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TOWN OF BURLINGTON
Transportation Study Committee (TSC) Minutes

February 24, 2021

Call the Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm via Webex

Voting Members Present: Millie Nash (MN), Jen Gelinas (JG), David VanCamp (DVC), Patricia O'Brien (POB), Eileen Sickler (ES), Myrna Saltman (MS)

Non-Voting Members Present: John Strauss (JS), Director of Operations, Bob Cunha (BC)

1. Guest Comments/Observations

- ES asked about BC about the Safe Routes to School Program that was advocated by the Sidewalk Committee over a year ago. BC said that due to COVID, he has not been able to pursue any related grants. The program is available until the end of this calendar year. He was asked what support he needed to apply for the grant. BC responded that he had to collect the GPS coordinates and identify areas that would qualify.
- PO asked about transportation behavior. BC responded there are many more walkers and bikers. Also, due to COVID, bus seats have been reduced from 71 to 27 available seats. This restriction has resulted in $\frac{1}{2}$ mile perimeter around Pine Glen whereby students need to walk, bike or find other transportation because of the reduced bus capacity.
- ES asked about late bus schedule flexibility. BC was not aware there were issues with students not enrolling in after school activities because of the lack of transportation. He said there was leeway in scheduling, but he needs to hear from respective program directors about the need.
- JS asked if buses could drop off students at the Mall for after school jobs. BC believed this was possible.
- PO asked about the transportation budget for the year and cost per student (cps). BC said the budget is \$1.6M with a pre-COVID and post-COVID cps of \$624 and \$1400, respectively.
- DVC asked if there were any contractual restrictions in the contract regarding using buses for non-school activities. BC believes there are no restrictions.
- PO asked if there has been any collaboration with the Recreation Department regarding transportation. BC does not believe there has been any collaboration.

2. General Discussion

- The committee talked about the survey answers to the questionnaire that had been sent to us that day.
- We reviewed and selected questions for the Board of Selectmen

3. Assignment

- ES will ask Betty McDonough, staff for the Town Administrator, when our committee can be on their agenda. ES agreed to send Betty the questions to them.

4. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date/Time

- The meeting adjourned at 9:18 with all in favor
- Next meeting date is Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 7 pm via Webex



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*Respectfully Submitted,
Eileen Sickler, Recording Secretary*

Approved: Unanimously, March 3, 2021