed frustration as a visually impaired resident who is waiting for transportation options to start again. She has a need to get out of her apartment and be active again. She asked when the Sudbury Senior Center vans would be in service again. Debra Galloway shared that she understands Linda's frustration. However, restarting van transportation needs to be a careful process given the high-risk population served by the vans. Debra has been working on new proposed COVID compliant plan for restarting the van service, but there have been many parts to it. In addition, the MWRTA has been taking the vans in for service and adding a plastic partition between the driver and the passenger entry door, to protect both driver and passenger. Any plans to restart van service will be reviewed by both the Sudbury Town Manager and the MWRTA before implementation. Unfortunately, the risk of COVID infection still exists and most of the people who ride the van are in the high-risk category for COVID-19. Therefore, we want to take precautions and baby steps in terms of moving forward to restarting van service. However, the Senior Center recognizes the need and hopes to have a COVID safe policy and procedures ready soon.

Communications Plan

At a previous meeting, Sandy Lasky and Debra Galloway were tasked with developing and implementing a communications process and plan for both the COVID-19 Urgent Transportation grant (if approved) and the Making the Connection Sudbury On-demand Transportation Pilot. There was some discussion about how to proceed with communications. The COVID-19 grant may have limited funds, and so the initial thought was to target those people who are already known to have urgent transportation needs. Doug Frey pointed out that there may be others with needs who are not known to the Senior Center or Town Social Worker. We all agreed that we want to be fair and inclusive with information about the grants. We also plan to share information about the grants with the leadership at the three housing developments: Musketahquid Village, Longfellow Glen and Coolidge at Sudbury and to share it to the broader community as well. Doug volunteered to join Sandy and Debra to help with defining the process and implementing the communications plan.

Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Design Public Hearing – July 16, 2020

Adam Duchesneau inquired if the Transportation Committee wanted to provide comments regarding the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail (BFRT) 25% Design as part of a public hearing process which will be shared via video (in lieu of an in-person public hearing) on July 16, 2020. He noted comments could be submitted any time up until July 30, 2020. Dan Carty stated he would add this item to the Committee's next meeting agenda, and would send out a link to BFRT design and public hearing information to the Committee members. Adam Duchesneau indicated he would prepare a draft comment letter for the Committee to review in advance of the next meeting.

Approval of Minutes

The June 26, 2020 Minutes will be reviewed for approval at the next Transportation Committee meeting.

Action Items

- Sandy Lasky, Debra Galloway, and Doug Frey will meet virtually to discuss the Communications process.
- Dan Carty will send out the link to the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail Design Public Hearing and will resend the June 26, 2020 Transportation Committee Minutes.
- Dan Carty will request a copy of Uber's COVID-19 safety policies.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 24, 2020 at **10:45 AM** on the Zoom videoconferencing platform.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made at 11:12 AM, seconded and Committee unanimously agreed.