CITY OF CONCORD
TRANSPORTATION POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF APRIL 23, 2026

The Transportation Policy Advisory Committee (TPAC) met at 6:00 pm on April 23, 2026 in City Council Chambers, 37 Green Street

Members Present: Greg Bakos (Chair), Councilor Todd (Vice-Chair), Marcus Flynn, Mickey Shoemaker, Ian McGregor, Chris Nadeau, Nicole Fox, and Erika Rydberg-Hall

Members Absent: Councilor Foote, Councilor Schultz , Ganesh Sharma and Craig Tufts

Guests: None

City Staff: Mike Bezanson (City Engineer), Karen Hill (Transportation Engineer), Alec Bass (Assistant City Planner – Community Planning)

1. Call to Order

Bakos called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Introductions

3. Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes – February 26, 2026

On a motion made by Todd, seconded by Flynn, the meeting minutes of February 26, 2026 were approved. 5 in favor, 0 opposed. Nadeau and Fox abstained from vote for not having been present.

4. Public Comment

None.

5. TPAC Referrals from City Council, Staff and Chair

a. Referral from City Council in regards to a communication from Maureen Page, 2 Johnson Avenue, requesting sidewalk installation on South Street from Wilson Avenue to Iron Works Road to improve pedestrian safety for school-aged children

Hill provided a brief summary of the request and the area. Hill noted that this sidewalk segment is in the 2017 Pedestrian Master Plan. She identified the gaps for future sidewalk along the South Street corridor. She mentioned that the segment on the east side from Bow Street to Roosevelt Ave ranked #10/117 and the segment on the west side from Wilson Ave to Iron Works Road ranked #15/117.

Hill provided a summary of the sidewalk priority ranking efforts for new members who were not aware of the history.

The Committee discussed a temporary solution may be to add a crosswalk at Johnson Ave. Hill shared that she had a conversation with the resident about a crosswalk but the

resident agreed that children would then need to cross South Street twice to get to school or to the South Ender and did not feel that it would be a safer option than adding the sidewalk. She chose to advocate for the sidewalk.

The Committee discussed the benefits of completing the sidewalk, and providing a crosswalk in the interim as a short term solution. The Committee noted that there is an existing crosswalk at Wilson Ave, and there are other side streets without crosswalks that could trigger additional requests if one is added at Johnson Ave. The Committee discussed that there are only 8 homes on Johnson Ave and questioned if the pedestrian demand is present.

The Committee also discussed, that while this segment is ranked #15, there are other segments above it which would require significant funding, and this segment may need to wait until a road resurfacing project in the area takes place, which this road was recently paved in 2016.

The Committee talked again about the idea of creating a CIP dedicated to filling in the gaps from the 2017 Pedestrian Master Plan, as many of the City's safety and sidewalk goals will not be achieved otherwise because they will not be completed with the paving program.

On a motion made by McGregor, seconded by Todd, the Committee voted to recommend to Council the construction of a sidewalk on South Street from Wilson Ave to Iron Works Road as it is an important sidewalk segment, however understanding funding and priority constraints, the Committee also sees a necessity for Council to create a CIP for stand-alone funding for sidewalk and pedestrian safety projects and this segment would be a great candidate for those funds. All in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

6. New Business

None.

7. Unfinished Business

a. Referral from City Council in regards to a request for pedestrian safety/sidewalk consideration in the neighborhood of Cypress Street, regarding the new Concord Middle School project

Nadeau recused himself from this item due to a conflict of interest, as a professional engineer directly working on the project.

The Committee agreed that Fox does not have a conflict of interest, as a volunteer on a School Building Committee on this subject.

Hill provided a summary of the referral. She also provided a summary of Staff responses to the traffic study received from the School District. She shared that based on the City's feedback, the School District held a public meeting with the neighborhood. Hill mentioned, that in response to the public's concerns, the project team evaluated alternatives that were then presented to the City's Traffic Operations Committee on

Tuesday, April 21, 2026, and while this specific item was not referred to TOC, the neighborhood traffic was discussed.

Hill noted that sidewalk along Harvard Street and Noyes Street is proposed in the 2017 Pedestrian Master Plan, but not Cypress Street. Staff communicated to the School District that any sidewalk need on Cypress Street would be triggered by their project.

Hill provided a summary of the traffic circulation patterns that were presented to the TOC at their April 21, 2026 meeting.

The Committee noted that a future option for the School District to explore would be to have bus traffic utilize Princeton Street but only be allowed to take rights onto Clinton Street.

