

Town of Plattsburgh Complete Streets & Trails Steering Committee

Brief Meeting Notes from our Second Regular Meeting of Year 2013

Tuesday, February 26, 2013 at Town Hall on Banker Road, 4:30 PM until 5:51 PM.

Committee members:

1. **Placed** our names on the attendance roster as part of accurately recording our attendance at this second gathering of year 2013. **Attending** were: Trevor Cole, Betsy Durkee, Dr. Robert Fuller, Jim King, Tom King, Marty Mannix, Jr., Nancy Olsen, Tim Palmer, Jim Woods, Tom Wood, Phil Von Bargen, Cassondra Whyte and chairperson A. Paul Scott.
2. **Received** a briefing on the highway department's prospective scope of work for the warmer weather months of year 2013. That briefing included a set of lists, facts and figures from Highway Superintendent Jim Woods. Discussion ensued. Steering committee members expressed appreciation to the Highway Department team and Jim Woods regarding the preliminary draft scope of work presented to us, plus the well-done snow plowing and sanding/salting service these past months across our township.
3. **Discussed** a preliminary draft set of challenges & opportunities presented for steering committee consideration by the Town Highway Department.
4. **Set** next month's steering committee meeting as the time when the steering committee will complete our discussion and forward to the Highway Department prospective priorities for year 2013 repair, improvement and renovation work on Town Roads to enhance, improve and/or better serve those who walk, bike or drive on those roadways & thoroughfares.
5. **Introduced** and received an early progress briefing from Planning Department Intern, Ms. Cassondra Whyte, a college student at SUNY Plattsburgh, is developing a GIS database of pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure within the Town. This initiative is a partnership with SUNY Plattsburgh that is intended to bolster our town's awareness and implementation of a more "complete streets" approach.
6. **Received** a briefing from Planning Department staff and chairperson A. Paul Scott regarding the February 11th Town Board's work session, which included brief conversation about our committee's first six months of service, our committee's January 2013 first biannual report, planned focus for 2013 and our partnership initiatives with SUNY Plattsburgh.
7. **Received** a briefing from the Planning Department on the New York State Bicycling Coalition and the New Yorkers for Active Transportation (NY4AT) organization, along with the advocacy efforts and priorities for those organizations. At our March 26th meeting, the steering committee will **discuss and generate one or more recommendations** regarding a doable and realistic scope of engagement with one or both of those organizations for year 2013 forward.
8. **Broadly agreed** to reserve time at our March 26th gathering to scope out a plan of action for a spring 2013 **field work**: A late afternoon/early evening **walkability**

- study** of the Route 3/Smithfield Boulevard area, including the intersection with the Interstate off/on ramp, with support from the Planning Department, our region's Chamber of Commerce and associated tourism affiliates. When we gather on March 26th we'll also discuss the prospect of enlisting a small ad-hoc cadre of additional volunteers to assist us with that walkability study.
9. **Started brainstorming** on what might be worth striving for regarding the Town of Plattsburgh hosting a summer 2013 **regional bicyclist/pedestrian summit** in partnership with the NY Bicycling Coalition. This would be a community outreach initiative, Intent would be to offer pertinent workshops at this summit for the planning board, our steering committee and interested others in our town, surrounding towns and the City of Plattsburgh. We agreed to resume and complete that brainstorming and discussion session at our March 26th gathering.
 10. **Decided** to take some time at our March 26th meeting for a brief, preliminary discussion regarding a steering committee effort to collaboratively craft proposed Town Board policy on complete streets and/or active transportation. **Intent:** Better position the Town of Plattsburgh for access to grant monies and a more comprehensive, consistent focus on roadways and/or trails that better serve pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists. Chairperson A. Paul Scott will be engaging with the Planning Department in the weeks ahead on this topic, as part of doing some policy research on this matter, in advance of our next gathering.
 11. **Received** verbal notice of our Town's updated Web Site, and we were encouraged to visit the updated Web site.
 12. **Set** Tuesday, March 26th, 4:30 PM at Town Hall for our next regular meeting.

Respectfully submitted by A. Paul Scott, Chairperson