

Town of Mansfield
Transportation Advisory Committee
Agenda and Meeting Notice
Conference Room B, Audrey P. Beck Municipal Building
Thursday, December 20, 2012
7:30 PM

1. Call to order
2. Approval of the October 18, 2012 minutes
3. Correspondence and meeting reports
4. Old Business
 - a. Bikeway/walkway priority listing (update from October, 2012 meeting)
 - b. Transportation planning priorities and needs
 - c. Project updates
5. New Business
 - a. Council referral – South Eagleville Walkway (Maple to Separatist)
 - b. Bus shelter request – Community Center bus stop on S. Eagleville Road
 - c. 2012 Meeting dates
6. Other Business
7. Next meeting and Agenda Items
8. Adjournment

cc: Town Clerk
Town Manager
File

draft
Town of Mansfield Transportation Advisory Committee
Minutes of the Meeting – October 18, 2012

Present: Frantz (chair), Marcellino, Bigl (Commission on Aging), Bent (Mansfield Advocates for Children), Hultgren (staff), Grunwald (staff), Blanc (staff)

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 PM by Chair Frantz.

The minutes of the August 20, 2012 meeting were reviewed and no corrections made.

Frantz reported on the recent public hearing held in Mansfield by the CT Public Transportation Commission.

The current bikeway/walkway priority listing, previously discussed at the August, 2012 meeting, was reviewed again. Hultgren said that he had received a request to add the small piece of sidewalk that is missing between the corner of 195 and 275 and the Town Hall first driveway to the walkway listing. After some discussion, it was decided to include this 180 feet of walkway on the list as a priority “3” and to approve the listing in its revised form. Hultgren will circulate this revised listing to the various Town departments and committees.

Hultgren pointed out that a draft task list for operating the new Transportation Center was in the packet and that the operations plan will be developed over the next few months and any suggestions from committee members would be welcome.

Hultgren gave a brief update on the Town’s ongoing transportation-related projects, including the Stone Mill and Laurel Lane bridge replacement projects, the Storrs Center projects and the walkway to Storrs Heights. Grunwald reported that the new senior transportation van was expected in the next week or so.

The guests and staff from the Commission on Aging and Mansfield Advocates for Children were introduced and a discussion of the unmet public transportation needs in Mansfield ensued. Several areas of Town have public transportation needs for both seniors and children (examples: Route 32 corridor, Mansfield Library, schools and play areas) and the question as to how to address these needs was debated. Bent mentioned that her committee was working on surveying interest/needs in this area. After considerable discussion, it was decided that the guests would express these needs in a communication to the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) identifying and prioritizing them and staff would work to quantify/justify these needs using methodologies referenced in the transportation planning literature. The TAC would then orchestrate forwarding these to agencies that might be able to help – the DOT, WRTD, UCONN, etc. – as well as other Town departments/agencies in order to look to meet some of these needs on a priority basis. Different ways of meeting these needs, including the use of the new transportation center, will be suggested and examined.

The next meeting was set for Thursday, December 6, 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lon Hultgren
Director of Public Works

Data Sheet - Prioritized Mansfield Walkways (Worksheet -- Updated October, 2012)

Priority	Road Name	Section	Length (ft)	Est cost @ \$100/ft (5 ft walkway)	Est cost @ \$150/ft (8ft bikeway)	Est Cost for Design & ROW	Adjacent Homes, Businesses & Apts			Corridor Comments
							Homes	Bus Route?	Apt Bldgs & Other	
#1 Priority -- Funded, in design or under construction	N. Eagleville Rd	Hunting Lodge to Southwood	3,500	\$350,000		\$5,000	43	Yes	12	To Northwood Apts: UConn to design & fund with Town assistance to procure easements and wetland permit

