

PACTS

Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation Committee

Planning Committee Meeting Notice

March 1, 2007
9:00 a.m.

PACTS, 68 Marginal Way, Portland
There are surplus parking spaces available across Preble Street.

Agenda

1. **Call to order**
2. **Minutes of February 1st meeting**
3. **MaineDOT's Gateway 1 Planning and STPA Rule Changes**

Presentation by MaineDOT's Kathy Fuller
4. **Maine Mall Area Evacuation Plan**

Presentation by GPCOG's David Willauer
5. **Status Report**
6. **Adjourn**

Next Meeting: April 5th at 9:00 a.m.

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Agenda Item 2: Minutes of February 1st meeting

Members Present: Donna Larson, Chair, Freeport; Gary Guerette, Policy Committee Appointee; Alex Jaegerman, Portland; Mike Laberge, Maine DOT; Jonathan Labonte, MTA; Brooks Moore, Westbrook; Sandra Mowery, Old Orchard Beach; Carla Nixon, Cumberland; Greg Tansley, Vice-Chair, Biddeford; David Willauer, GPCOG.

Members Absent: Wayne Davis, TrainRiders; Dawn Emerson, Yarmouth; Deb Fossum, Gorham; Tex Haeuser, South Portland; Amy Lamontagne, Falmouth; Jon McNulty, Public Transportation; Peter Morelli, Saco; Maureen O'Meara, Cape Elizabeth; John Perry, FHWA; Tom Reinauer, SMRPC; Joe Ziepniewski, Scarborough.

Staff and Guests: Julia Dawson, PACTS; John Duncan, PACTS; Sue McIntyre, GPCOG; Steve Linnell, GPCOG; Eric Ortman, PACTS; Peggy Kilmer, Yarmouth resident.

1. **Call to Order.** Donna Larson, Chair called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

2. **Minutes of January 4th, 2007 meeting**

It was noted that under agenda item 6 on page 3, the fourth paragraph, that "Old Orchard's 2003 Comprehensive Plan" should have read "Old Orchard's 1993 Comprehensive Plan". Sandra Mowery moved for approval of the minutes, seconded by Alex Jaegerman. All were in favor. Minutes were accepted as amended.

Chair Donna Larson introduced and welcomed Gary Guerette. Gary is a new Policy Committee appointee.

3. **Status Reports**

John Duncan distributed copies of the Destination Tomorrow Plan. He thanked Eric Ortman and Sue McIntyre for putting together the summary report.

SMRPC hosted a parking workshop in Saco on the previous night. Several people from the Portland area attended.

David Willauer has offered to give a brief presentation at a future meeting on the Greater Portland Evacuation and Detour Plan. It was decided to ask David to give his presentation at the next meeting.

Chair, Donna Larson, along with Julia Dawson from PACTS, provided an update on the Context Sensitive Solution Forum and Workshop. The most likely location for the case study will be the intersection by the USM Law School. They are in the process of working out the details. The public evening forum will be held at Hannaford Hall on March 29th, 2007. The full-day workshop for planners, and other invited guests will be held at the DoubleTree Hotel on March 30th. Invitations will be sent out as soon as details are confirmed.

Eric Ortman gave a status report on the work-in-progress on Access Management. At last month's meeting there was a consensus on numbers 1 and 2 to provide to the committee versions of the principles as well as links to other sources where access management has been successful. Staff has been thinking of numbers 3 and 4 on a corridor level approach looking at its pros and cons. Eric noted that the literature and studies that have been done throughout the country have the common theme that a corridor study involves all stakeholders with a formalized M.O.U. done first then followed with an in-depth aspect and plan of implementation. It has proved to be the most successful

format throughout the country and the predominant form of use. It also seems to be similar to what Maine DOT is doing with Gateway 1. Eric said that a report would be provided to the Committee with items 1 and 2 completed. Items 3 and 4 in reference to the corridor study will bear more thought from this Committee and also how involved the Policy Committee will be with it. Eric noted that he could provide a written report along with a presentation to the group at next month's meeting.

4. PACTS Planning Priorities for the Next Two Years

Staff is working on the development of the next two-year work plan for PACTS planning and administration to be adopted in May. Today's purpose of the meeting is to decide on a list of top priorities for recommendations to the Policy Committee on February 15th (later postponed to March 15th).

