



# Town of Hopkinton

Office of Select Board

330 Main Street, Hopkinton NH 03229-2627 - (603) 746-3170 – [www.hopkinton-nh.gov](http://www.hopkinton-nh.gov)

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2020 – 6:00 P.M.

The meeting of the Economic Development Committee (EDC) was called to order by Steven Whitley on Thursday, February 20, 2020, at 6:02 p.m. in the Philip S. Dunlap Room at the Town Hall.

**Members Present:** Tom Congoran, Andrea Folsom, Jim Fredyma, Anna Wells, and Steven Whitley

**Members Absent:** Erik Newman

**Staff Present:** Neal Cass-Town Administrator

### Joint Meeting with Henniker Concerning the Maple St./Route 202/9 Intersection

The EDC meeting began with a joint meeting between Henniker officials, CNHRPC, NHDOT, and Hopkinton officials to discuss the Maple St./Route 202/9 intersection. The notes to this portion of the meeting are attached.

After the joint meeting, the EDC meeting continued beginning at 7:30 p.m.

### Approval of Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes of the January 16, 2020 meeting. Mr. Fredyma made a motion, seconded by Ms. Folsom, to approve the Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes of January 16, 2020. Mr. Whitley called for the vote.

**VOTE:** Folsom, Fredyma, Wells, and Whitley voting in favor of the motion; no votes against; Congoran abstained; MOTION APPROVED 4-0-1.

### Land Swap Update

The Executive Council has approved the land swap between the Town of Hopkinton and the State of New Hampshire. Final arrangements will now be made to complete the process.

### Review of the Intersection Meeting

The committee reviewed the discussion at the beginning of the meeting concerning the Maple St./ Routes 202/9 intersection. It was stressed how important it is for the towns to work together and to come together with one solution.

### Economic Development Director

The Committee reviewed the draft, discussed, and made changes. The Town Administrator will update and send to Committee members for review.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, March 19, 2020, 6:00 p.m. – Town Hall

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Neal Cass, Town Administrator

## **Notes from the Joint Meeting with Henniker Intersection of Maple Street/Routes 202/9**

Mr. Whitley called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. and called on Mike Tardiff from Central NH Regional Planning Commission (CNHRPC). Mr. Tardiff introduced those in attendance and explained the format for the meeting.

Dean Williams, Transportation Planner for CNHRPC, outlined how we got to this point and outlined the following:

- This project is in the State of NH 10-year Plan and has actually moved up in the timing.
- The project is now moving to project development. First time a project has moved up in the process.
- The project is currently funded at \$2.0 million which may not be enough.

Jennifer Reczek, Project Manager at NHDOT discussed the process to take place from this point:

- Data Collection will begin this spring.
- The required environmental projects will be determined.
- A “Blank Sheet” meeting will be held with the towns to gather information to help with the planning process. (NHDOT: maybe next fall)
- There are 4 options for the intersection
  - Traffic light
  - Round-about
  - Under/Over pass
  - More minor changes such as adding lanes.
- A second meeting will be held with the towns to share findings
- The option to be used will be finalized.
- Design and construction will take place.
- The information that will be helpful to hear at the meeting tonight is:
  - What are the concerns?
  - What are the issues?
  - What are the particulars that need to be addressed?

The road is considered a Regional Connector and there are about 18,000 cars per day traveling on it.

Those in the audience then had a chance to share comments and they said the following:

- The intersection can be a “scary place”. Is there a way to do traffic calming?
- Mr. Leonard from Keyser Pond Campground said:
  - Improvement is desperately needed.
  - Asked if there has been any consideration of noise because all the option will increase sounds. Will sound barriers be added into the budget? (NHDOT: not likely that sound barriers will be part of this project)
- A resident of Highland Drive in Henniker noted that the sound now is manageable, but the use of Jake Brakes is very loud.
- A stop light or rotary doesn’t meet long-term needs and we should be planning for 20-40 years in the future. (NHDOT: traffic projects 20 years beyond opening date will be looked at).
- There are many heavily loaded trucks entering from Old Concord Road. – Some trucks now going through the center of Henniker to avoid the intersection.
- With the Hopkinton TIF District and Henniker improving its heavy-duty zoning in the area, there is potential for more traffic and more slow trucks merging into fast moving traffic.

- It was asked if NHDOT would take into consideration the plans the two towns have when they are designing the intersection. (NHDOT: will use approved plans and use a factor for growth rate).
- It was noted that the area is unique because of Pats Peak and New England College.
- Towns could contribute funds to the project to move it more quickly or to pay for an option that NHDOT won't fund.

Fairly soon, once the project begins, there will be a specific page on the NHDOT website for this project.

The joint meeting concluded at 7:15 p.m.

Those in attendance at the joint meeting:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Town</b>	<b>Committee/Board/ Organization</b>
Marla Mitch	Henniker	EDC
Chief French	Henniker	Henniker Police Department
Eric Leonard	Henniker	Keyser Pond Campground
Bill Marko	Henniker	PB, CIP, Road Management
Heidi Aucoin	Henniker	Planning Board
Ryan Haley	Henniker	Planning Board
Leon M. Parker	Henniker	Select Board
Kris Blomback	Henniker	Select Board
Scott Osgood	Henniker	Select Board
Peter Flynn	Henniker	Select Board
Tia Hooper	Henniker	Select Board, PB, Road Management
Joe Devine	Henniker	Town Administrator
Tom Congoran	Hopkinton	EDC
Andrea Folsom	Hopkinton	EDC
Jim Fredyma	Hopkinton	EDC
Anna Wells	Hopkinton	EDC
Steven Whitley	Hopkinton	EDC
Louise Carr	Hopkinton	Resident
Neal Cass	Hopkinton	Town Administrator
Margarete Baldwin	NHDOT	Highway Design
Jennifer Reczek	NHDOT	Project Manager
Mike Tardiff	CNHRP	CNHRP
Dean Williams	CNHRP	CNHRP
Darren Blood	GM2 Associates	Project Manager
Joyce & Leigh Bosse		The Messenger