#2 Priority -- High	Route 89	Route 195 to Library	1,300	\$130,000		\$42,000	35		1	Extension of Mansfield Center walkway
2	Route 89	Library to School	2,400	\$240,000		\$68,000	30		2	Further extension of Mansfield Center walkway
2	Route 275 (S. Eagleville Rd.)	Maple to Separatist	1,555	\$350,000		\$50,000	6	Yes	Glenn Ridge	Failed referendum Fall 2011.
2	Route 195	Big Y to Puddin La. (West Side)	2,800	\$280,000		\$80,000	30	Yes	11	Will continue sidewalk that begins at the Town line
2	Hunting Lodge Rd	Separatist to North Eagleville	2,010	\$201,000	\$281,400	\$50,000	10			Part of Town's N-S bike route
2	Hunting Lodge Rd	Birch Rd. to Goodwin School	250	\$25,000			10		2	Connects existing walkway to Goodwin School
2	Route 32	Route 31 to Vinton School	1,800	\$180,000		\$50,000	40		1	Connects Route 31 intersection to Vinton School
2	Route 32	Pleasant Valley Rd. to Price Rite Shopping Center	1,740	\$174,000	\$261,000	\$50,000	10		1	WRTD bus stop @ Windham Shopping Center -- no safe Mansfield access
2	Route 195	44 to Moulton Rd	4,225	\$422,500		\$80,000				2010 student design project
2	Route 195	Bassett's Bridge Rd to Puddin Lane	5,600	\$560,000		\$160,000	60	Yes	3	Connects walkway from Mansf Cr to Puddin Lane
2	Route 195	4 Corners to Holiday Mall	2,000	\$200,000	\$300,000	\$57,000	27	Yes	10	As per 2004 enhancement grant request. Needed for 4 corners dev.
2	Route 195	89 to Dodd Rd	900	\$90,000	\$126,000	\$60,000		Yes	1	North of Gen Store. Problem with historic fence between the road and the house.

#3 Priority -- Other	Eastwood Rd	Hillside Circ to Route 275	1,150	\$115,000		\$15,000	26			Will continue Hillside Circle walkway from campus that ends at Eastwood.
3	Genantville Rd	Pollack to rear mall entrance	760	\$76,000		\$10,000	18		27	Incl Eastbrook Condos

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							Homes	Bus Route?	Apt Bldgs & Other	
3	Spring Hill Rd	Maple to Davis	1,640	\$164,000		\$15,000	15			Segment on Town's N-S bike route
3	Maple Rd	Fieldstone Dr. to Spring Hill	1,100	\$110,000		\$31,000	10		10	Incl Millbrook Apts
3	Maple Rd	Fieldstone Dr to Davis Rd	6,500	\$650,000		\$185,000	80+		30+	Requested by Maple Rd. area residents
3	Route 195	Other pinch points	tbd							shoulder improvements
3	Bousa Road	Chaffeeville Rd to Hillcrest Rd	1320	\$132,000		\$264,000	25+			Connector is now gravel
3	Route 275 (S. Eagleville Rd.)	Separatist Rd. to Route 32					45		20 +	Recent request under review
3	Route 275 (S. Eagleville Rd.)	Rte 195 to Town Hall Driveway	180	\$20,000		0		Yes		Corner to Town Hall driveway
Totals			42,730	\$4,469,500	\$1,262,400	1,046,000				

Item #6



**Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary**

To: Town Council
From: Matthew Hart, Town Manager *Matt*
CC: Cherie Trahan, Director of Finance; Lon Hultgren, Director of Public Works
Date: October 22, 2012
Re: S. Eagleville Walkway Project - Bond Authorization Discussion

Subject Matter/Background

The Finance Committee has had several discussions regarding the bond authorization of the South Eagleville Walkway project (\$400,000) approved the in 2011/12 Capital Improvement Program (CIP). A question was raised by the Committee as to whether the Town Council has the authority to eliminate this project from the CIP budget. We consulted the Town Attorney and he confirmed that there is no provision in the Charter for cancelling/eliminating a project that has been approved at the Annual Town Meeting. However, Section C506(f) of the Town Charter allows for the abandonment of a project if three fiscal years lapse without any expenditure or encumbrance of the appropriation. Attorney O'Brien's opinion is attached for your reference.

