

**Wiscasset Transportation Committee  
Minutes for April 26, 2004**

**Attending:** Don Jones, Marguerite Rafter, and Sean Rafter  
**Absent:** Seaver Leslie, Lois Kwantz  
**Guests:** Esther Lacognata

Don Jones called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The minutes from the March 15 meeting were unanimously approved without change.

The first item of business was a bypass update. The results of the March 19 referendum were: N2 –128 votes, N8c – 87 votes, blank ballots – 41. The recently announced further delay of the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) was discussed, as was a letter from Jay Clement of the Army Corps in response to the Edgecomb selectmen regarding route N8c.

Don outlined developments regarding Wiscasset's Route One initiative. The essential aspects of this initiative are as follows:

1. MDOT issues immediate conditional traffic movement permits (TMP) as businesses apply
2. Within one year Wiscasset funds and completes a study of highway improvements needed on Bath Road to accommodate projected business expansion
3. Wiscasset votes to issue bonds to fund the planned improvements that are agreeable to MDOT
4. Wiscasset adopts ordinance requiring new and expanding businesses on Bath Road to pay traffic impact fees
5. Wiscasset adopts ordinance creating a tax increment financing district along Bath Road
6. Sheltered tax revenues and impact fees are reserved and dedicated to retiring the bonds
7. Businesses receiving conditional TMP's are liable to pay in full for the required highway improvements if Wiscasset fails to complete them within a specified time.

Don attended the Planning Board and requested improvements to the Gardiner Road sidewalk as part of the Quik Stop permit to rebuild. That is still pending.

Don updated the committee on Gateway 1 developments. He distributed a proposed survey to citizens of the 21 corridor towns. He also handed out the MDOT/HNTB proposal to move forward with a limited phase one Gateway 1 program using only the \$300,000 presently available. The committee discussed the advisability of tying the Wiscasset Route One initiative to the Gateway 1 phase one plan.

Esther recommended that the Comprehensive Plan try to address the announced goals of MDOT's Gateway 1 project. She also recommended that the CP also include as much of Wiscasset's own ill-fated "Gateway" proposal as reasonable while avoiding the "Gateway" label. Sean reminded Esther that the selectmen in Jan 2003 asked that the "Guiding Principles for Access Management," which were developed by this committee, be included in the CP.

Esther agreed to layout a framework and draft of a Transportation Chapter so that the committee members could respond with redrafts, additions, ideas, and suggestions. Sean offered to work with Esther on a draft of the airport section. Don has road type, accident, and traffic volume data from MDOT, which Esther will assist in integrating. The Chapter should be completed by fall of 2004.

Under other business, Don reported that MDOT had held a public hearing on the town's request for a public railroad access to White's Island. A decision is pending. The Waterfront Committee has approved use of town docks this summer by an excursion service operating a 50 foot canopied motor launch. Don also reported the temporary suspension by MDOT of the Regional Transportation Advisory Committees pending decisions on how to better accomplish public input into transportation planning in Maine.

The next meeting will be on Monday June 7 at the LCED Office. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donald Jones, Chairman