The group compiled a list of suggestions/ideas for top priority recommendations. It was noted that not all communities were represented at today's meeting; subsequently staff will send the list electronically to all the PACTS region communities for consideration. Communities will be asked to pick three items on the list of most interest to them. Staff will compile the results and forward the list of recommendations to the Policy Committee. It was noted that the overall recommendation could be defined as a regional holistic approach and include the list of priorities as the specifics to achieve that goal. The recommendations are as follows:

- Public transportation to alleviate parking pressures.
- Regional Transit Coordination Study; Action on recommendations currently being developed.
- Improve safety and preserve mobility of I-295: Intelligent Transportation System; Incident Management Signs
- Plan and encourage transit-oriented development.
- Look at connection between PACTS and Law Enforcement
- East-West toll road
- Access Management
- TDM Program/Initiative (16) (Tie together in choices for all modes)
- Impact Fees; (Tie together in choices for all modes)
- Developer funding vs. PACTS/DOT funding; Regionally based can be used for non-road transportation improvement
- Examine TIP Formula - Impact from locally driven development; What contribution do towns seek from developers to mitigate development pressure?
- Get people out of cars - global climate change; Take a regional, holistic, sustainable approach to transportation planning and transit system.
- Multi-municipal agreements on policies.
- Participation in DOT/MTA east-west corridors study

5. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Agenda Item 3: MaineDOT's Gateway 1 Planning and STPA Rule Changes

Kathy Fuller, the Director of MaineDOT's Environmental Office, will give an overview of MaineDOT's Gateway 1 work during the past several years. For more info before the meeting you can go to <http://www.gateway1.org/>. Gateway 1 is a landmark long-term strategic land use and transportation planning project for the Mid-coast Route 1 region. A collaboration amongst communities and state agencies, Gateway 1 explores new ways of combining transportation and land use decision-making. By doing so, the project will balance community growth and local values with transportation services and needs.

Kathy will also give an update on MaineDOT's intentions to recommend changes to the Sensible Transportation Policy Act Rules. These rules affect the scope of major transportation projects and studies. The MaineDOT is going to recommend some changes that will enhance efforts to connect transportation and land use planning.

A former Augusta City Planning Director, Kathy moved to the Environmental Office from MaineDOT's Planning Bureau. Kathy has served on our Land Use Subcommittee for several years.

Agenda Item 4: Maine Mall Area Evacuation Plan

David Willauer will give an overview of the 2006 "**Phase I Greater Portland Emergency Evacuation & Detour Plan**". It was developed by a Working Group and four municipalities: Portland, South Portland, Westbrook and Scarborough focused on the area around the Maine Mall. David recently gave this presentation to the Technical Committee. Attached is the executive summary.

David will soon begin work on a similar plan ("Phase II") which will focus on the Port of Portland with an emphasis on the Casco Bay Bridge. They plan to involve the six municipalities comprising the Regional Metro Coalition or Portland, South Portland, Westbrook, Scarborough, Cape Elizabeth and Falmouth. The timeline is March 2007 to March 2008.

Agenda Item 5: Status Report

Today's is Eric Ortman's last meeting with the Planning Committee. As you know, Eric has resigned effective March 16th after six years at PACTS. He will be difficult to replace after developing very effective leadership and technical skills in transportation planning. Eric has been a key player in challenging us all to assert the role of PACTS. His legacy will help us to continue our good work for many years to come. Eric does not currently have specific career plans.

Julia Dawson and Donna Larson will brief you on the organizing for the **context sensitive solutions forum and workshop on March 29th and 30th.**

The Legislature's Transportation Committee will soon start **a study of ways to encourage trucks to divert to the Turnpike from I-295.** PACTS will be involved.

Representative Boyd Marley has submitted a bill that would enable municipalities within the four MPO's to levy **local option sales taxes** to help pay for transportation projects. We are working with him on this.

The **MaineBiz cover story** last week was about *Destination Tomorrow*: <http://www.mainebiz.biz/>.

Planning Committee Priorities for submission to the Policy Committee
for use at March 15th workshop on PACTS work priorities for the next two years

Item* Priority Score**

9	1	47	Investigate impact fees and developer funding for transportation
2	2	49	Implement the PACTS Regional Transit Coordination Study
10	3	55	Develop a policy to limit use of TIP funds to resolve growth-induced traffic needs
11	4	56	Develop a proactive regional sustainable approach in context of climate change
12	4	56	Develop a proactive PACTS effort to encourage multi-municipal policies
4	6	59	Plan and encourage transit oriented development
7	6	59	Perform extensive work on access management
3	8	62	Improve safety and preserve mobility on I-295
6	9	66	Participate actively in proposed east-west highway and land use study
8	10	67	Investigate the potential for travel demand management initiatives
1	11	68	Increase use of transit to alleviate parking pressures
5	12	114	Increase PACTS connections with traffic law enforcement

* As listed in the February 5th email sent to the Committee.

** Based on results from 10 members (of 18 voting members) as of February 23rd.