

**KITTERY AREA COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

**KACTS**

**Meeting  
Tuesday  
October 21, 2008  
1:00 PM  
South Berwick Town Hall**

---

**Draft Meeting Notes**

Voting Members Present: Dan Blanchette – Eliot; Connie Garber – York County Community Action Corporation (YCCAC); Chris Mann – MaineDOT; Terry Oliver – South Berwick; Tom Reinauer – Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission (SMRPC); Jon St Pierre – Berwick; Conrad Welzel – Maine Turnpike Authority.

Guests and Staff: Julia Dawson – SMRPC; Anna Price – FHWA; Mimi Cerveny – MaineDOT; Britta Stein – FHWA

**Agenda Items**

- 1. Welcome/Introductions**
- 2. Adoption of 6/10/08 KACTS Committee Minutes**

Dan Blanchette made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Terry Oliver seconded the motion, which passed all in favor.

- 3. Storm Water Management Activities.**

Tom Reinauer informed the group that the Storm Water Management meeting had been postponed to Monday October 27 at 11am. The consultant has sent out information regarding the next phase of the project. KACTS funding is not required; SMRPC pays upfront and the towns reimburse SMRPC later.

- 4. Fiscal Year 2010-12 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).**

Chris Mann explained to the group that what was once the TIP has now been changed to the UTIP. The new “Unified Transportation Improvement Program” will combine both capital and maintenance projects. This is part of the recent reorganization at MaineDOT that included combining the Office of Passenger Transportation and the Office of Highway & Bridge Planning.

Tom passed out the list of four potential projects for the 2010-12 UTIP and six year list, which included:

- Berwick – Rochester St., reconstruction w/drainage & sidewalk
- South Berwick – Rte 236, reconstruction w/drainage & sidewalk
- South Berwick – Rte 236, mill & fill
- South Berwick – Rte 4, mill & fill

He explained that in previous years the formula used in scoring projects included looking at *pavement condition rating (PCR)* and *average traffic counts (AADT)*. He also gave details on which towns had received funding in previous biennial funding cycles. He went on to inform the group that KACTS will receive a little over \$1.1 million in STP/NHS funding for the 2010-12 funding period in addition to the 5307 Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funds it receives.

A general discussion followed regarding the projects listed. Dan B. asked if the South Berwick projects were part of the recent study completed by the MaineDOT. He also wanted to know if the MaineDOT had allocated funding to do any engineering work as a result of the study; Tom said that the South Berwick Feasibility Study is being funded with Planning funds, and is not in the TIP. He was unsure whether MaineDOT would propose projects as a result of the Engineering Study they just completed. If so, these would be outside of the KACTS process/funding. He would look into it. Connie noted that two of the projects on the list exceeded the available funding and wanted to know if the Berwick project was located near a school and/or was eligible for Safe Routes to School funding. Jon S. gave a brief history of the project, explaining that the MaineDOT had been out to do drainage maintenance work on that stretch of road three times already this year. Unfortunately the project is not near a school and does not qualify for Safe Routes funding. He went on to say that the town might be willing to shorten the project or phase it over two funding cycles.

Dan B. made a motion to accept the Berwick Rochester St. project, with the caveat that the Town of Berwick would either work with MaineDOT to reduce the scope, or come up with the difference in funding with municipal funds. Terry Oliver seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

Next steps will be the public process, which will include presenting the TIP to the public for comment. This will be done around January of 2009.

## **5. Other Business/Updates**

Tom informed the group that the South Berwick Feasibility Study was now underway, and that an advisory committee had been formed. There will be a kick off meeting at the South Berwick Town Hall on November 12.

Julia updated the group on the Signal Study, Sebago Technics is doing (they are also the consultant working on the South Berwick Study). They have inventoried all 23 locations included in the study, and are in the process of completing preliminary timing

recommendations and summary reports. Staff will work with them to determine which signals need further analysis.

Tom informed the group that the I-95 Traffic Incident Management Group had recently been awarded a Public Safety Interoperability Communications (PSIC) grant. The grant will be used to program CONOPS frequencies in emergency response vehicles for the 12 participating towns, plus Sheriffs Office. Funds will also be available to reimburse personnel for expenses incurred to attend CONOPS training.

Julia gave an overview of the newly formed Flexible Design Standards Working Group. Members include the four MPOs, MaineDOT, FHWA and town engineers from Biddeford and Scarborough. The group is looking at ways to develop a training process that serves to educate MPO staffs and municipal officials about how and when federal and state standards are applied, including the process of requesting design exceptions. The group is also looking at innovative ways to streamline the project development process, including public private partnerships and locally administered projects.

Finally, at a recent MPO/DOT quarterly meeting, Kat Fuller, Transportation Systems Planning Bureau Chief announced that she and Ken Sweeney are both more than willing to receive phone calls and emails from MPO committee members regarding MaineDOT/MPO topics.

Minutes written by Julia Dawson, SMRPC, October 23, 2008.