

**Somerville Transportation Equity Partnership - June Monthly Meeting**  
**Community Room, Visiting Nurses Association (VNA), 259 Lowell St., Somerville, MA**  
**June 21, 2010, 7pm-9pm**

**Minutes**

- Introductions
  - Attendees: Chris Meiman, Karen Molloy, Liz Fong, Jim McGinnis, Ellin Reisner, Wig Zamore, Steve Mulder, Heather V., Kristi Chase, Maaza Mekuria, Lynn Weissman, Elizabeth Murphy
  - Quorum: Yes
  
- Organizational
  - Approve meeting notes and attendance list from May 2010 meeting
    - No objections
  - Brief financial report
    - Waiting on information from people, meeting on Thursday on what's missing
  - STEP/HUD contract with STEP discussed. STEP will receive organizational support for the three years of the contract and Ellin will be paid for being the field project manager.
  - Interviews with scientists
    - Wig Zamore has been cepted to give a talk on September 1 in Korea at ISEE/ISES conference. Goal is to have videos up prior to that.
    - Discussion of providing Wig's airfare to Korea
  
- Discussion topics:
  - Community path
    - State is supportive of funding design, but not in terms of construction of path. won't put path in new starts application, only doing green line alone because it will require the state to provide 50% match. state doesn't want to pay 50% of incremental 2% of the total project cost for the path
    - City will do the TIGER II application – which is for 80% funding. City would be responsible for raising 20% of \$16-30 million dollars - \$5 million over 10, 20, or 30 years
    - Still trying to get state to contribute towards partial funding using green line infrastructure
    - At same time, state proposing \$1.7 billion dollar commuter rail expansion that will serve fewer people per day
    - It was suggested that path proponents speak during June 30 FEIR meeting
    - Discussion about whether needed retaining walls to support the path are being designed?
    - Key points for people to state in their FEIR comments include Stating that they want the path, why they want it. We should ask that the state be required to put the community path into the design-build

contract. keep the construction and funding of the community path in the GLX

- It was recommended that the STEP website add a box noting that the community path website is under construction and provide the additional content/information.
- Bruce Freeman Trail from Lowell to Framingham through Concord/Sudbury received \$500k for design last year, \$900k for design. Tens of millions of dollars over next 10 years, but no other paths except BFT have done as much outreach.
- Somerville Path would connect Minuteman path (busiest path) into Boston; counterproductive to not fund it. 3 miles. It was recommend that we solicit support from other neighboring communities.
- Artbeat preparation discussed
  - Consider new T-shirt designs for next eyar.
  - Big map
    - Ellin will get laminated map at Cambridge Reprographics
  - Timeline
    - Given to high school to print
    - Post both MassDOT designs and the design workshop designs? - one or two good images per station from original JPG files
  - Brochures/publications
    - Air quality
      - Need to add mention of HUD study. Can't print any materials from the project without Tufts's permission but can refer people
    - Transportation
      - Need to update the flyer - maybe a page from community path, page from step, page from east Cambridge?
    - Assembly square?
      - Concerns about overwhelming people with information, but also about appearing too GLX-centric
    - Friends of the community path will share table
    - [Lynn will update community path materials, call to action to write FEIR comments and will have stamps and paper and envelopes available
  - Tables/canopies
    - Steve will offer folding table, chairs, tent
    - Others should loan tables/chairs if they can
  - Volunteers
    - Please e-mail Karen if you want to help.
- FEIR hearing
  - Prepare talking points
    - **We are meeting at 11am on Sunday 6/27 at Bloc 11 in Union Square to brainstorm.**
    - FEIR is limited to specific issues (addendum to DEIR)
    - They're reluctant to talk about stations until September
    - They focused largely on Lechmere thanks to East Cambridge planning team's efforts and progress

- Very vague about bus connectivity in FEIR - important because people riding to Lechmere might want to get on the green line sooner now
    - Discussion of Union Square bus connectivity - probably more relevant in fall, but have to emphasize that it needs to be thought out.
    - We always need a large number of people to show up if possible
  - Outreach
    - Someone needs to hand flyers out at FEIR meeting
    - Reach out to list of regional groups
    - AI [Steve]: We should post facebook events
- MassDOT station design committees
  - List of people will be posted once people confirm their participation
  - First meeting in July, but substantive public meetings not until later
- Option L
  - We need to schedule meetings among people with strong interest regarding option L design in early July
- Community Corridor Project charrette/workshop review
  - Reconvene station area workshops - identify one person in each team to be the contact person
- Booking a date for STEP at the Union Square farmers' market?
  - Jim: look into securing date
- Flight paths out of Logan
  - FAA declined 30L runway departure over Bedford, but said over Wellington would be okay.
  - FAA want early release allowing planes to choose to fly over cambridge and somerville
- Assembly square
  - Design 75% done