

## PACTS Planning Committee Meeting

### AGENDA

Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Remote Meeting

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81294322395>

Telephone: 301 715 8592

Webinar ID: 812 9432 2395

As of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020, PACTS and GPCOG are holding all committee meetings via [Zoom conferencing technology](#). We remain committed to full public access and participation in our meetings through remote access during the COVID-19 crisis. Remote meetings will be held in accordance with the requirements of [LD 2167, Public Law Chapter 618](#).

Both the chat and Q&A features will be turned off during PACTS and GPCOG meetings to ensure full public access to telephone participants and to avoid the confusion of side conversations.

Public comment will be taken verbally during the public comment period. Members of the public who wish to speak should “raise their hands.” Participants joining by computer or mobile app can click on the “Raise Hand” button. Participants joining by telephone can dial \*9.

#### 1. Welcome - Alex Jaegerman, Chairman

#### 2. Public Comments

Residents are welcome to provide up to three minutes of public comment on any issue, including items on the agenda.

#### 3. Acceptance of 7/23/20 Minutes (Attachment A)

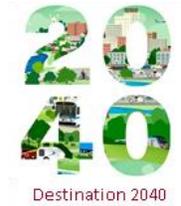
#### 4. Project Updates—15 min. (Attachment B)

The following project updates are attached:

- Transit Tomorrow – *Next meeting is September 25<sup>th</sup>*
- Biddeford-Saco Transit-Oriented-Development
- Maine Climate Council Transportation Working Group – *Next meeting is September 9<sup>th</sup>*
- South Portland Mill Creek to Cushing’s Point Multimodal Corridor Study
- Preliminary Design Report Set Aside Applications

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Questions on specific projects may be addressed at this time.

***Proposed Action: For information only.***

## 5. Regional Coordination Around Tidal Restrictions — 25 min.

Matt Craig (Casco Bay Estuary Partnership) and Jeremy Gabrielson (Maine Coast Heritage Trust) will join us to explore potential regional coordination around efforts to address tidal restrictions. National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's (NFWF) Coastal Resilience Fund is a new competitive, national grant source for funding infrastructure projects that enhance coastal resilience. A regional coordinated application that bundles several projects is more likely to be nationally competitive than individual projects. Jeremy and Matt will provide a brief overview of available funding sources and gather input on how to approach inter-local coordination in addressing identified tidal restrictions.

Inventories and/or prioritization(s) of tidal crossings that your communities have prepared will be useful for this discussion. Jeremy and Matt can also provide a brief update on an ongoing effort, led by Maine Coastal Program, to develop better guidance for road managers on addressing tidal restrictions (CoastWise).

***Proposed Action: For information and discussion only.***

## 6. Adjourn.



**Attachment A**  
**PACTS Planning Committee Meeting Minutes**

**AGENDA**

**Thursday, July 23, 2020**

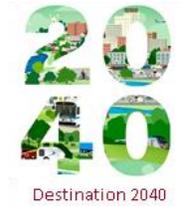
**9:00 AM -10:30 AM**

**Remote Meeting**

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Tad Redway	Arundel	N
Greg Tansley	Biddeford	Y
Maureen O'Meara	Cape Elizabeth	Y
Carla Nixon	Cumberland	N
Kara Wooldrick	Portland Trails	Y
Theo Holtwijk	Falmouth	Y
VACANT	Freeport	N/A
Carlos Pena	FHWA	N
Leah Sirmin	FTA	N
Carol Eyerman	Gorham	Y
Chris Mann	MaineDOT	Y
Anne Lang	North Yarmouth	N
Michael Foster	Old Orchard Beach	N
Bruce Hyman	Portland	N
Don Willard	Raymond	N
Emily Cole-Prescott	Saco	N
Jamel Torres, Vice Chair	Scarborough	Y
Eric Sanderson	SMPDC	N
Justin Barker	South Portland	N
Zach Mosher	Standish	N
VACANT	Transit Committee	N
Jennie Franceschi	Westbrook	Y
Amanda Lessard	Windham	N
Alex Jaegerman, Chair	Yarmouth	Y
<b>Guests</b>		
Tom Poirier	Gorham	
Jim Tasse	Bicycle Coalition of Maine	
Dan Ostrye	Yarmouth Trails	
Sue Ellen Bordwell	Casco Bay Trail Alliance	
<b>For GPCOG</b>		
Phaeng Southisombath, Harold Spetla		

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## 1. Welcome- Alex Jaegerman, Chair

Alex opened the meeting at approximately 9:00 A.M.

