

CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE

Standing Committee on Transportation, Sustainability and Energy

Councilor David Marshall (D2), Chair

Councilor Kevin Donoghue (D1), Vice Chair

Councilor John Anton (A/L)

Councilor Cheryl Leeman (D4)

July 17, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Chair David Marshall, Councilor Kevin Donoghue, Councilor Cheryl Leeman, Councilor John Anton (absent), Jeremiah Bartlett, Melissa Graffam, Bill Needleman, Mike Bobinsky

Chair David Marshall called the meeting at 5:30 pm

1. Approval of June 19, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Motion made by Councilor Leeman to approve minutes from June 19, 2013 meeting, Seconded by Councilor Donoghue. Motion passed 3-0.

2. A. Franklin Street Phase II Update

B. Somerset Street Reconnection Phase I

C. PACTS-TMA Transition Staff Update

D. Thompson's Point EDA Grant- Staff Update

These items were all Communications and the Committee did not have any questions or concerns.

3. A. Traffic Schedule Amendment- Endorse/forward to City Council

1. Sewell Street

This item was originally approved and passed (3-0) by the Committee. Just before the meeting was over, the resident of 14 Sewell Street. Karen True asked to speak on behalf of this amendment. After a brief discussion in finding out there was an error of the meeting start time on the website and Ms. True came after this was discussed, the Committee agreed to hear her concerns.

Ms. True feels that the new on-street parking changes would be disruptive to her business and has asked the City to reconsider. Councilor Leeman made a motion for staff to revisit the proposed parking changes in that area and to report the findings back to the Committee at the September meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilor Marshall. Motion passed 3-0

3. B. Peninsula Wayfinding- Endorse for City Council Adoption

Bill Needelman presented the Committee with the final peninsula wayfinding plan. Bill was looking for the Committee to recommend the plan to go to City Council for approval.

Councilor Leeman asked if the plan also included bicycle wayfinding. Bill noted that the plan included bike wayfinding but that the cost estimate it did not. The preliminary costs that are done are \$300-400,000. An estimated cost to include bicycles would be \$500,000. Councilor Leeman asked if this could be phased it. Bill said that phasing it in could cause problems as it could put someone at a

loss. Councilor Leeman asked to see if it is foreseeable to do it in phased as the cost is high and come back with an implementation plan.

Councilor Donoghue made a motion to move this item to City Council for their approval, along with making an amendment to the plan to not incorporate the new City ~~logo~~branding slogan. Motion seconded by Councilor Leeman. Motion passed 3-0.

3. C. Green Packaging Working Group- Recommended Ordinance to Prohibit the Sale of Polystyrene Foam Food Packaging-

Councilor Ed Suslovic introduced the topic as he did in last month's meeting. Councilor Suslovic mentions that polystyrene is not economically feasible to recycle. Density wise (since it is made of almost all air) the costs associated to transport this product would be high. Councilor Suslovic did remind the Committee that it does state in the ordinance, if we could recycle polystyrene effectively this ban would go away. Kevin Roche from ecomaine also spoke to the fact that polystyrene is currently not economically feasible to recycle.

Councilor Leeman asked two questions; exactly what amount of polystyrene are we talking about and what is the benefit of the ban? What is the economic impact of the ban? Councilor Leeman is concerned of the unintentional impacts of this ban and has done a lot of research on this. She would also like to see the City take the time to do a comprehensive plan.

Councilor Donoghue made a motion to move the recommended ordinance to the City Council. Motion Seconded by Councilor Marshall. Motion passed 2-1.

4. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm