

To members of the Town of Plattsburgh Complete Streets & Trails Steering Committee:

Brief meeting notes associated with our March 26th gathering are provided for you **below**. As for next month, mark your calendar: Next month we meet **Thursday**, April 25th, 4:30 PM at Town Hall.

A. Paul Scott, Steering Committee Chairperson; email address is: emailapscott@gmail.com; phone 561-0384

***Footnote:** This email note is provided to all steering committee members plus various individuals who either requested to be added to our steering committee listserv or who have been placed on our steering committee listserv as a civic/professional courtesy. Please email me back at your convenience if you wish to have your email address updated or removed from this listserv. Thank you!*

Town of Plattsburgh Complete Streets & Trails Steering Committee Brief Meeting Notes from our Third Regular Meeting of Year 2013

We gathered on **Tuesday, March 26, 2013** at Town Hall on Banker Road, **4:30 PM** until 6 PM. At the meeting we:

1. **Placed** our names on the attendance roster as part of accurately recording our attendance at this third gathering of year 2013. **Attending** were: Betsy Durkee, Dr. Robert Fuller, Marty Mannix, Jr., Nancy L. Olsen, Phil Von Bargen, Jim Woods, Tom Wood and chairperson A. Paul Scott. **Also** joining us were Clinton County's Highway Superintendent Albert H. Rascoe, P. E. and Press-Republican Newspaper Staff Writer Dan Heath.
2. **Welcomed** our guests, received a "Complete Streets" briefing on statewide and county-wide perspectives from Clinton County Highway Superintendent Al Rascoe. We used the 4:35 PM until 5:20 PM segment of our meeting to engage in conversation with Al Rascoe, focused on topical matters such as: The substantial lead time on grant-funded highway projects; the challenges associated with projects approved by the NYSDOT that feature "Complete Streets" design elements which are sometimes removed by the NYSDOT from the final approval scope of work due to cost increases commonly faced when there's a multi-year period of time between the submittal of a project and the "go-ahead" phase of a project. We also discussed the benefits of multiple funding sources and partnerships, including the private sector, for advancing active transportation initiatives and projects. We learned the NYSDOT has a roughly ten-year replacement/updating cycle associated with traffic lights at major intersections, and that active transportation aspects are often addressed – at least somewhat – when a particular intersection reaches that roughly ten-year point in time.
3. **Offered** appreciation to Al Rascoe for taking the time this afternoon to afford us the opportunity to gather insights, exchange ideas, engage in conversation and promote good working relationships.

4. **Received** a brief re-cap on the highway department's prospective scope of work for the warmer weather months of year 2013. Last month we had received a set of lists, facts and figures from Highway Superintendent Jim Woods.
5. **Unanimously and strongly endorsed** the Highway Department's prospective priorities and planned scope of work presented by Jim Woods for the warmer weather months of 2013.
6. **Watched** a [roughly five minutes in duration] video associated with the Saranac River Trail, then gathered steering committee member feedback regarding that video.
7. **Reserved** time at our April 25th [next] monthly meeting to further discuss and collaboratively "tune up" the March 2013 preliminary first draft "**fact sheet**" regarding Complete Streets, as one early step toward establishing a Complete Streets Policy Proposal to be considered by the Town of Plattsburgh later this spring.
8. **Inquired** about the level of availability and interest in having a few members of our steering committee attend a Tuesday, April 23, 2013 morning segment of the NYS Planning Federation Conference in Saratoga Springs, which is slated to feature two presentations associated with Complete Streets. Phil and Trevor will be attending the entire conference. **Steering Committee members who were unable to attend our meeting this month** yet have interest in having the Planning Department pay the modest registration fee for the Tuesday, April 23rd morning segment of that Saratoga Springs conference will please contact Phil ASAP!
9. **Established** a revised date of Thursday, April 25th at 4:30 PM for our next regular monthly meeting, based on the conference dates outlined above.
10. **Received** a sixty-second "soul saver" 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. We'll discuss this topic in greater detail at our April 25th gathering.

Tabled until our Thursday, April 25, 2013 gathering the following matters:

1. **Scoping 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.
2. **Discussing** and deciding whether or not there is interest in enlisting a small ad-hoc cadre of additional volunteers to assist our steering committee with that spring 2013 walkability study.
3. **Continue 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 could be a key community outreach. **Intent**: 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 **adjourned** at 6 PM.