## 2. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

## 3. Acceptance of 5/14/20 Meeting Minutes

Maureen O’Meara moved to approve the 5/14/2020 minutes and the motion was seconded by Chris Mann; Alex Jaegerman, Greg Tansley, Chris Mann, Maureen O’Meara, Kara Wooldrik, voted to approve the minutes. Carol Eyeran and Theo Holtwijk abstained from voting as they did not attend the May meeting.

## 4. Project Updates

Harold encouraged Planning Committee members to attend the next Transit Tomorrow Project Advisory Committee meeting in September and offered to pass along questions to Rick Harbison, the Transit Tomorrow project manager. Maureen O’Meara asked how the Transit Tomorrow plan would balance expanding local connections and improving the existing infrastructure. Kara Wooldrick, a Transit Tomorrow PAC member, responded to Maureen’s question by noting that the group had discussed balancing needs and addressed the regional development patterns that have necessitated some new network to serve new and different populations. Maureen expressed that each request for new service should be scrutinized to ensure appropriate spending and emphasizing the uses that make the most sense for the region.

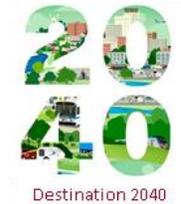
Alex also encouraged Planning members to attend the September Transit Tomorrow PAC meeting and asked Harold to share information on how to sign up for notifications for future committee meetings, as well as a draft of the Transit Tomorrow document evaluating COVID-19’s impact on transit in the future.

## 5. PACTS Complete Streets Policy Discussion

Alex Jaegerman introduced the discussion by providing a summary of an on-going project in Yarmouth involving the Exit 15 bridge, crossing I-295, which the Town of Yarmouth would like to have designed with a 10-foot multi-use pathway across the span of the bridge. Dan

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Ostrye provided additional information on how this section was utilized by bicyclists and pedestrians and emphasized the regional significance for an accessible and safe path at this location. Dan also noted that the municipality felt a limited technical capacity to interpret and discuss some of the plans designed by MaineDOT. Dan expressed a desire for constructive collaboration between the state, region, and municipality.

Dan Ostrye and Jim Tasse presented several proposed designs from previously drawn plans and walked the Committee through the design details. Sue Ellen Bordwell noted that the current MaineDOT design is not consistent with the Main Street Route 1 bridge in Yarmouth.

Carol Eyerma asked if there were any existing master plans for this location in Yarmouth. Jim Tasse noted that the *PACTS North of Portland Route 1 Corridor Plan* did identify this location, though not with the details described by Dan and Jim earlier in the meeting. Carol followed up by asking if MaineDOT considers PACTS master plans when making decisions. Chris Mann responded that MaineDOT does take PACTS master plans into consideration and Alex Jaegerman added that MaineDOT does convene a bridge advisory group with the municipality.

Maureen O’Meara asked for clarification on what was being requested from PACTS—support for Yarmouth’s request for a more comprehensive look at bridge design to accommodate bicycle and pedestrian traffic. She also noted that Route 1 was the third most significant roadway in our region and that Yarmouth has a substantial pre-existing bicycle and pedestrian network. Due to the regional significance and existing infrastructure, Maureen expressed her support toward having PACTS request that MaineDOT assess the need for a more robust complete street design.

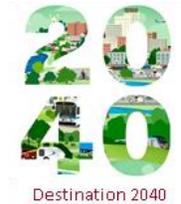
Theo Holtwijk asked if there was an alternatives analysis that would allow the Committee to compare different design options and costs. Jim Tasse confirmed that there were three alternatives in the MaineDOT preliminary design report, which Jim offered to provide for Alex following the meeting. Alex distributed the PDR to the Committee following the meeting.

