



Patricia O'Neil <poneil@natickma.org>

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## Complete Streets grant project recommendation - 4/17/18 agenda item

4 messages

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**Josh Ostroff** <jostroff@natickma.org>

Sun, Apr 15, 2018 at 9:53 AM

To: Selectmen <selectmen@natickma.org>

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Board members,

This will provide information about the upcoming Town of Natick Complete Streets grant application to MassDOT, which is on the Board's agenda for April 17.

Typically, grants are capped at \$400,000, but may be less, so we have proposed a mix of projects. To select projects, we used the Prioritization Plan developed for the Town in 2016 by Green International.

The Transportation Advisory Committee on April 11 voted to recommend these projects, shown with their ranking from the project list:

- #2: Bicycle Accommodation Project: Parking
- #7: Campus Drive/West Street Corridor Improvements
- #9: Boden Lane Corridor Improvements
- #13: Newfield Drive Corridor Improvements
- #14: Kendall Lane Corridor Improvements

These projects total a little over \$430,045, of which \$392,065 is grant-eligible. The intent is to provide a mix of projects that are community-wide (i.e. bicycle parking), are focused on a particular asset (the neighborhoods near the West Natick MBTA station), and complement and connect to other planned roadway improvements (Campus Drive/West Street). A map is attached, along with the 2016 project list. The bicycle parking (not shown on the map, but described on the plan) includes improved facilities at schools, the MBTA stations, Natick Center locations and various parks and playgrounds.

MassDOT guidance is to submit projects at the top of the list, so we have generally done that. Projects that are not included are likely to be in an upcoming five-year roadway improvements plan.

DPW staff plan to submit an application to MassDOT in early May based on these priorities and further input. Some minor revisions are possible. DPW staff are also stretched thin, as the Board is aware, and on behalf of the Transportation Advisory Committee we greatly appreciate the work of the DPW Director and the Town Engineer.

Once we hear back from MassDOT - a process that takes one to two months - we may come back to the Board for guidance about allocation of funds for any non-grant-eligible items. This program is complementary to Town- and Chapter 90-funded improvements, so there is some flexibility in how we allocate resources for these improvements.

Looking ahead, in conversation with DPW staff, we are likely to request an update to the project list, subject to funding availability. (The 2016 list was developed with a MassDOT grant of about \$42,000 for this purpose.) The state is committed to the Complete Streets program, and it may be worth a small investment to leverage future grant funding and assure that the project list represents changing Town priorities.

I will be in attendance on April 17, along with Jeremy Marsette, and look forward to answering any questions you may have.

Josh

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## 2 attachments



**2018 CS Proposed Grant.png**  
811K

 **2016 Natick Complete Streets Prioritization Plan.pdf**  
229K