

Eastern Trail Management District Board of Directors Agenda**March 8, 2006 • 8:30 – 10:30 am****Kennebunk Town Hall**

Most of the items listed under “Agenda Items” will have an attached sheet that provides information including background, necessary attachments, staff recommendations and proposed motions. This should allow you to be better prepared and reduce the amount of time that I need to talk thus allowing more focus on the actual issues.

I. Welcome & Introductions**II. Presidents Report – As needed****III. Approval of Minutes**

- A.** Minutes for February, 2006 approval by consensus or as amended

IV. Agenda Items**A. Construction Projects**

1. S. Portland – Scarborough Connector Project
 - Wilbur Smith Presentation
 - Route Designation
2. OOB Project
3. Scarborough Project
4. Desfosses Project
5. Saco River Crossing Project
6. Turnpike Crossing Project

B. ETA Report**C. Finances**

1. Finance Report for January 2006 accepted by consensus
2. Finance Report for March 2006 accepted by consensus

V. MDOT Project Deferment Letter**VI. Bridge to the Greenway Report****VII. Consultant Report – As needed****VIII. Next meeting: April 12, 2006 8:30am – 10:30am****IX. Adjourn**

2006 Meeting Schedule (Second Wednesday of the month)	
January 11	February 8
March 8	April 12
May 10	June 14
July 12	August 9
September 13	October 11
November 8	December 13

ETMD Agenda Commentary

Agenda Item: IV-A-1 Agenda Item: SP Connector Study

- Public Hearing #2 was held Monday, March 6 at Scarborough Town Hall. Residents from Rigby Road and Pond View Drive attended. Several residents of Pond View expressed concerns that the trail would bring an increase in traffic to their street and bring with it negative things such as trash, illegal use, vandalism, theft, etc. Alternatives were explained and additional input was taken from residents. Several expressed a willingness to work with us to find the best route and bring improvement to their neighborhood.
 - Bruce Hyman or Steve will be presenting the data collected from the study.
 - In order for WSA to finish the study and issue the final report the ETMD will need to select the final route for the study. Feedback from the public hearing, including a new option that if viable may address residents' concerns may require more time before making a final decision. Steve and Bruce Hyman will be working to evaluate the feedback and if necessary, Steve will extend the deadline for completing the study to April. There will be a discussion at this meeting to gauge if we are ready to make a decision or hold until April's meeting.
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Agenda Item: IV-A-2 Agenda Item: OOB Project

- MDOT has completed its 50% design plan review and Steve and Andy review all comments on Monday, March 6. Steve will be taking the comments back to Milone & MacBroom and asking for revision of several elements of the plan.
 - GSGT gas will be working with our survey crew to remark the pipeline at Mill Brook on March 8. This final step will allow GSGT to complete relocation plans for the pipeline. The Land Management Office of Columbia is asking for us to enter into multiple agreements for relocation. I believe that these agreements are unnecessary as the terms of our mutual agreement can satisfy their requirements while at the same time providing us with the type of protections that we need. I think this position is being driven by an attempt to make all the work being done at Mill Brook & Old Cascade Road look like it is being required by the trail. I have not had further discussion with GSGT about cost or cost sharing for the relocation as I am still waiting for them to complete the steps needed to finalize the relocation cost and provide us with the information we need to complete our own design plans.
 - Steve & Dave met with DEP on February 27 for a preliminary review of the project. It looks like permitting will primarily be handled under Permit By Rule which has a 14 day turn around. The one problem on the project is the Peterson Field Spur which may have to be abandoned if we cannot avoid the Tier III permit which is currently being required. Note: A Tier III is the big nasty one for complicated projects like crossing the Dunstan River...not a tiny little spur connection that already exists....
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Agenda Item: IV-A-3 Construction Projects – Scarborough Project

- The Davis/Bacon audit is underway. Steve has been asked to supply copies of all certified payroll from CPM, record of any payroll interviews taken during the project and the bid documents. Additional information may be required as the audit progresses.
 - I have notified CPM that we are willing to release the balance due on the contract less a portion that we will keep to insure that the spring cleanup and bridge topcoat repair is completed. CPM has been asked to provide us with a remediation plan prior to the release of any money; to date that information has not arrived. MDOT has agreed with our position.
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Agenda Item: IV-A-4 Construction Projects – Desfosses Project

- No Change to site, project is in winter shutdown. TRAIL is CLOSED to the public.