Greg Tansley voiced his opposition to taking any official action on this agenda item, citing the written recommended action as “information only” and the notable low attendance due to another PACTS meeting taking place at the same time.

Maureen noted that Jim Tasse is the Chair of the Cape Elizabeth Conservation Committee, which Maureen staffs. Maureen made a motion, based on Route 1’s regional significance and the existing multimodal infrastructure in the Town of Yarmouth, to have the PACTS

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Planning Committee request that MaineDOT consider more robust accommodations for multimodal design on the Exit 15 bridge. Carol Eyerman provided a second on the motion.

Tom Poirier expressed the need for more information about this project—background, budget, what steps have been taken throughout the process up to this point. Theo Holtwijk also mentioned the need for more information about the project. Theo noted that a split vote in this situation would not be beneficial for the process.

Chris Mann also noted that he would oppose the motion because the recommended action was for information. Chris added that he would have had a more in-depth conversation with the project manager at MaineDOT and possibly invited other staff to attend if he had anticipated a vote taking place.

Dan Ostrye expressed that Yarmouth could use technical support from PACTS more than a vote to endorse the project.

Maureen and Carol withdrew the motion and second for the PACTS Planning committee to request that MaineDOT consider more robust accommodations for multimodal design on the Exit 15 bridge.

Alex thanked Dan, Jim, and Sue Ellen for attending the meeting. Alex noted that the Planning Committee should expect to play a role in developing the PACTS Complete Streets Policy. Jamel also thanked the guests and noted his own excitement for the work taking place in Yarmouth and hopes for similar bicycle/pedestrian projects throughout the region.

## 6. Adjourn.

At approximately 10:30 A.M. Alex adjourned the meeting.

## *Attachment B*

### **PACTS Project Updates**

#### **Transit Tomorrow**

The major focus for the project team over the last several months has been working with AECOM to incorporate feedback received on the recommendations and develop a draft plan to present to the Transit Tomorrow Project Advisory Committee at its September 25th meeting.

#### **Biddeford-Saco TOD Plan**

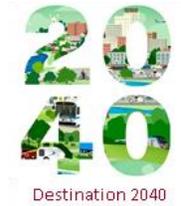
The project steering committee recently met to review proposed site plan recommendation ideas for three specific focus areas within the overall Biddeford-Saco TOD study area. The focus areas are: 1. the area adjacent to the Saco Transportation Center; 2. the Main Street corridor adjacent to the mill complex in Saco; and 3. the former MERC site/Pearl Street area in Biddeford. The project team has also been busy conducting stakeholder meetings and promoting a community survey that was launched in late July. The survey is targeted at residents of Biddeford and Saco and those who work in, or frequently visit, the mill district. The survey is still open and has received over 300 responses. The project team is working with the landscape architecture consultant Richardson & Associates to refine a list of improvement ideas for the three focus areas, with associated graphics, to include in a second public survey which will likely launch in October.



*The Biddeford-Saco TOD Study Area*

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## **Maine Climate Council Transportation Working Group Recommendations**

The public is welcome to attend the next Maine Climate Council meeting on September 9<sup>th</sup> by registering [here](#).

The entirety of the Transportation Working Group's recommendations can be found on the Maine Climate Council website, [here](#).

## **South Portland Mill Creek to Cushing's Point Multimodal Corridor Study**

This study will examine potential additions/improvements to the alternative transportation network along the Mill Creek to Cushing's Point corridor—including traffic signals, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and transit options. TY Lin is under contract and currently developing their project management plan. Next steps include setting a date for the project team kickoff meeting. Staff are drafting a narrative describing the regional significance of the corridor.

## **Preliminary Design Report Set Aside Applications**

PACTS received six applications for the PDR Set Aside funds: 1 from Biddeford, 1 from Cape Elizabeth, and 4 from Portland. Applicants were interviewed on August 25<sup>th</sup> and staff anticipate completing their scoring by the beginning of September. The applications are available for review [here](#).