



West Concord Advisory Committee – Feb. 4, 2026

The meeting opened at 7:31 pm

In attendance – Anna Feldweg (chair), Barbara Morse, Lindsay Wolff, Nicole Hammond, Alison Alley, Elizabeth Hughes (Planning Dept.), Megan Zammuto (Deputy Town Manager), Sumi Fasolo, Jean Easterday, Margaret Schumacher, Ann Sgarzi, Mark Boasberg, Cosette Dunn, Paul Boehm (Select Board Liaison), Dan Stapleton, Cynthia Katz

This meeting focused on a presentation by and discussion with Megan Zammuto on improving cell coverage in the West Concord business district now that coverage in the center of town is on the road to improvement. She noted that 3 listening sessions on this topic are available online.

The major points shared were:

- Cell towers are often sited on private property. The town is now looking at town owned property.
- 2 sites have been considered, Rideout and Harvey Wheeler.
- Due to the space and historic nature of Harvey Wheeler, Rideout has been considered the better option as the flagpole, base and sheds could be used for service equipment. Carriers need to have 24- hour access to their equipment.

Question and comments -

- **What about considering the MBTA lot?** Not currently being considered. Working with the MBTA can be challenging. There is also a timeframe crunch to solicit bids by the 2026 fiscal year start, as supported by the Select Board.
- **What will the pole at Rideout, a mono pole or one with “branches” off of it?** A mono pole which will have a single carrier. With 3 carriers in Concord, it won’t solve things for everyone, but will be a start.
- **What is the issue with coverage? Most people we know have great coverage?** WC center has been identified as one of 3 areas, needing improved coverage.
- **Please consider the MBTA lot and save space at Rideout. At one time, the MBTA wanted cell towers at every stop.** This was considered in 2017, but has been dropped.
- **What about Gerow?** Gerow may be too far away to get good coverage.
- **Has a survey been done to identify what he need actually is? Where are the actual gaps?** In the business district.
- **What revenue will the town get?**
- **How high would the monopole be?** Don’t know right now.

- **Property values in the neighborhood may go down if the Rideout site is chosen. Rideout is a small but major civic space. It's challenging to think about how it will impact the space.**
- **Have small cell approaches been considered?** We would be happy to consider that if opportunities arise. Carriers would still need to show interest.
- **What about considering private properties?** Using private property has not been abandoned. Someone would have to come forward and offer that.
- **What other locations have been considered? Schools?**
- **Have you considered that some people are sensitive to radio signals?**
- **Rideout is already too small. Please look at other sites. Can we see a design of how much space will be taken up and what it will look like?** There are no designs yet, but I'll try to get some.

Thank you all for your feedback. Here are the issues you have raised; Concerns about the impact at Rideout, a better definition of the service gaps, the possible effect on property values, and the urgency of the RFP.

A review of the wayfinding signs along the BFRT was summarized.

- Funding has been approved - \$27501
- Signage has already been approved by other towns
- The money from the CPA needs to be used
- Signs will be along the 3.75 miles in W.C.
- 3 large Directory signs at Gerow, Nashoba Brook and the Rifle Range describing local amenities and businesses

Questions were raised about the proposed Rifle Range sign. All questions and comments can be directed to Mimi Granger, Economic Vitality Committee.

166 Commonwealth update – The developers have filed a formal application with the Board of Appeals and the Planning Board. Discussions have begun with the NRC. Meetings with the planning Board will be held on 2/24; back with the WCAC on March 4; then with the planning Board again in late March.

The January 2026 minutes were approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 pm.