

Grand Vision
Transportation Network
Tuesday November 1, 2011

DRAFT
MEETING NOTES

In Attendance:

Matt Skeels
Bob Carstens
Jim Lively
Herb Lemcool
Mike Woods
James Bruckbauer
Jim Moore
Carrie Bourdages
Connor Miller
Marc McKellar
Julie Clark

Mr. Moore called the meeting to order at 3:30pm.

Mr. Lemcool stated that although he is a Grand Traverse County Commissioner, he is not representing Grand Traverse County at the Grand Vision Transportation Network meetings.

The Network members agreed by consensus to accept the draft meeting notes from the October meeting.

Mr. Moore asked that the goals discussion be pushed back to the end of the agenda.

The Silver Drive project is completed and is now open to traffic. The official ribbon cutting will take place November 10 at 10:00am at the Pine Rest Clinic.

Ms. Bourdages reported that the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments (under the Grand Vision name) will be sending out a press release about the project completion.

Ms. Bourdages and Mr. Miller demonstrated how to access the Grand Vision calendar functions on the Grand Vision website. It is possible to sync your calendar with the Grand Vision calendar so that updates/meeting dates automatically are added to your calendar.

Mr. Bruckbauer reported that the Transit Subcommittee had met and formed the bus stop/shelter task force, with the goal being to inventory and assess all the bus stops/shelters in the 6 county area that are on fixed route systems. Mr. Woods volunteered to assist the task force. The Cadillac Wexford Transit Authority (CWTA) and the Buckley Transfer Center will be featured on the Wexford County television station story. Mr. Bruckbauer reminded the Network members that the BATA millage vote is next Tuesday. The Transit subcommittee is also discussing a May or June non-motorized transportation summit. The next meeting of the Transit

subcommittee is scheduled for December 15 at 4:00pm, the location is to be determined – but will be set soon and posted on the Grand Vision Calendar webpage.

Mr. Woods advised the Network that the Growth and Investment Network is working towards a follow up Placemaking summit in the Spring of 2012. These two events should be coordinated as to minimize conflict.

Mr. McKellar reported on the Michigan Chamber Logistics Hub workshop that was held at the Resort. The discussions centered around freight rail system linking the Chicago-Detroit-Toronto-Montreal super region via the Halifax Nova Scotia deep water port. This may affect many things in Michigan, including rail-trail projects, as rail operators may be unwilling to share the right-of-way with non-rail uses if rail usage expands as a result of the rail freight system.

Ms. Clark reported on the most recent Road Diet forum hosted by the Complete Streets subcommittee. The forum featured speakers from URS and the City of Lansing who discussed potential road diet projects. Ms. Clark also discussed the City of Traverse City's corridor studies. The first corridor to be studied is the Eighth Street. The Natural Resources Network has expressed interest in co-authoring a letter to the City with the Transportation Network and potentially other Networks reminding the City of the Grand Vision principles and urge them to be considered in the studies as they move forward.

Ms. Bourdages reported that And Knott of the Natural Resources Network had brought this up at the recent CORE Group meeting.

The Network members were agreeable to co-authoring the letter, assuming the CORE group is aware and approves the content of the letter prior to sending it.

Mr. McKellar discussed the issues of pedestrian/vehicular priority and gave a number of examples where pedestrians thought they had the right-of-way but actually didn't. The Network members thought this was a good topic to continue discussion on in the future – possibly bringing in the Complete Streets subcommittee to help with the discussion.

Mr. McKellar discussed his thoughts on the Governors transportation proposals and the possibility of the Network group hosting a forum discussing the proposals.

The Network group discussed the potential problems of the forum, such as ensuring that the Grand Vision is not seen as advocating for or against any of the proposals.

The Network Group asked Mr. Skeels to contact Mr. DeYoung of the TC Chamber to discuss the potential forum, timing of the bills etc. prior to the next meeting

The meeting adjourned at 5:05pm.

