

ROUTE 6 REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2011

CALL TO ORDER: 9:15AM by Joyce Stille

PLACE: Columbia Town Hall

ROLL CALL: Joyce Stille (Town Administrator – Town of Bolton); Eric M. Trott (Planner – Town of Coventry); Vera Englert (EDC – Town of Columbia); John Pagini (Planner – Town of Bolton); Elaine Buchardt (EDC – Town of Andover); Carmen Vance (Selectman – Town of Columbia); Jana Butts (WINCOG/Planner – Town of Columbia); Leigh Ann Hutchinson (PZC – Town of Andover); Anna Bergeron (CT-DOT); Lia Huang (CRCOG); Jeff Parker (CHA); Rob Aloise (CRCOG); Casey Hardin (CHA)

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Buchardt and seconded by Pagini to adopt the September 26, 2011 minutes with the following modifications: Yeomans does not have an apostrophe; page 1 insert the word 'lane' for 'land'. The motion passed unanimously.

TRANSPORTATION STUDY:

Lia asked that the Council begin thinking about the preferred alternatives from the various ones that have been presented to assist in narrowing the focus of the consultant.

Jeff Parker reviewed the continued analysis of the preliminary concepts. Jeff reported that they will be meeting with DOT in November and that representatives from Bolton will be present as well.

**BOLTON:**

The concepts referred to as E1 and E2 have been merged into an E concept. This concept includes a flyover and a Notch Road connector and will avoid impacts to the post office plaza. A new connection to RTE 44 will be provided and the Hop River Trail connection will follow the Notch Road connector. The level of service will be improved with this alternative. A \$15 million price is expected for this alternative. The REDC agrees that this is the preferred option to pursue.

Concept B - Not to be pursued.

A Bolton Notch and Crossroads connector with a Howard Road spur was reviewed. The affect on existing businesses needs to be conducted.

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**COVENTRY:**

This option involves the improvement with the South Street intersection by relocating approximately 6/10 of a mile of road onto the Coventry site property. A crossing over Ash Brook would be required. A \$10 million cost is anticipated.

**ANDOVER:**

Concept C – Split RTE 6 in a one-way fashion with village style improvements. One house will need to be taken with this option. Approximately 100,000 sf of new development area would be created. There would need to be a large amount of filling required to accommodate the development area. The issue of business visibility was discussed. Impacts to the existing DPW were also discussed. A phased approach is another possibility. The Council discussed how this concept should be shared with the public when compared to what was previously discussed at the public information meeting. The concept A was discussed as it relates to concept C.

**COLUMBIA:**

Concept C – 2 land roundabout with additional ‘village’ development area and boulevard. Some development would occur in an already disturbed floodplain area. A question was raised regarding building setback requirements as it relates to building orientation/location. A higher floor area ration could be achieved at this location. This particular option is preferred by the Council.

The comparison matrix was distributed to the Council in order to evaluate the various concepts. The Council was asked to review and provide comment by the next meeting on November 7. The level of service impacts are a key ingredient to the success of each concept. Safety improvements will encourage the funding of particular concepts.

It was agreed that more background information will be necessary for the next round of public information meetings to educate on roundabouts.

The next round of public forums are proposed in December.

John mentioned that Mark Branse will review the draft corridor regulations and provide a cost estimate to review and suggest streamlined incorporations into the 4 town zoning regulations.

The Zoning Committee continues to meet and review the draft regulations. Jana’s work with the visual mapping tools were of great assistance for the Committee. Incentive concepts for shared parking are being discussed as well.

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NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is scheduled for November 7, 2011.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:12am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric M. Trott

Secretary