

TRURO LOCAL COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE (LCPC)

Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2018 - 5:00pm

Truro Town Hall

Members Present: Morgan Clark, Ellery Althaus, Eric Jansen, Claudia Tuckey, Jay Coburn, Cally Harper (Absent: Steve Sollog, Chris Clark)

Transportation Section – begin discussion of data, goals, and actions. This discussion will also carry over into the next LCPC meeting.

Ms. Harper reviewed the Transportation Chapter in the 2005 Truro LCP and prepared a list of needs, issues, bright spots, goals and actions that were identified in the 2005 plan. The LCPC reviewed the list.

The 2005 LCP identified the need for expanded shuttle services at beach parking areas. The LCPC discussed whether or not this item should also be addressed in the new draft of the LCP. The Committee had a lengthy discussion about what is best for the town – preservation of parking in coastal areas that are vulnerable to flooding and erosion or ensuring that people can visit the beach of their choice and park close by. Mr. Coburn suggested that we need to weigh what is best for the town. Other members mentioned that there are parking issues at Long Nook, a reduction in parking spaces at Ballston Beach, and Coast Guard Beach parking lot fills up quickly in the summer. Mrs. Clark mentioned that Ballston Beach parking lot will continue to decrease in size and eventually go away and we should plan for that, possibly with satellite parking in an inland area of town or with a shuttle loop. The Committee talked about the expense associated with shuttle services. Ms. Harper mentioned that the Town of Chatham investigated small shuttle in their downtown area and it was expensive. Mr. Coburn asked if running a shuttle service is how we want to spend our money. It was also mentioned the Beach Office has data on when the beach parking lots are full and how many spaces there are at each lot.

The LCPC agreed that the Truro Bike and Walkways Committee should be engaged during the LCP process. It was also mentioned that, since the 2005 LCP, a bicycle lane was added to Route 6 and there is another bike/pedestrian striping project in the works. The LCPC discussed bike lanes on other roads and several members discussed bike lanes on every road, especially Route 6A/Shore Road. The Committee asked if there was data available on the number and frequency of bike accidents in Truro.

One action item mentioned in the 2005 LCP is that officials need to work with the four Outer Cape towns to identify regional concerns and present a coordinated set of recommendations. Ms. Harper mentioned that officials from all 15 towns meet with MassDOT at the Metropolitan Planning Organization's monthly meetings held at the Cape Cod Commission.

The LCPC also discussed traffic and congestion issues and agreed that the congestion on Route 6 was worse last summer than in previous years. Ms. Harper mentioned that she can get accident and volume data from the Cape Cod Commission's website.

The LCPC also discussed ferry service from Provincetown. Mr. Coburn and Mrs. Tuckey mentioned that the ferry service is geared towards people traveling from Boston to Provincetown. If someone from the Outer Cape wants to use the ferry to get to Boston during normal business hours during the week, they cannot use the ferry. Mr. Coburn mentioned that the ferry service was extended into the fall/winter of 2017 because the weather was mild. Mr. Coburn also pointed out that fast ferry service became available after the 2005 LCP was drafted and the timing and capacity of the fast ferry has expanded over the years.

The Committee mentioned that the 2005 LCP focuses on cars, bikes and buses and Mrs. Clark asked about boat transportation outside of commercial ferry service. She shared that she launches her family's boat from the Pamet and uses it to travel to Provincetown in the summer. Mr. Coburn said that form of transportation really depends on the availability of parking at Pamet Harbor.

The Committee also commented on how the bus service to Truro is unreliable. One particular bus service runs in the summer and fall season and does not operate during the shoulder season, which is problematic for employees who rely on that service in the fall season. Mr. Althaus noted that he sees people waiting for a bus outside of Salty Market and the bus never arrives to pick them up, leaving them stranded.

Mr. Coburn mentioned that Route 6 is a major artery through town and that we should limit curb cuts along Route 6 to enhance safety. He mentioned that Route 6 in Eastham has a lot of curb cuts and that we should focus commercial development in Truro Center and North Truro to reduce the number of curb cuts in other areas.

Ms. Tuckey mentioned that there is a transportation service in Truro that offers a free ride to people who are transported in an ambulance to Cape Cod Hospital and do not have anyone to pick them up. She mentioned that she will bring more information about that program to the next LCPC meeting.

The LCPC members also talked about safety on local roads. They discussed texting and driving. They also discussed flashing speed signs and wondered if one could be installed on Truro Center Road near Blackfish restaurant in Truro. Mr. Jansen said that cars drive fast down that hill and it is problematic. Ms. Harper mentioned that she will talk to the DPW Director about plans to install more speed signs. The Committee also discussed bicycle safety on local roads and noted that Castle Hill Road was particularly unsafe for cyclists and pedestrians.

*Submitted by,
Cally Harper
Town Planner*

