



**COMPLETE STREETS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: February 13, 2024
TIME/PLACE: 7:30 AM - 9:00 AM
PRESENT: Chair Liz McDonald, Adam Bliss, Sally Walsh, Kim True, Phil Wagner, Councilor Eric Smith, Barbara Guffin
ABSENT: Police Chief Nate Goodman, Andy Seymour, (1) Vacancy
GUESTS: Earl Gibson, Kristen Dorsey, Chalmers Hardenbergh, Town Manager Sophie Wilson

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
I. Welcome, Agenda, Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda Reviewed • The motion to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2024 meeting was made by Sally Walsh and seconded by Phil Wagner. All approved, six in favor, none opposed. 	Motion passed, 6-0
II. Workplan Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desert Rd and Mallett Drive Bridges are making progress. There was a question about signal coordination for inbound traffic coming from Routes 136 & 125. MDOT will give us information on the traffic light design and how the state-of-the-art technology will work to register movement and traffic flow. We will continue to monitor traffic flow. Please note that the design of the Pownal Road intersection is not part of the bridge work but will be reviewed in the Mallett Drive design work. • Lower Main Street Beautification is on hold while other areas are being pursued (such as the Concord Brook Trail). The good news is that the Town is applying for a Planning Partnership Initiative (PPI) grant to hire a consultant for design work for Lower Main Street, Downtown Village, and Mallett Drive. This work will then help us apply for federal grants to implement solutions identified during the PPI study. • Multi-Use path solutions are in process from the Yarmouth town line to Pine Street and from Pine Street to the Downtown Village. • The Coordination map with Freeport Committees will be assessed as Town Committee roles are better understood. The future hire of a Communications Specialist will greatly help with the effort. • The Lower Main Street Railroad bridge is scheduled for overhaul in 2026 at the earliest due to ROW negotiations with the railroad and probably other bridge work in the area. The Cousins River Bridge replacement will be advertised for bid in spring 2024. There will be a 10-foot-wide, fully-separated, multi-use path across the bridge. The path will connect Freeport and Yarmouth from Exit 15 to the Casco Bay YMCA. 	



<p>III. Complete Streets Policy</p>	<p>The CSC identified sections in the Policy needing additional work, specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 4c (including e-bikes, scooters, motorized wheelchairs, and other low-speed electric vehicles; ➤ (change 5d2 also); ➤ 9b. reference to the Active Living Committee Plan; ➤ 11b. develop performance measures and monitoring measures; and, ➤ Attachments: these sections will be addressed in more detail at a future meeting. 	
<p>IV. Tree Task Force</p>	<p>Kristen Dorsey from the Tree Task Force, a sub-committee of the Freeport Sustainability Advisory Board (FSAB), shared components of work being performed by the Tree Task Force. Ms. Dorsey mentioned that the Complete Streets Committee might be a more logical place to align project ideas. Three areas identified for tree plantings are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The corner of Bow and Middle Street 2. Behind Starbucks 3. The corner of Main Street and Nathan Nye Street. <p>The former peddler cart area at the corner of Bow and Middle Street is on private property owned by L.L. Bean. Kristen Dorsey stated she would contact Andy Seymour of L.L. Bean for opportunities to protect tree roots and possibly provide benches in the worn-down space.</p> <p>Behind Starbucks is an important small park that the Tree Task Force believes could benefit from plantings, seating, or other outdoor furniture. Town Engineer Adam Bliss stated the project needs a scope, schedule, and budget to identify rehabilitation opportunities. The survey information must include underground utilities, property lines, property line setbacks, and an as-built survey. Kristen Dorsey agreed the space would benefit from beautification or formalization rather than major transformation. Earl Gibson of Public Works stated the ash tree at the corner of Main Street and Nathan Nye Street must be removed because the brick sidewalk has heaved and is unsafe. Adam Bliss, Town Engineer, stated that per Audubon Society guidance, the right tree should be planted in the right place at the right time. Mr. Gibson stated a replacement tree will be planted in honor of the Freeport Woman’s Club in celebration of its 100th anniversary.</p>	



<p>V. Connect Freeport</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kim True reported that funds from the Momentum grant have been awarded for bike racks and a repair station to be installed in the spring of 2024. Due to circumstances beyond our control, the Village Station site may not be available, and we've been asked to scout out another site. Six possible areas in Freeport are: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The space between the post office and the former Key Bank; 2. The Key Bank lot at the front corner of Main and Elm Streets; 3. The grass strip in front of Meetinghouse Arts; 4. The upper bricked courtyard between Sperry Shoe Store and Vineyard Vines 5. The back section of the bricked courtyard next to Fjallraven; and, 6. The Town-owned lot behind Starbucks (off Nathan Nye Street). <p>The space needed for the proposal is approximately 20 feet by 6 feet, and the Momentum grant sub-committee will continue to meet to resolve this issue.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Connect Freeport is continuing its planning of multi-use paths for both the Yarmouth town line to the Pine Street section and from Pine Street to the Downtown Village. • Andy Spaulding and Natalie Paul are creating an inventory of Active Living Plan projects in Freeport to incorporate into the Downtown Village areas. Projects can include existing grant requests, future requests, and improvement ideas. • The next Connect Freeport meeting is Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 10:00 am. 	
<p>VI. Other/Adjournment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The final item was a question about the Pleasant Hill intersection. This change will continue as originally planned. • Barbara Guffin motioned to adjourn and Phil Wagner seconded the motion. The motion carried six in favor and none opposed. The next meeting is on March 12, 2024. 	<p>Motion passed, 6-0</p>