



# Town of Sudbury

<https://sudbury.ma.us/transportation/>

## Sudbury Transportation Committee

### Minutes

Friday, November 5, 2021

10:00 AM

Via Town Zoom Conference Call

Core Members Present: Daniel Carty, Alice Sapienza, Doug Frey, Debra Galloway, Adam Duchesneau, Sandy Lasky,

Core Members Absent: Dan Nason

Advisory Group Present:

Advisory Group Absent: Charlie Dunn, Scott Nix, Beth Suedmeyer, Carmine Gentile, Bethany Hadvab, Silvia Nersessian, Mary Warzynski

Guests: Ana Cristina Oliveira (Sudbury Senior Center), Lynn Puorro (Sudbury TV), Linda Faust

### **Confirmation of Quorum**

The statutory requirements as to notice having been complied with, and after confirming a quorum was present, Dan Carty as chair convened the meeting and called roll. Dan C made an announcement that this was a public meeting, and the meeting was being recorded via Zoom and by Sudbury TV for future viewing.

### **Selection of Clerk**

Dan volunteered to take meeting minutes.

### **Agenda and Focus**

Dan reviewed the agenda and suggested the following order of topics: GoSudbury! finances, the business plan takeaway from the recent meeting with the Sudbury Select Board, use of ARPA funds, and other administrative items.

### **GoSudbury! Taxi and Uber Program**

Dan did a screenshare of the spreadsheet titled "Go Sudbury! Accounting 211102.xlsx". Adam reviewed current funding sources and their status; We have run over on the \$25,000 MeadowWalk mitigation funding by \$123.43 and other sources, namely the \$3,000 BayPath grant, the \$10,000 Coolidge mitigation, \$21,950 MAPC Grant 1 and \$18,150 MAPC Grant 2 Part 1 were also exhausted. The \$13,150 MAPC Grant 2 Part 2 has funds remaining, but Adam suggested that we request another round of MeadowWalk mitigation money in the amount of \$30,000. Sandy said she could bring this to the upcoming Council on Aging meeting as the money was in their purview and added that the funds

were earmarked for transportation purposes. Dan suggested that this also be added to the November 16 Select Board meeting as they would need to approve and wanted to make sure funds were available in a timely fashion as we could not run the program into a deficit. Sandy requested that she have ridership data available to bring to the Council on Aging meeting and Dan volunteered to match up the GoSudbury registration data to the Uber rider data so that we could see how many rides qualified under each category. Deb questioned how long we could continue program with \$30,000 and Alice stated that the average Uber ride was \$17 vs the average taxi ride being \$92. Alice also suggested we consider raising the amount of rider co-pays. Discussion ensued about notifying riders that money was running low, but group concurred that waiting to see if Council on Aging would approve additional mitigation funds. The group then opined on whether \$30,000 was the right amount to ask for and settled on asking for \$35,000. Adam motioned that the Transportation Committee ask the Council on Aging for an additional \$35,000 of MeadowWalk mitigation funds to be used for the GoSudbury! Uber and Taxi program. Alice seconded. Ana Cristina Oliveira asked for clarification on notifying riders that funds were running low, and Sandy noted that we would wait to see if funding was approved. Vote was taken by roll call and approved by a 6-0 vote.

### **Sudbury ARPA funds and possible request for transportation purposes**

Dan opened the discussion by screensharing the file "Housing Trust - ARPA Ideas 10.25.21.pdf" and noting that various committees in Town were submitting requests for a portion of the Town's ARPA funds. He noted that he had discussed the usage of ARPA funds for transportation with the Town Manager and based on that discussion saw no reason why they would not be applicable. Alice discussed the possibility of funds being used for MWRTA Dial-A-Ride but also they could be used for a service helping with revenue replacement. Dan commented on the Sudbury Housing Trust letter as an example of one being well written and asking for a reasonable amount of funds. Using funds for travel vouchers was then briefly discussed. Deb Galloway suggested the possibility of using funds to augment the Dial-A-Ride service. When asked, Dan noted that Sudbury was to receive approximately \$5.8 million over two years. Other possible uses and examples were discussed including healthcare rides, extension of the GoSudbury! program, and revenue replacement for essential workers. Linda Faust suggested that money be used to pay drivers of the senior center vans and also to augment the Dian-A-Ride service. She noted that she was looking forward to the MWRTA coming to speak to the Committee. Alice suggested that she and Dan work together to draft a letter to the Town Manager and Select Board which the Committee could review at the next meeting.

### **Next Meeting**

The Transportation Committee voted unanimously to set the next meeting for **Friday, November 12, at 11 AM** via Zoom.

### **Metco and Uber**

Alice inquired about the possibility of offering the GoSudbury! Uber program to the Metco community. Dan noted that he had shared information with Lincoln-Sudbury (L-S), and they inquired about CORI checks for drivers as well as any waivers that users needed to sign. He also noted he had an extensive discussion with the Superintendent of the Sudbury Public Schools (SPS) who noted that a few Metco families lived outside of the 25-mile radius, but he would have to find out how far. Dan noted he would follow up with both L-S and SPS and report back to the Committee once he had updates.

**Administrative Updates, Member Updates**

Sandy noted that next Thursday is Veterans Day and the event at the Senior Center would be a good opportunity to advertise the GoSudbury! program. Deb stated that the event would involve pickup meals and that a flyer could be included in the packaging.

Doug Frey left the meeting at 11:00am.

**Meeting Minutes**

Dan shared a draft of the October 15, 2021, minutes. Alice moved to approve the minutes and Sandy seconded. The minutes were approved 5-0.

Dan shared a draft of the October 29, 2021, minutes. Minor edits were made then Deb moved to approve. Alice seconded and the Committee votes 4 in favor with Sandy abstaining as she was not present at that meeting.

**Public Comment**

Linda Faust discussed challenges she faced in scheduling rides with Uber as well as with the Senior Center van, noting that the van was down one driver. Deb noted that she was in the process of trying to hire a driver.

**Adjournment**

The Committee unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:12AM.