



# TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

## DRAFT MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 14, 2017

**Members Present:** ✓ Tom Hall ✓ Carlton D. Hunt ☐ TBD

**Guests:** Keven Mandiville, OSP Committee.

The September 14, 2017 MPC meeting was called to order at 4:05 PM in Academy Building Rm 201B.

There were no public comments.

The August 24, 2017 minutes were approved with no changes. Motion passed (2,0)

### Old Business

Community and Economic Development Update:

- A. No update was provided.
- B. An update on the Housing Production Plan was not provided.
- C. Downtown revitalization strategy and progress. An update was not available. The chair indicated he had encouraged the Town Manager to develop a downtown revitalization workplan. Such a plan would identify specific tasks, schedules, and funding needs in a flexible framework for moving ahead. This contrasts with the piecemeal approach currently in play.
- D. Upcoming Ordinances
  - a. Sign ordinance: No update
  - b. Inclusive zoning: The comparison table of inclusive zoning developed by the Chair was reviewed briefly. The committee suggested that the Chair send it to the list of interested people who received the CED Director's most recent update. He agreed to provide the document which now includes changes suggested to the Bridgewater Rev. 1 document.
- E. TransitX: The Chair briefed the committee on his discussions with Mike Stanley, CEO of the TransitX and meeting with the Town Manager regarding TransitX's proposal. The Chair noted that TransitX has provided proposal updates including potential revenue to the Town of Bridgewater (See Attached for a Summary). The Chair reported he had requested and received the Town Manager's approval to submit the TransitX draft licensing agreement and financial model to the Town Attorney and Assistant Town Assessor for review and comment. The Chair noted that the most recent versions of those documents are under review by those departments.
  - a. After discussion of the process and next steps, a motion "to send the TransitX proposal and supporting documentation to the Town Manager and Town Council for action" was made, seconded and passed (2,0). \*

### New Business

- A. The CED Director was not available to discuss critical issues for the committee to address when his replacement is named.
- B. The Chair indicated that the High Street Dam and Bridge inspections have occurred. The Chair noted that his understanding is a report on the findings will be delivered to the Town in the November timeframe.

No further discussion or actions being identified the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for October 12, 2017 @ 4PM, Room 201B, Academy Building.

Submitted by Carlton D. Hunt, Ph.D.

MPC Chair



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*\*Note: Discussions with the Town Manager the following day determined that the Town should hold action on this proposal to ensure proper processes are followed. He advised that the Town needs to follow a process that includes development and passage of air rights zoning followed by a formal competitive RFP soliciting concepts for rapid transit that would make use of the air rights zoning. The Chair will bring these ideas to the next MPC for further considerations and action.*



# TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE

**DRAFT MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 14, 2017**

## **TransitX Summary of Municipal Agreements for Podway, September 16, 2017**

### **Definitions**

#### **Podway network**

A grade-separated railway (Podway) for pods, which are fully-automated, all-electric vehicles with a maximum gross weight of 454 kg (1000 lbs)

#### **Podway provider**

The system operator of the Podway network

### **Location to insert into municipal code**

#### **Section pertaining to encroachments and/or rights-of-way for structures**

Example: Applications for the placement and installation of podways within a public street, alley, easement or right-of-way shall be governed by subsection of this section.

Encroachments and facilities on or in public streets, alleys, easements and rights-of-way

### **Permitting to construct Podway network**

#### **Permit required for Podway Provider to construct Podway network**

Defines any exceptions to standard permitting process regarding environmental permits, bonded construction, engineering plans, approvals, fees, traffic mitigation, notification, insurance, protection of adjoining property, etc.

**States which other sections of code (utility, railroad, permitting) apply or are superseded**

### **Service Agreement for Podway Provider**

Includes terms, conditions, obligations, payments & fees

**Purpose: transportation for both public and private use**

#### **Term:**

15 years with auto-renewal every 10 years

Termination with 1 year notice for a route and 3 year notice for system

#### **Fees and taxes**

Lease air rights for 4% of gross revenue with minimum.

Local tax is 1% of gross revenue with minimum.

Quarterly payments due within 45 days from end of period

#### **Passenger Fares**

Passenger fares set under "Fair Fare Policy"

#### **Safety, Certification, Inspections**

Defines applicable state and federal codes

Defines a safety board and its role

#### **Indemnification, liability, insurance**

Indemnification: Provider will indemnify municipality

Limitation of liability: neither party liable to the other party



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Insurance: carry and maintain insurance  
Caps

### **Service levels**

Minimum 99% availability outside scheduled maintenance, 24/7  
Under one minute median wait-time  
Scheduled maintenance windows  
Equitable coverage  
Penalties not meeting minimum service levels

### **Use**

Exclusive use of Podway Provider, other than specified below.  
Transportation of people, goods, energy, and data.  
Wireless spectrum use for pod to podway communication  
Leasing of conduit  
Leasing for antennas  
Use for street lighting

### **Municipal control**

Establish speed limits  
Temporary or emergency shutdown procedures

### **Maintenance**

Clearance boundaries  
Trees: maintained according to clearance.  
responsiveness

### **Impact on surroundings**

No advertising on track or pods  
Limited use of poles for banners or displays  
Sound levels: under 60 dBA at typical distance  
No major light source other than for street lighting or satisfying code requirements at stops

### **Other legal**

Arbitration to settle conflicts.  
Where lawsuits are to be filed  
Notice  
Harm  
Regulatory authority  
Constitutes entire agreement  
Conflicts: has precedence over existing provisions in muni code  
Severability: Agreement is valid, if one part declared invalid  
Effective date

## **Ordinance for construction and operation of podway network**

### **Whereas**

Amend code to provide for construction and operation of podway network  
Service and operations defined in Service Agreement  
Achieves goals of public health, safety, general welfare, efficiency, sustainability, convenient transportation  
Does not negatively impact other transportation modes or utilities.



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Does not require public money for capital costs or operations

Bonded installation and removal

Safety-certified based on applicable state and federal standards for automated people movers

Proper process followed for notifications and hearings

### **Now, therefore**

Amended and incorporated into code

Approval to negotiate a Service Agreement