

**Wiscasset Transportation Committee**  
**5 February 2007**

**Present:** Cindy Fischer, Don Jones, Lois Kwantz, Sean Rafter;

**Absent:** Seaver Leslie

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 PM. After reviewing the minutes from November 6, 2006, they were adopted without change in a unanimous vote, 4-0. We then moved on to updates on various topics that the TC has been following.

**Ordinance Changes:** The Middle Street changes in parking regulations were approved by the voters in November. We noted that the changes were made to reflect the current practices followed by parkers on Middle St.

**Wiscasset Bypass:** We reviewed a note from Ed Hanscom in response to a visit from our new town manager, Art Faucher. According to Ed, MDOT is making "great progress". The TC questioned the accuracy of that statement.

**Gateway 1:** There is a Steering Committee meeting for our region scheduled for February 14th. One thing being proposed by Marty and Betty Welt is a joint meeting of the Region 2 towns for the TRP's (transportation response panels) sometime in late February or March. Don reminded us that we, the Wiscasset Transportation Committee are also serving as the Wiscasset Response Panel. We agreed that this might be a good idea and something that we would participate in. We would love to have a representative from the Board of Selectmen to attend with us but realize that this is difficult. Sean suggested the possibility of having a camera available to record the TRP meeting to be broadcast on LCTV to enable the selectmen from the various towns the opportunity to observe the discussion without actually having to be there. The goal of LCTV is to have all town meeting rooms wired for broadcasting; this format could become a tool for the education of the selectmen and the public as well. We all agreed that using LCTV for broadcasting the Region 2 Gateway 1 meetings is a good idea. Currently the steering committees are working with HTNB to create the following scenarios. The idea is that before actually planning, we need to decide what possibly could happen along the Gateway 1 corridor. Since we don't know, we have to offer different "what ifs". These include the possibilities of:

1. Powerful economic development with a large impact on the mid-coast;
2. Most of the current trends remain stable; or
3. A series of unrelated events guts the midcoast economy.

Different pieces within the scenario are things like population growth, marine and defense industry development, the effects of global warming, tourism, the volatility of oil prices, etc. There is a 1 - 1/2 page description of each scenario. Evan Richert, working with HTNB, is one of the principle "authors" of these scenarios.

**Other Business:** Don has met with our new town manager briefly. The committee suggested that it might be a good idea to provide a summary of the TC's concerns and recommendations over the past few years. We would love to talk with him particularly about the Gateway 1 study and the Bath Road study as well as bypass issues. We should invite him to meet with us. Don reported that Art will be meeting with a John Devon from MDOT to inspect the road conditions on Route 1.

There being no other business, we tentatively scheduled a meeting for March 5, 2007. Don will cancel if there is no business to discuss. We adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Lois Kwantz, Secretary