

ROUTE 6 REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, MAY 21, 2012

CALL TO ORDER: 9:10AM by Joyce Stille

PLACE: Columbia Town Hall

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Trott and seconded by Pagini to adopt the minutes of May 7, 2012 as presented. The motion was passed unanimously with Englert abstaining.

TRANSPORTATION STUDY:

Jeff Parker reviewed the comments that were received from the REDC members.

John inquired about the following items: trail lowering in Andover - It was confirmed that the trail was to remain elevated without mentioning the potential of lowering it to street level; bike parking at village nodes would be mentioned; consistent gateway signage should be placed at all nodes.

Jana inquired about the following items: the trailhead at the Willimantic River is very important and even though site line is not completely adequate, it should still be noted as an important feature; the Lighthouse property should be discussed in a separate paragraph due to its significance.

Vera inquired about the following items: raised medians vs. recessed/flush medians – should both be mentioned as options for design; view corridors are to be provided on revised concept plans at Lighthouse Corner; the crosswalk at Coventry Ridge does not appear necessary, due to distance to connect with Hop River Trail.

Leigh Ann inquired about the following items: what does the term 'on-alignment' mean on page 4-3? Jeff will address; what is the difference between 30' and 50' driveways? Jeff discussed the access management benefits.

Jeff further indicated that accident information will also be discussed for key locations.

Jana applauded CHA's effort on the preparation of an excellent report.

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The implementation plan was discussed. Jeff wishes to eliminate confusion with the matrix to ensure the clarity between priorities and time frames. A number of different methods to list and categorize exist. For example, the projects could be grouped by Town or size of project. The difference between 'community' priorities vs. 'transportation' is another option. Cross referencing project descriptions in the table would be helpful. Safety needs and benefits were examined and scored to consider certain priorities, such as mobility or access improvements.

The format of the public meetings was discussed. An open house format was agreed to be best, similar to the prior public forums last year. Comment cards were considered.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is when CHA will return, which will be on June 18.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:03am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric M. Trott

Secretary