



# Meeting Notes

Place: Jaffrey Fire Department

Date: June 25, 2019

Notes Taken by: M. Kennedy, VHB

Project #: 52457.00

Re: TAC Meeting #9  
Jaffrey Route 202 Dogleg  
#16307

## Advisory Committee Attendees:

Jo Anne Carr, Planning/EDC

Stephanie Niemela, TEAM Jaffrey

David Reilly, Schools

David Chamberlain, Fire

Don Stewart, Citizen-At-Large

Keith Dupuis, Industrial Business/Trucking

John Peard, Downtown Business(es)

Frank Sterling, Select Board

Jon Frederick, Town Manager

Randy Heglin, DPW

Victoria Chase, NHDOT

Loretta Girard Doughty, NHDOT

Trent Zanes, NHDOT

Pete Walker, VHB

Marty Kennedy, VHB

## Non-Advisory Committee Attendees

Jack Minter

Mark Fraser

Kevin Chamberlain

Jack Belletete

J. B. Mack, SWRPC

Mr. Kennedy opened the meeting at 8:00 am by first welcoming everyone to the 9<sup>th</sup> Advisory Committee meeting for the Jaffrey Route 202 Dogleg Study, and then proceeded to introduce Loretta Girard Doughty – the new NHDOT project manager. Ms. Girard Doughty provided the Committee a brief overview of her background stated that she was looking forward to working with the Committee on the project.

At this point Mr. Kennedy reminded the Committee that the purpose of the November 2018 Public Informational meeting was to present the Proposed Action to the public so as to solicit comments prior to advancing the plan to a formal Public Hearing. Mr. Kennedy stated that there was general consensus that the plan should be advanced to the Public Hearing. There were, however, some property owners, particularly in the vicinity of the proposed River Street roundabout, who raised concerns with the project’s impact on their property. For this reason, the NHDOT scheduled and has held individual meetings with those concerned property owners.

Meetings have been held with owners of the following properties:

- 4 Stratton Road (Lab ‘n’ Lager) – met prior to Public Informational meeting at Town Hall

2 Bedford Farms Drive  
Suite 200  
Bedford, NH 03110-6532  
P 603.391.3900

- 15 River St – met prior to Public Informational meeting at Town Hall
- 16 River St (Consolidated Communications) – met at the NHDOT project utility meeting.
- 19 River St – met at Jaffrey Library
- 21 River St – met at Jaffrey Library
- 22 River St – met at Jaffrey Library

It was noted that the purpose of these meetings was to provide the property owners information on the process and to answer their questions. No commitments were made as the NHDOT needs to wait until the formal Public Hearing process is concluded.

Mr. Kennedy then proceeded to provide the Committee an advanced look at some “before and after” visualizations. He noted that the visualizations would be shown at the Public Hearing to help the public visualize what the project would look like once in place.

Mr. Pete Walker, VHB’s Environmental Scientist, then provided a brief overview of the key environmental issues noting that an Environmental Study is being prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The expected result of the Environmental Study is approval of the project as a “Categorical Exclusion.” Mr. Walker discussed:

- Wetlands and river impacts
- Floodplains
- Rare Species
- Parks and Recreational Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Stormwater

In reviewing the parks and recreational resources, Mr. Walker noted that the shifting of Peterborough St. to the south would impact the Bissell Alderman Park, which is located adjacent to the Rite Aid, and that would necessitate the need for the park to be relocated - including the Historic stone horse trough with plaque and the benches. Frank Sterling reminded everyone that the park was named after Bissell Alderman, a local architect who was very engaged in the community – and who also designed the War Memorial Park.

Following the overview on the environmental issues, the Committee discussed potential dates for the Public Hearing. Some properties did require a 90-day notice. Notice was sent by PDF to Ms. Carr, Town of Jaffrey, and NHDOT coordinated with Ms. Carr to post the 90-notice in the Town Office and Library. Ms. Carr confirmed at the meeting that she posted the notice. (NHDOT also sent a hard copy of the 90-day notice to the Town Manager and emailed a copy to each Commission Member as a courtesy.) The notice indicated that the Public Hearing will be held no sooner than September 19, 2019, ninety (90) days from the date of the notice. Ms. Chase indicated that once the date is established, a formal notice of the meeting will be sent to all properties within the study area. Additionally, Mr. Kennedy noted that a 3<sup>rd</sup> project newsletter will be prepared and distributed noting the date and location of the Public

Hearing. The newsletter would also provide an overview of the Hearing process and how individuals can submit their comments.

Best nights from the town's perspective are either Wednesday or Thursday. Select Board meets on Mondays. NHDOT is currently coordinating available dates with Special Committee members. One member was not available on Thursday the 26<sup>th</sup>. We may need to push out to October 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>. NHDOT to coordinate with other Special Committee members and will get back to Advisory Committee.

### **Questions/Comments**

**Comment** (Jo Anne Carr) – Visualizations are helpful. Can you do a view looking at the roundabout from Peterborough St?

**Response** M. Kennedy stated that we'll consider other potential views.

**Comment** – (Keith Dupuis) – Concerned with the use of porous pavement. Requires extra maintenance and can be difficult to de-ice.

**Response** P. Walker stated that we'll consider this issue as we move forward into final design.

**Comment** (Frank Sterling) – Any expansion of the War Memorial park may require the construction of a retaining wall along the river.

**Response** - M. Kennedy noted that we won't know what will be needed until we get into final design, but the understanding is that if the NHDOT and the War Memorial Committee comes to an agreement on expanding the park to offset the corner of the existing park that would need to be acquired, no costs would fall to the War Memorial Committee.

**Comment** (Keith Dupuis) – Isn't the parking at the Depot building on Blake Street being impacted? Should you talk with the owner of that property?

**Response** – M. Kennedy said that we'll take a look at it and if needed we'll reach out to the owner.

**Comment** (John Peard/ David Chamberlain) – Need to consider safety implications of snowmobiles crossing the street.

**Response** (M. Kennedy) – Our intent was to neither prohibit snowmobiles crossing nor encourage them, but rather to accommodate them as best possible. (V. Chase) – We have had discussions with Chris Gamache (State Trails Bureau Chief) on the subject. (M. Kennedy) – We'll follow-up with Chief Chamberlain to discuss further.

**Comment** (Mark Fraser, Eversource) – Time required to relocate any utility infrastructure can be lengthy, currently estimating three (3) construction seasons needed to relocate utilities.

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**Response** M. Kennedy stated that we have adjusted the River Street roundabout so that the manhole is in the truck apron and not in the travel way. Nevertheless, these plans are still conceptual. The details of any needed utility relocations will be part of the final design. V. Chase provided a brief overview of the process that will follow the Public Hearing noting that the NHDOT and Eversource will need to coordinate as we move through the final design phase.

The meeting concluded at approximately 9:10 am.