



Corridor Committee Meeting
Wednesday, April 8, 2009
3:00 – 5:00 PM
Fire Barn, East Hiram
Agenda

I. Announcements

A. Meeting Minutes of 3/18/09

Action: Information only item

B. Town News

Action: Information only item

C. Gorham-Portland East-West Study

Action: Committee endorsement

The Maine Turnpike Authority has invited the Route 113 Corridor Committee to appoint a representative to a study group looking at the feasibility of alternatives, including rail, to relieve traffic congestion in the Portland-Gorham Corridor. Requires participation in eight meetings over 15 months; first meeting is April 30 in Westbrook.

D. Appointments and Bylaws to the Route 113 Corridor Committee

Action: Endorsement of governing body needed.

Background: The Towns of Hiram and Brownfield still need to appoint members to the Route 113 Corridor Committee and adopt the Committee's bylaws. The Town of Fryeburg still needs to adopt the bylaws.

E. Scenic Byway

Action: Final Committee approval of brochure for printing.

II. Business Plan for the Mountain Division Rail Line

Action: Committee vote requested based on input from the governing bodies of participating municipalities.

Background: In 2008, HNTB completed a feasibility study on the Mountain Division rail line. Estimates for restoration range from \$20 to \$40 million. The major difference is that a \$20 million restoration would bring the track up to Class 2 standards, reusing the existing 85 lb rail. This upgrade would support freight and possibly excursion use. A \$40 million restoration would bring the track up to Class 3 standards by replacing the 85lb rail with 115 lb rail. This upgrade would support freight and excursion use as well as commuter service up to 60 mph. The line can be rebuilt to one standard or a combination, e.g., Class 3 from Portland to Steep Falls; Class 2 from Steep Falls to Fryeburg.

The Committee will vote on a request to MaineDOT for upgrading the line to FRA Class II and/or Class III condition.

III. New business

- A. Next meeting date
- B. Agenda items