

Richmond Transportation Committee

Meeting Minutes – February 18, 2021

All participants attended the meeting remotely.

Committee members: Cathleen Gent (chair), Erik Filkorn, James Floyd, Allen Knowles, Chris Cole, Jon Kart

Absent: Mark Damico

Others present: Ravi Venkataraman, Jeff Forward

Cathleen Gent opened the meeting at 5:44 PM.

Meeting Minutes: February 4 Minutes moved by Filkorn, seconded by Knowles. Approved unanimously.

Additions to Agenda: None

UPWP Project Updates

Ravi met with the Bridge Street team on Monday. Final touches of survey. Presented rough alternatives to CCRPC and Ravi. Some elements are similar to prior Bridge Street study. Some work on the rails and slopes.

Northern Bike/Ped Master Plan steering committee met. Great turnout. Great comments. CCRPC/Toole will be presenting alternatives Mid-March.

Cole suggested we send a letter formally requesting that the sidewalk reserve fund be funded more aggressively in the next budget cycle. Gent noted that we will have the first two UPWP reports in hand in June and perhaps that would be a good time to send such a missive. We will revisit once we have draft reports.

Future of Rural Transit

Jeff Forward joined for this item and talked about a pilot being advanced by the Energy Action Network and a long list of partners. The concept would comingle general public and students utilizing an electric bus. Theoretical route would be along Route 2 between Smiley and Riverview Commons. Pilot could operate 2-3 years. Partners would include MMUSD, GMT, GMP and the Town. Cole expressed skepticism about the school component but said he would be willing to offer technical support to the town on securing a transit route in the future. Forward is looking for a letter of support if the School District on board. There was some back and forth over how and when such a letter would be generated. Motion by Kart to authorize the chair to approve a letter of support which would include seeking clarification on local match, district participation and outside consultant to do analysis. Seconded by Cole. Approved unanimously.

Google Docs

Group will be created. We will review process in next meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Knowles, Seconded by Cole. Approved unanimously. No abstentions.

-Erik Filkorn