The South Eagleville Walkway project was approved to begin in FY 2011/12 (July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012) with a funding source identified as bonding. Recall that this project was sent to referendum for bond approval in November, 2011. The referendum vote was 1,152 in favor and 995 opposed. However, the vote did not satisfy Section C407 of the Mansfield Charter, which requires a minimum of 15 percent of all registered voters to vote in favor of the proposed project at referendum. In order to move forward with this project, by June 30, 2014 the Town must obtain bond authorization and make an encumbrance or expenditure on the project.

The Finance Committee would like the full Council to discuss whether this project should be allowed to lapse, and, if not, when this project should be brought to the voters for bonding approval.

Several options are available:

- The Town Council may bring this project to a town meeting for bond authorization in FY 2012/13 providing the aggregate amount of bond authorizations for the fiscal year does not exceed one percent of the

annual budget, or \$450,000. If the aggregate amount exceeds one percent, it must go to referendum for approval.

- The same action as above could be taken in FY 2013/14. In either case, an expenditure or encumbrance must take place prior to June 30, 2014 or the project would lapse per the town charter.
- The Council could chose not to bring this to town meeting or referendum for bond approval at all and the project would lapse automatically on June 30, 2014.

Recommendation

Prior to making a decision to allow the project to lapse, I recommend that the Council refer this project to the Transportation Advisory Committee and perhaps other advisory committees to solicit their input regarding the need and importance of this project as part of the Town's overall walkway/bikeway plan. The advisory committees and staff could also provide options regarding the design and budget of the proposed project, if that is desired by the Council.

Attachments

- 1) 10/04/12 Letter from Dennis O'Brien, Town Attorney
- 2) Prioritized Mansfield Walkways (August 2012)



TOWN OF MANSFIELD
MANSFIELD ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599
Tel: (860) 429-3315
Fax: (860) 429-7785
E-Mail: SocServ@mansfieldct.org

November 28, 2012

Town of Mansfield
Town Council
4 South Eagleville Rd.
Storrs, CT 06268

Dear Council Members:

We are writing again in regards to the proposed walkway on South Eagleville Rd. from Sycamore Drive to Maple Rd. You may recall that this committee contacted the Council in January of 2011 and encouraged you to seek a source of funding that would enable the Town to build this as soon as possible. We are aware that this was included in the FY 2012 budget, and that it was subsequently defeated in a budget referendum. We continue to believe that this project represents a significant advancement for seniors and residents with disabilities by connecting the Glen Ridge retirement community to Wrights Way and the Mansfield Senior Center, along with linking to the existing walkway to the Community Center, the Town Hall complex, and the Storrs Downtown development.

We would like to encourage the Council to seek another source of funding to build this walkway once again. While we understand that this is a costly project, we believe that it represents a significant investment in the Town's infrastructure that will go a long way towards improving the quality of life for seniors and people with disabilities.

Please let us know how to best proceed in pursuing this issue. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Frederick Goetz
Chair

cc. Transportation Advisory Committee

12/10/12 Shelter Request



**TOWN OF MANSFIELD
COMMISSION ON AGING**

AUDREY P. BECK BUILDING
FOUR SOUTH EAGLEVILLE ROAD
MANSFIELD, CT 06268-2599
Tel: (860) 429-3315
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E-Mail: SocServ@mansfieldct.org

June 11, 2012

To: Transportation Advisory Committee
From: Commission on Aging

It is our understanding that it is the Town of Mansfield's responsibility to erect and maintain bus stops and shelters. The Commission on Aging has previously brought your attention to the bus stop located across from the Mansfield Community Center on South Eagleville Road. It was mentioned that this stop presents some problems for patrons embarking and disembarking because of the terrain where the stop is located. With the temporary loss of the bus stop in front of the Town Hall this stop is now being used by more and more riders, and we feel that it is time to erect a shelter at this site. The Commission would appreciate anything you can do with respect to this matter.

We hope you will find our suggestions useful. If we may be of any further assistance, feel free to contact us.

April Holinko,
Chair, Commission on Aging

Cc: Town Council
Commission on Aging