- Management Issues: Bruce Gullifer, Ron Owens, John Andrews and Steve Workman met with Teresa Desfosses and her attorney Alan Beagle to discuss management concerns raised by Desfosses in a letter to the Town & ETA. She is concerned that ATV use, dumping and target practicing is occurring along the trail and her property. She has threatened to take steps to revoke the trail easement if something is not done. Within a week after receiving the letter, the Town installed barriers and trail closed signs to attempt to stop trespassing until the trail is opened and removed trash dumped. ATV's are accessing and cutting across Desfosses property at points that are not controlled by the trail and therefore must be handled by the Desfosses. Steve has asked Teresa to add the ETMD to the easement so that it can undertake its normal management obligations and help solve the problem. Teresa said that she would think about it, but that she did not see any benefit to her in taking the action. Her attorney did view it as an opportunity to have more entities looking out for her interests.

Agenda Item: IV-A-5 Construction Projects – Saco River Project

- Saco and Biddeford have recently provided information needed to develop the RFQ for engineering services. I will be completing the draft and sending to MDOT for review and approval.
 - **Proposed Motion:** “Move that the Board authorize the release of the RFQ for engineering and design services for the Saco River Crossing Project pending MDOT approval.”
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Agenda Item: IV-A-6 Construction Projects – Turnpike Crossing Project

- **Proposed Motion:** “Move that the Board authorize the president to enter into a project agreement with Maine Department of Transportation for the Turnpike Crossing Project.”
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Agenda Item: IV-B ETA Report – Written notes provided by John Andrews by email 3-6-06

- As snow started 2 hours before ETA's Jupiter Blues benefit started, again in 2006, ETA's ability to pay its ETMD dues is threatened.
- Ethan Davis has assembled a long list of summer rides and walks to be published on the Web and in the newsletter.
- Bob Bowker is converging on this year's 16 September 8-Lighthouse Ride, with Saco and Biddeford Savings agreeing to serve as major sponsor. This is the make-or-break ETA event of 2006.
- E-mailed complaints of dogs chasing people and dropping poop on the Scarborough Marsh ET continue. One complaint, from a radio talk show host, led to an invitation for ETA to serve as guests for a upcoming program. See pasted e-mails at the end.
- ETA was invited to share billing as a sponsor or Scarborough Marsh Clean Up Day, 22 April. Bruce Wakefield, host of the Jupiter Blues bash will coordinate as all three Scarborough Trustees will be wintering in Florida that day.
- In addition to hosting the ETA's annual meeting on 25 May, Kittery Trading Post is now selling the trail guide.
- During a sales call on L.L. Bean to ask if the store would sell the ET trail guide, L.L. Bean responded by asking ETA to write a letter asking for money. Trail guide sales are still in the works.
- Senator Dennis Damon, Chairman of the Joint Legislative Transportation Committee, has agreed to sponsor the 2007 Trails for a Healthy Maine Bond, and seek appropriate co-sponsors.
- During many years of communications with Guilford Rail about ET easements, ETA has developed material suggesting

that adding trails to rail corridors greatly reduces facility rates. In a meeting last week, emphasis switched to the Mountain Division Trail connecting Portland with Westbrook, as a more ready to go trail. It could be a real ground-breaker. An attached cover page summarizes the change in fatality rates as a function of adding trails to rails. The rate does not double or increase ten-fold. It seems to drop to less than 10%. (Math available for those interested.)

Agenda Item: V – MDOT Deferment Letter

- I was not able to complete the MDOT deferment letter before leaving for my vacation which I had told the Board at the February meeting I would do. I have completed a draft of the letter and Steve Huntress is in the process of reviewing and/or revising. Per Board request at the last meeting, I will send out **my** draft under separate cover.

Agenda Item: VI – Bridge to the Greenway

- Steve Huntress, Terrence Parker and Steve Workman have been working with a small group of Maine & NH trail supporters to address the issues on the Memorial Bridge and to focus citizen advocacy toward the development of the East Coast Greenway in NH and Southern Maine (Eastern Trail). The effort has been dubbed, “Bridge to the Greenway”. Steve Workman has developed a strategic plan for the effort and increased advocacy has come from Bicycle Coalition of Maine and the East Coast Greenway Alliance. I will send the strategic plan under separate cover for those that are interested in the detailed plan.

- **Save the Date** – The kickoff event of the “Bridge to the Greenway” will be held at the Portsmouth Brewery on Monday, March 27 at 7pm. Officials and members of the bike/ped communities are being invited to attend from both NH and Maine. The purpose of the one hour event is to educate the public about the Memorial Bridge, the East Coast Greenway (including ET) and solicit support in jump starting the development of the NH East Coast Greenway and increasing support for the Southern Maine ECG already in progress.