



## Battle Road Scenic Byway Committee

Date: February 24, 2022

Time: 10:00 am

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85813541330?pwd=azJzaStuNTRBaDIXVHAvOFrsZDh5dz09>

Webinar ID: 858 1354 1330 Password: 775465

Attendees: Paul Fennelly (Arlington); Clarissa Rowe, (Arlington); Heather Gill (Concord); Paula Vaughn-MacKenzie (Lincoln); Bob Domnitz (Vice Chair, Lincoln); Richard Canale, (Secretary, Lexington); Nancy Nelson (Chair, Concord) ;; Jeanne Krieger (Lexington); Sheila Page (Lexington); Jennifer Pierce (NPS);; Christopher Klem (MassDOT)

Guests: Wendall Kalsow (Lexington Historical Commission), Jane Herlacher (Lincoln Roadside & Traffic Committee); Melissa Saalfield (Concord Historical Commission, Chair); Karlen Reed (Concord resident); Sara Mattes (Lincoln Historical Society)

### Minutes

1. Review of the Working Group's Feb 22 Draft report on the 100% Rte 2A plansletter. C. Rowe (Arlington) declines support of draft report.
2. FHWA and MassDOT hosted a Section 106 Consulting Parties meeting on Friday Feb 18<sup>th</sup>. This was not a recorded presentation. C. Rowe (Arlington) stated that Battle Road Scenic By Way Committee is a consulting party to MADOT and Federal Highways in this project.
3. P. Vaughn-MacKenzie (Lincoln) stated that the issue of crosswalks is where the town entities disagree. She added that this is the opportunity to address the needs of pedestrians and bicyclists. If repaving is all that is happening, this will only add to speed concerns.
4. B. Dominitz (Lincoln) stated that without crosswalks, the south side of Minute Man National Historical Park is not (safely) accessible to users.
5. Sheila Page (Lexington) agrees that safety concerns are paramount.
6. R. Canale (Lexington) questioned that if there is only one phase to this project, when and where would a speed study take place? Should calming measures be added to aid the speed study? R. Canale suggested seeking future grant money to address this need.
7. J. Pierce (Minute Man NHP) stated that Superintendent Montelone is awaiting written update there will only be Phase 1.

8. N. Nelson (Concord) stated that we first want no harm. Stated a speed study will not guarantee a reduction in speed. She stated the impact to the historic fabric has not been elevated by this committee. Concord's position has been aligned with Concord representatives.
9. B. Dominitz responded that supporting crosswalks does not mean that historic fabric has not been considered.
10. P. Vaughn-MacKenzie states that Lincoln is concerned with the rural character. Calming the traffic supports the rural character.
11. S. Mattes (Public) comments that the process of this committee has lacked consistent recordings of these meetings. Minutes should be shared widely. Without sharing recordings and minutes, there is confusion of who said what. Suggests towns document their positions to improve committee effectiveness and send a succinct letter to MassDOT to get answers in writing for better communications. States that though crosswalks are accessible, if they lead to no connection, this makes no sense. Connecting the access paths and trails should be committed to before crosswalks are installed.
12. K. Reed (Public) supports Concord's position.
13. M. Saalfeld (public) supports Concord's position and has written to the Governor to share concerns about communication.
14. J. Herlacher (Public) Concerned that Lincoln's position does not represent its citizens. She advocates for a stop sign at Bedford Road.
15. B. Dominitz replies that Lincoln's comments reflect the most current proposal.
16. C. Klem (MassDOT) will take his notes to MassDOT and seek the official record that there is no phase 2. He emphasized the priority to resurface the road before 2025, and that speed limit signs cannot simply be changed.
17. R. Canale referenced the MassDOT guidance that "Beacons are not mandated or required" and noted an example at spring street where speed was reduced without a speed study.
18. J. Krieger(Public) states she is troubled by crosswalks going nowhere. Sees no provision for cyclist safety.
19. P. Vaughn-MacKenzie noted that the committee agrees on a waiver for steel-backed timber guardrails.
20. P. Fennelly observes that the committee does not agree to delay this project by a year.
21. N. Nelson stated that the committee doesn't agree on a draft letter to MassDOT.
22. W. Kalsow states that this must all be submitted to Mass Historical Commission for Section 106 input.
23. P. Fennelly states that we should not show a difference in each entities position.
24. N. Nelson states that stating separate positions will hinder our future needs (such as for grant). Our agreement is in: reducing speed limits, guardrails with waiver, repaving, realignment of Lexington/2A Intersection and Airport Road/2A intersection, and 10.5 lane width (as established by DOT).

25. P. Vaughn-MacKenzie states that the committee was at an impasse and moved that a letter not be sent to DOT. Heather Gill seconds this. The motion doesn't carry.
26. Paula moves that a letter to DOT be drafted stating areas of agreement for consideration at the next meeting. S. Paige will draft a new letter to bring back to the committee by March 24th. Motion Carried.
27. J. Pierce will reach out to C. Klem, P. Fennelly and S. Mattes to plan for All American Road dedication event this summer.
28. Chris Klem will send information on grant opportunities to the Committee.
29. Nancy will do a rough draft of a 2021 Annual Report for Committee consideration – target date next meeting.
30. Meeting adjourned at 11:39a

Next Meeting March 24, 2022 at 10:00am

Minutes Drafted By:

Minutes Approved: 3/24/2022