

Scarborough Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

1. Attendance: Craig Robinson, Roger Beeley, Tuck Barclay, Portia Hirschman, Stanis Moody-Roberts, and Jon Anderson (Councilor)
 - Staff: Angela Blanchette (Town Engineer)
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes April 29, 2025
 - Motion to Approve: Portia Hirschman, seconded by Stanis Moody-Roberts
 - Motion passes unanimous
3. Safe Streets 4 All Presentation by GPCOG
 - Cashel Stewart presented on the Safe Streets 4 All grant project located at the intersection of Route 1 and Sawyer Road in Scarborough. This is part of a larger Federal grant opportunity being administered through GPCOG.
 - Roundabout Study will be coming this fall. The Committee was interested in learning more about roundabout opportunities and education on design and site selections. GPCOG will be developing an educational seminar that will be open to all who are interested in attending.
 - Stantec is the designer of the SS4A projects. There are 6 communities that are part of this grant, including Scarborough.
 - Outcome of the project is a 30% design, so that the Town can be eligible to request construction funding as the next grant is rolled out.
 - Project includes providing a safe pedestrian crossing and enhance bike lanes in corridor. Additional sidewalks are included along the northbound side of the corridor, as well as, showing sidewalk down Sawyer Road and adjusting the southbound side sidewalk.
 - Project includes removal of slip lane on the northbound. A committee member commented on the need to remove this, because it currently serves as a place for motorist to reverse direction on Route 1. The Town will continue to look at this issue, and possibly do traffic counts to see if motorists are utilizing this as a turn-around, and if not, education and signage around this topic may be done to help.
 - Another feature provided in the 30% design is a transit pull-over in front of the Veterans Home.

- More design will need to happen; however, this is a starting point for the Town to continue developing. It shows the overall vision, but more work will need to take place to get to construction.
- Staff met with Public Works Dept, Police Dept, and Fire Dept. who has made comments that informed the design that the Committee is seeing at the meeting. This is a critical intersection for our Public Safety personnel entering and exit through out the day and night.

4. Town survey Transportation Questions Review

- The Communications Committee will be reviewing potential questions associated with the 2025 Townwide Survey. It is anticipated to go out to residents this fall. In the past the Transportation Committee has provided input on questions to try to determine the needs and desire of the public in terms of traffic, roadways, transit, sidewalks, and bike facilities.
- It is important to repeat questions from previous years to be able to show progress or trends in the data. There is however an opportunity to add questions. In past discussions at Transportation Committee meetings it has been a concern that the questions asked only give a general like/dislike options. It is important to determine if safety or mobility is a higher priority for residents. Therefore, the committee members suggested having residents prioritize transportation and traffic related elements.

General Committee Member Comments:

- 1) Transportation became the surrogate for growth when growth was not an option to select. It is not clear whether Transportation is an issue because of safety concerns or capacity issues as people want to go as quickly from one end of town to the other.
- 2) When asking how long residents have been in town the options should be expanded to include 30+.

Transportation-related Committee Member Comments:

- 1) We need to capture the importance of safety vs. capacity on the roadways:
 - It was suggested that we include a ranking mechanism for residents to prioritize: safety, concerns with delays on our roadways, capacity on the roadways/congestion
 - 2) It was suggested that the major transportation components are ranked by priority including: increase in number of bikeways, increase in number of sidewalks, increase in public transit availability, increase in traffic calming measures
- Jon Anderson is a member of the Council's Communications Committee and will convey the needs from the Transportation Committee to the group.

5. Project Updates

- Angela reviewed the follow projects:
 - Reimagine Route 1: Public input is being requested. Angela requested that the committee members participate in the online survey if they have not already.
 - Eastern Trail Close the Gap: Construction kick-off was last week. Ground breaking ceremony will be scheduled in the next few weeks. Anticipated completion for section from Wainwright to Pleasant Hill Rd is October 2026. Anticipated completion for section from

Pleasant Hill Rd to Nonesuch crossing is October 2027. We will provide the committee with continued updates as we move through this project.

- Black Point Road Reconstruction Project: the project has been completed and Town staff is working with FEMA to close out the project.
- East Grand Avenue Complete Streets Project – Final design kick-off. On July 29th we are hosting a neighborhood meeting to go over the work that was done years ago (2015-2018) and give residents the opportunity to provide feedback before we get into the final design work. Committee members commented that we need to incorporate the Vulnerability Assessment work into this project. The ability to elevate due to the close proximity of the buildings is limited however we will look to incorporate a resilient design.
- Scottow Hill Road – Staff met with Army Corps of Engineers and DEP. We are not able to work in the tidal waters until November. In the meantime, staff is evaluating options that can be reviewed by residents and council for either replacement or restoration of the brook and the costs associated with each alternative.

6. Public Comments

- No public comments

7. Adjourn (8:07 PM)