

MARTHA'S VINEYARD JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting held on October 5, 2005, 9:00 a.m. at the offices of the Martha's Vineyard Commission

In Attendance

Voting Members

Steve Berlucchi, County of Dukes County
Stuart Fuller, Town of Edgartown
Al DeVito, Town of West Tisbury
John Bugbee, Town of Tisbury

Bob Clermont, Citizen
Mark London, MVC
Dan Greenbaum, Citizen
David Whitmon, Citizen

Ex-Officio Members

Mary Snyder, Citizen
Fred Lapiana, Town of Tisbury
Lois Crane, VTA

Observers

Srinivas Sattoor, MVC
Rachel Bain, EOT
Mark Carmichael, Mass Highway
Tim Konchan, Mass Highway

Steve Berlucchi, Chair, opened the meeting at 9.10 a.m.

1. Adoption of the Minutes

The minutes of the September 7, 2005 meeting were adopted.

2. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Resurfacing New York Ave., Towanticut:

- The existing width of the pavement is 28 ft, which includes 24 ft fog line to fog line, 2 ft shoulders and 2 ft berms.
- Mark Carmichael suggested making the new berms only 1 ft wide, and eliminating them altogether wherever possible, to widen the available pavement for bicyclists. They would also cut vegetation along the road to improve safety and look at relocating signs in dangerous locations.
- Mark London suggested paving the first few feet of driveways that are higher than the road to reduce runoff of sand onto the shoulders. It is also important that there be better maintenance to remove sand on the side of the road. According to a study conducted by the hospital emergency room, this is a leading cause of accidents.
- Mark Carmichael said that this work would also involve repairing the drainage, (e.g. at the hospital) and rehabilitating sidewalks at Five Corners. He expects to use district statewide

maintenance money to supplement the money programmed for FFY 06. He also noted to expect the work to start next spring, if not in the fall.

Temporary Drawbridge:

- It was noted that the increase in the cost was partly to reflect the demolition of the existing structure.
- MassHighway is still awaiting the Coast Guard permit.

Tisbury - Main Street Infrastructure Preservation Project.

- The project involves resurfacing Main Street from Fairfield Ave. to Iroquois Ave.
- The work will be similar to Franklin Street except for the issue of sidewalks on the left side.

Pine Tree Road Infrastructure Preservation Projects:

- The project involves resurfacing, drainage installation and about 4 leeching pits on Pine Tree Road from State Road to Tisbury School.

William Street Historic District Project:

- Steve Berlucchi is working on the design work
- The project involves replacing existing sidewalks in the historic district using concrete with exposed aggregate and granite curbing.

Tisbury System of Connector Roads:

- The new road system would alleviate congestion along the State Road corridor and at the Look Street Intersection and would provide better access to the Park and Ride. .
- There will be a town meeting on November 1 to decide on whether or not to proceed with the connector road concept.
- Mark Carmichael suggested classifying the new road at a level that would make them eligible for TIP funding.
- The cost is estimated at \$1.0-1.5 million. It might be eligible for PWED or transit funding for providing access to the park and ride & multimodal center. This would maintain town control of the project.
- The town should review the overall project with EOT and ask for assistance.
- The project should be mentioned in the Regional Transportation Plan.

State Road/Old County Road intersection:

- It was noted that the base plans were ready and couple of engineers are working on it.
- Steve Berlucchi noted that there were at least 2 accidents there in the recent years and was asked to fax all accident reports in recent 3 yrs to District 5.
- Mark Carmichael noted that this project is enough of a priority in Boston to possibly hire a consultant. He will aim to get this done by 2008.
- To initiate town and citizen involvement, it was suggested that a simple concept drawing be prepared for discussions with the community.
- The possibility of having a school zone near the Charter School was raised. Mark Carmichael outlined the general criteria for school zones, and said that a formal request would be needed from the Board of Selectmen. The fact that there are now walkways in the area reinforces the request. Steve Berlucchi was asked to prepare the necessary application.

West Tisbury Pathways:

- The project involves building a 4 feet pathway from Youth Hostel to Alleys General Store in West Tisbury, which would involve a boardwalk along the edge of Mill Pond. Mark Carmichael says that although this doesn't meet State standards, it should be acceptable where there are no obstacles.
- It was suggested that this boardwalk on Mill Pond be widened by couple of feet in order to be less confining for people using it. It was also suggested that it be an ecological design that is a positive amenity for the pond, perhaps as a nature observation area with benches and interpretation panels.

Mill Brook Culvert:

- The project involves reconstructing a culvert on State Road in West Tisbury.
- MHD is looking for a consultant. If this works out, it could be done sooner than 2009.
- It was suggested that this needs community input from initial stages of planning due to its historic significance.

Edgartown – Main Street Infrastructure Preservation Project:

- The project involves resurfacing and rehabilitating sidewalks on Main Street from West Tisbury Road to Peases Point Way.
- Stuart Fuller noted that the sidewalks are crumbling and the 2 bike paths terminate at the upstream end. The work should include a painted bike lane to get close to town.

Tribal Roads

- These should be included in the TIP.

3. Other Issues

- Mark London summarized his discussion about road reclassification with Mark Berger; he noted that according to FHWA regulations, all classified roads are eligible for federal funds provided the amount programmed for the minor roads does not exceed 15% of the State target. It is MassHighway's policy not to fund rural minor collectors. We should ask MassHighway to change this policy for the Vineyard.
- The Draft State Transportation Plan is out for public review and the comments are due this fall.
- The draft version of the new Highway Design Handbook was sent to Regional Planning Agencies for preliminary comment. Mark London will draft a response, particularly about the fact that no Vineyard roads would meet the proposed minimum standards for design speed, lane and shoulder width, and clear roadside area.
- Should include projects on the Indian Reservation Roads in the regions TIP.

The meeting was adjourned at 11.00 am

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 2 at 10.30 am at the MVC offices.