



TOWN OF BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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Minutes Sidewalk and Trail Planning Group September 8, 2016

Meeting attendees included Tom Rogers, Roy Wallen, Cheryl O'Donnell, Alan Rosenberg, and Tad Putney.

Minutes

Minutes of the August 8th meeting were approved as written.

Discussions with NHDOT about Mason Road Bridge

Tad updated the Group on his discussion with NHDOT about the possibility of attaching a pedestrian bridge to the vehicular bridge over the Nissitissit River. Jerry Farwell had suggested it may be a less costly option than a standalone bridge. Dave Powelson of NHDOT said that while they may not object to attaching a bridge, it would be problematic once the vehicular bridge is replaced. When constructed in the mid-1930s, its expected life was 50 years, which has been surpassed. NHDOT is not looking to replace it in the near future. It is currently rated on a 1-10 scale as follows:

- Deck: "6"
- Superstructure: "6"
- Substructure: "7"

It will not be red-listed until one of the three is rated a "4" or below.

Attaching a pedestrian bridge is not encouraged as it is expected the vehicular bridge will need to be replaced before the pedestrian bridge would need replacement. We were also advised to locate the pedestrian bridge a safe distance from the current bridge to allow for needed widening of the vehicular bridge when it is replaced. If the pedestrian bridge is located in the state's right-of-way, NHDOT approval will be required.

Annual Snow Removal Costs

Tad shared an analysis of annual sidewalk snow removal costs for the prior two winters. Costs for the 2015-2016 winter were \$4,356 and \$18,977 for the winter of 2014-2015. Attendees noted that these figures represented two extremes and average annual costs were probably around \$12,000. The analysis includes all current sidewalks; none have been constructed since the fall of 2014.

Sidewalk and Trail Planning Group
Minutes – September 8, 2016
Page 2

Public Input Session – September 20th

Attendees discussed the objectives and content of the Public Input session on September 20th. Various roles were agreed to. Tad will send out a reminder about the session on September 18th via the town website.

Next Meeting

The next meeting was set for 6:30pm on Thursday, September 29th.

Minutes submitted by Tad Putney.