

**Mount Ascutney Regional
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes of November 30, 2021

A meeting of the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) was held at the Mount Ascutney Regional Commission (MARC) offices and via Zoom at 6pm.

Attendance

TAC members present: Wayne Wheelock, Baltimore; Tom Kenyon, West Windsor; Sharon Bixby, Ludlow; Kristi Morris, Springfield; John Saydek, Cavendish; Eric and Barbara Bye, at-large; Arne Jonynas, Chester; Diane Foulds, Windsor.

Others present: Otis Munroe and Jason Rasmussen MARC; Jon Kaplan, VTrans

Kristi Morris opened the meeting at 6:00 pm.

1. Welcome and Introductions

All present members of the TAC and guests introduced themselves.

2. Changes to the Agenda

None.

3. Approval of Minutes

Arne Jonynas made a motion to approve the October 27, 2021 meeting minutes. Second by John Saydek. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plans

Jon Kaplan gave an overview of ADA transition plan requirements and resources. He began with the legal requirements of municipalities and enforcement mechanisms around accessibility. Public Rights of Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG) cover sidewalks and shared-use paths. PROWAG has not made it through the rulemaking process, but is still considered best practice by FHWA. New construction must meet the standards whereas alterations must only meet them "to the maximum extent feasible."

Transition Plans are both self-evaluations of whether a municipality's facilities and programs meet these standards and an implementation plan to address any deficiencies. Transition Plans are only required for municipalities with 50 or more employees but are considered a best practice for all others. Jon recommended the ADA Action Guide (<https://adaactionguide.org>) as a helpful resource for municipalities interested in writing a Transition Plan.

Jon wrapped up by reviewing funding sources for ADA improvements and explaining the importance of ADA Transition Plans in responding to accessibility complaints and potential enforcement.

Following the presentation, conversation centered around funding, municipal and commercial ADA requirements, how to start the process of writing a transition plan, and standards for recreation trails.

5. Updates and Announcements

Otis Munroe provided updates on the current round of Better Roads grant applications. Most towns in the Region plan to submit one or more applications this year.

6. Future agenda items & next meeting date

- a. Next meeting: January 26.
- b. Potential topic: Federal Infrastructure Act

7. Adjourn

Wayne Wheelock made a motion to adjourn. Second by Diane Foulds. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.