Fox believes that Cypress Street sidewalk would be a high priority if it was reviewed now knowing the location of the new school.

Todd mentioned that the City and the Merrimack Valley School District had partnered in the past to fund a sidewalk along Allen Street to improve and complete sidewalk connections to MVSD campus, as a part of their campus master plan.

Bezanson noted that the School District mentioned that the recommended pedestrian access to the school is still the sidewalk off of South Street into the main entrance. Adding that the District recently updated their plans to construct a 10-foot wide multi-use path along their main driveway as opposed to a standard 5-foot sidewalk.

McGregor noted that the City, whenever possible attempts to separate pedestrian and vehicle traffic, and believes a sidewalk on Cypress Street is necessary. Adding that Cypress Street is a one-way road, with a large available right-of-way making it easier to construct.

On a motion made by Todd, seconded by Fox, the Committee calls attention to Council that the School District recently made accommodations to widen the South Street sidewalk entrance, to further establish it as the designated primary pedestrian route. However, acknowledging that the Committee's preference would be to have the School District construct, or make plans for the construction of, a sidewalk connection along Cypress Street and Noyes Street to safely accommodate pedestrian traffic expected traveling from the North. All in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Consent Reports

None.

9. General Updates

a. *City Council Meeting*

Todd indicated there were no relevant items to report from the March Council meeting. He provided the following updates from the April Council Meeting:

- Referral to TPAC discussed tonight regarding sidewalk installation on South Street.

- Reports accepted that were distributed as part of our meeting agenda regarding TPAC CIP priorities, and the South Curtisville Road referral.
- Report accepted allowing the City Manager to enter into a License Agreement with the owner of 102 Sewalls Falls Road concerning maintenance of newly established landscaping areas associated with the Sewalls Falls / Abbott Road Intersection Realignment Project).
- Related to the Merrimack River Greenway Trail, Council authorized the City Manager to enter into a Lease Agreement with Scenic RailRiders to Operate a Railbike Tour Business; the lease is just for this year.
- Next month, at the May 11 Council meeting, there will be a public hearing and decision anticipated, also on the MRGT, on a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a project agreement with NHDOT for the design, permitting, right-of-way, and construction of the multi-use path on the city-owned rail corridor from Sewalls Falls Road north to the Boscawen town line, and appropriating the sum of $1,553,928.00, which includes accepting the sum of $1,243,142.40 in NHDOT Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) funding, authorizing the transfer and use of Impact Fee Funds in the sum of $225,000, and authorizing the transfer and use of Recreation Reserve Funds in the sum of $85,785.60 for this purpose.

b. *Bicycle/Pedestrian Subcommittee (TPAC-BP)*
No updates provided, the Subcommittee has not met since the last meeting.

c. *Traffic Operations Committee (TOC)*
Hill shared the latest TOC meeting agenda in the packet.

Todd asked what the discussion was pertaining to the South State Street lighting referral.

Hill mentioned there is still some verification to be completed by Staff, however they are looking at similar study on South Street and how that could relate to the wattage of the lights along South State Street. A full report will be prepared for Council, however most intersections do appear to have lighting, with exception to Perley Street in which TOC is recommending a street light be added at that intersection as a crosswalk is present.

The Committee discussed mixed opinions on the current adequacy of the intersection lighting along South State Street.

Bakos inquired about the Exit 13 interchange concerns.

Hill shared that she originally reached out to the State just to see if they could consider it as part of the I-93 Bow widening project, but with project delays, she will reach back out about any interim considerations.

Hill also noted that Manchester has a similar intersection at Exit 5/Granite Street which used to have a small median in the middle, similar to Manchester Street, which has

since been removed. One possible solution to explore would be if the removal of that median could improve function or not.

d. *Public Transportation (CAT)*
No discussion.

10. Project Updates (Staff)

a. *CIP #588 – Loudon Road Bridge*
Bezanson mentioned that 60% design comments have been received. The team is evaluating a couple of significant comments about widening the bridge on only one side and potential replacement of the steel.

b. *CIP #283 Traffic Signal Improvements*
Hill shared that the bid was awarded to Dagle Electrical Construction Corp. and construction will begin this summer.

c. *CIP #31 McKee Square*
Bezanson shared that the City and State have entered into a project agreement and it will be moving forward shortly.

11. Other Discussion Items
None.

12. Adjourn
On a motion made by Todd, seconded by McGregor, the meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM by unanimous consent.

13. Next Meeting
May 28, 2026

Minutes prepared by Alec Bass and Karen Hill