

# Martha's Vineyard Joint Transportation Committee

c/o Martha's Vineyard Commission, Box 1447, Oak Bluffs, 02557 508-893-3453

## **Minutes of the Meeting held on May 2, 2007 at the offices of the Martha's Vineyard Commission**

### **In Attendance**

#### Voting Members

Steve Berluca, County of Dukes County

Stuart Fuller, Town of Edgartown

Deb Cini, Town of West Tisbury

Dan Greenbaum, Town of Chilmark

#### Ex-officio Members

Angela Grant, VTA

Mark London, MVC

David Whitmon, bikes and pedestrians

#### Others

Bob Clermont, Thrifty Car Rental

Art Flathers, citizen

Jim Miller, MVC

Bill Venno, MVC

Jeff Kristal, citizen

Steve Berluca, Chair, opened the meeting at 10:36 p.m.

### **1. Minutes**

- The minutes of the April 11, 2007 were corrected and adopted.

### **2. Public Participation Plan (PPP)**

Regarding the PPP draft of April 2007:

- Jim Miller presented the changes discussed at the last meeting. Specifically:
  - additional detail in the Introduction regarding the JTC's commitment to public participation, and ways in which the public can be involved.
  - clarify membership in the JTC, which would include:
    - eight voting members (adding the Tribe to improve coordination),
    - specifically listed *ex-officio* members who would be recruited,
    - and other categories that may choose to provide *ex-officio* members.
- Slight typographical corrections were agreed to.
- Steve Berluca suggested that the JTC write a letter to the Tribe officially inviting them to appoint a Voting Member to the JTC. Jim Miller will write the letter. It was agreed that until the Tribe agrees to appoint a representative, the word "invited" should appear after the listing of the Tribe's representative.
- Steve Berluca suggested deleting the phrase limiting the Chair to two terms. There was no objection.
- Art Flathers suggested changes including a definition of transportation, and a mention of consideration of economic circumstances in transportation decision-making. Wording was agreed to that better reflected the Island's dependence on multi-modal transportation. It was agreed that economic decisions are implicitly dealt with in the requirements of the RTP, TIP, and other documents.
- This led to a long discussion of the JTC's role as an advisory body, and whether the JTC's role is simply to produce the TIP and other documents, or if a wider planning role would be more appropriate, and if so, if the MOU/COS would need to be amended to

accommodate the SSA or others. Jim Miller reported that other MOU's EOT provided for comparison listed only the four signatories included in the MV COS. Angela Grant expressed the VTA's concerns with enlarging the COS, and suggested investigating the JTC membership in other regions with specific regard to transit. Bob Clermont opined that expanding the COS does not seem to be in our best interest. Angela Grant suggested a working group to explore the subject, and noted that the VTA, SSA, and MVY used to be voting members of the JTC, and that the role of the JTC was never strictly seen as simply creating the TIP. Mark London suggested that a wider planning role for the JTC may be appropriate, in coordination with development of the Island Plan, but that the Transportation subgroup of the Island Plan won't become active until Fall. It was agreed to continue this discussion at a later date.

- Angela Grant suggested different wording in lieu of "representative of persons with limited mobility." This led to a wider discussion as to the goal of this representative. It was decided to create a representative for the elderly community, as well as one for the disabled community. Angela Grant supplied language.
- Jeff Kristal suggested adding an ex-officio member from the Chamber of Commerce. There were no objections.
- ***The JTC voted to release the PPP for a 45-day public-comment period. Unless there is substantive public comment requiring further consideration by the JTC, the document is recommended for approval by the Committee of Signatories. The motion was adopted unanimously.***

### **3. Other**

- Jim Miller presented the letter written by the bike/ped subcommittee, which was met with approval. Jeff Kristal suggested sending the letter to mvol.com and the Chamber of Commerce for them to publish it on their websites, which seems like a good idea. It was noted that the bike/ped subcommittee intends this letter to be just the beginning of a larger campaign promoting bicycle safety.
- ***The JTC voted to amend the TIP to change the name of the 2007 TIP project to "Resurfacing of Lake Street and Oak Bluffs Avenue", and to increase the cost of the Sengekontacket bridges to \$15,240,000, as directed by EOT. Unless there is substantive public comment requiring further consideration by the JTC, the document is recommended for approval by the Committee of Signatories. The motion was adopted unanimously.***
- Jim Miller summarized the letter from Joe Eldredge of the Christiantown Rd. Ass'n sent to the JTC regarding intersections in his neighborhood. The West Tisbury representative took it under advisement.
- Discussion of the DRI review process and policy was tabled due to time constraints.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:59 p.m.

The next JTC meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 6, 2007 at 10:30 a.m.