

## REPORT OF MEETING

**Date and Time: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 12:30 PM**

**Subject: Oxford Main Street Committee Meeting**

**Location: Zoom**

### Attendees:

Name	Organization
Kathleen O’Neil	Oxford Main Street Project Committee (OMSPC)
Tony SanAngelo	OMSPC
Mary LoPresti	OMSPC
Pat Cocchiarella	OMSPC
Susan Kovacs	OMSPC
Mary Beth Nelson	OMSPC
Tanya Carver	OMSPC
Bob Burke	OMSPC
Aaron Budris	Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments (NVCOG)
Casey Hardin	TranSystems (TSC)
Nick Kavadas	Milone & MacBroom (M&M)
Bryan Nesteriak	B&B Engineering
Megan Miller	B&B Engineering

### Meeting Purpose:

The meeting was a regular meeting of the Oxford Main Street Project Committee (OMSPC). The Oxford Main Street Alternative Transportation Study team presented on study progress and facilitated a question and answer period. The following represents discussion pertaining to the study. A full recap of other meeting business is available on the [OMSPC website](#).

### Presentation:

Casey Hardin introduced the study team members in attendance, Aaron Budris, Project Manager for the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments (NVCOG) and Nick Kavadas, planner for Milone & MacBroom. Casey explained that the presentation includes a recap of existing conditions, initial thoughts on routing a multi-use trail through the corridor and a preliminary list of transit options.

Casey summarized that the Route 67 corridor carries high traffic volumes at high speeds and that the infrastructure is automobile-centric. There are minimal pedestrian accommodations and the typical roadway shoulder widths are not sufficient for comfortable cycling. There is also no transit service in the corridor, or within the Town of Oxford. A draft Existing Conditions Technical Memorandum was shared with the OMSPC by NVCOG. The OMSPC will review the draft report and TranSystems will send Kathleen O’Neil a hard copy. Casey explained that, since the initial draft, TranSystems has been working on adding documentation of the structural conditions of the corridor’s bridges. The research and analysis has revealed that there are no structural deficient bridges, but that many are functionally obsolete; meaning they violate one or more modern standards. The replacement of the Dutton Road bridge over the Little River is the only active project on CTDOT’s state-wide list.

Casey presented the study team's initial thoughts on the potential routing of a multi-use trail. The initial conclusion is that the trail should generally follow Route 67, with several opportunities to connect to environmental resources and commercial destinations. An alternative routing, following the Little River, was deemed impractical due to grading challenges, need to acquire rights-of-way and permitting issues. The study team will further refine the trail options and analyze the positives and negatives for each. In particular, attention will be paid to locations where the path would need to cross Route 67.

Casey presented the study team's initial thoughts on implementing transit. He indicated a potential demand of approximately 13,600 rides per year (or approximately 37 per day). This would require a minimum of two vehicles. Due to the income levels and geographic spread of employment locations, it is unlikely that a transit service designed to serve commuters would be viable. Casey outlined four options the study team will evaluate:

- Fixed route along Route 67 added to the Waterbury Division of *CTtransit*
- Add Oxford to the Valley Transit District to provide demand-response (on-call) service
- Town-operated demand-response service
- Subsidized ridesharing costs (Uber / Lyft flat rate)

Casey explained that the study team's next steps include assessing the transit concepts through fall 2020, continued interactive analysis of the trail routing through spring 2021. The study team has activated social media accounts and is preparing for an electronic distribution of a survey. Planning for a virtual public meeting has also been discussed. Kathleen explained that the OMSPC has also been pushing next steps for public outreach and will work with the study team to set up a meeting to discuss. It was suggested that publishing an article in the Waterbury Republican-American and the Oxford Patch would expand the study's reach.