







TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

BOARD DETAILS


OVERVIEW

 **SIZE** 7 Seats

 **TERM LENGTH** 3 Years

 **TERM LIMIT**

Charge is to advise the Town on transportation projects and policies through an integrated approach that reflects all modes of transportation, including transit, cycling, pedestrian and vehicular.

The Committee shall consist of of seven members appointed to three years term arranged such that as nearly equal a number as possible expire every year, provided, however, that the initial terms shall be staggered for this purpose.


DETAILS

ENACTING RESOLUTION

ENACTING RESOLUTION
WEBSITE



TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

BOARD ROSTER



DAVID F GUTIERREZ

1st Term Aug 22, 2017 - Jun 30, 2020

Appointing Authority Board of Selectmen

Position Member



TIMOTHY M KELLEY

1st Term May 19, 2016 - Jun 30, 2019

Appointing Authority Board of Selectmen

Position Member



JOSHUA OSTROFF

2nd Term Jul 01, 2017 - Jun 30, 2020

Appointing Authority Board of Selectmen

Position Member



BETTY SCOTT

1st Term Jul 01, 2016 - Jun 30, 2019

Appointing Authority Board of Selectmen

Position Natick Center Associates Rep.



JOE W. WEISSE

1st Term May 19, 2016 - Jun 30, 2019

Appointing Authority Board of Selectmen

Position Member



VACANCY



VACANCY

Profile

James

Freas

First Name

Middle Initial

Last Name

jnfreas@gmail.com

Email Address

15 Charles St

Street Address

Suite or Apt

Natick

MA

01760

City

State

Postal Code

What district do you live in? *

☒ Precinct 4

Mobile: (757) 816-6343

Home:

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

City of Newton

Deputy Director of Planning & Development

Employer

Job Title

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Transportation Advisory Committee: Submitted

Are you a registered voter in the Town of Natick?

☒ Yes ☐ No

Have you ever attended a Natick town meeting?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Have you ever served on a board, committee, or commission in the Town of Natick?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please list name(s) of board, committee or commissions, along with date(s) of service:

Interests & Experiences

Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission? Are there any changes you would like to see to these boards, committees and/or commissions?

Interested in getting involved in my community, bringing my skills and knowledge to the place where I live. Interested in helping to identify strategies for expanding the transportation choices, promoting bike infrastructure, and helping to address transportation safety concerns.

Are you a graduate of the Natick Community Services Citizen's Leadership Academy?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Please list any skills or specialized knowledge you can bring to these boards, committees and/or commissions.

Experience and knowledge in community planning and design and transportation planning.

Please list any professional affiliations.

AICP

Let us know what other specialized interests or hobbies you might have.

[Freas_2018.pdf](#)
Upload a Resume

JAMES N. FREAS, AICP

(757) 816-6343 * jnfreas@gmail.com

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Leading team of Planning Department staff and consultants in the rewrite of Newton's Zoning Ordinance.
- Wrote and led the passage of a by-right accessory apartment ordinance for Newton.
- Contributed regional economic analysis to the Boston region *Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy*.
- Secured Federal funding and designed a summit for the City of Gloucester highlighting opportunities to diversify the maritime-based economy in the City's harbor area while maintaining the authentic character of this 400-year old fishing community. Wrote a follow-up report identifying action steps that has led to a second summit and continuing Federal support and local action.
- Organized and led successful symposium in partnership with the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy exploring the concept of Land Pooling (also called Land Readjustment, utilized in parts of Europe and Asia) as an alternative to eminent domain for the purpose of assembling land for redevelopment.
- Coordinated and led planning process for a small downtown urban design plan, managing a consultant team and municipal staff across multiple departments. In 2008, this plan won the Outstanding Plan Award given annually by the Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association.
- Developed a form-based code for a waterfront neighborhood in Hampton, VA.
- Continually keep abreast of new technologies, ideas in urban planning.
 - Completed National Charrette Institute, NCI Charrette System Training
 - Completed Essential Facilitation training offered by the Interaction Institute for Social Change
 - Completed two courses on implementing Form Based Codes offered by the Form-Based Codes Institute.
 - Member, American Planning Association
 - Member of APA Virginia Chapter Legislative Committee, Feb. 2005 to August 2009.
 - AICP 2007 to present.
- In 2008, traveled to South Africa to promote sister city relationship with Pietermaritzberg, South Africa and the City of Hampton, VA.

DETAILED EXPERIENCE

City of Newton, MA

July 2012 - Present

Chief Planner for Long Range Planning (July 2012 - July 2014)

Deputy Director, Department of Planning & Development (July 2014 - Present)

Acting Director, Department of Planning & Development (Aug 2014 - June 2016)

Led planning program to develop a more proactive Planning Department with Housing and Transportation Strategies, a Departmental Management Study, and a comprehensive rewrite of the Zoning Ordinance. Have pursued a number of innovations in the Department, including creating and hiring Urban Design and Community Engagement Manager positions to advance a planning program with more robust public engagement centered on design-based approaches to planning issues. Previously led the Long Range Planning Division overseeing a team of three staff in economic development, transportation planning, and environmental planning. As a planner in Newton, have led the development of numerous amendments to the zoning ordinance.

Metropolitan Area Planning Council, Boston, MA

Sept. 2009 - July 2012

Regional Planner (Sept. 2009 - Sept. 2011)

Senior Economic Development Planner (Sept. 2011 - July 2012)

Worked on a wide range of planning projects, which included downtown revitalization planning, zoning amendments, municipal energy efficiency planning, and open space planning. Advocated for the creation of an innovation fund to support staff work exploring new concepts in planning and smart growth for the region. Led on the use of market studies and a range of new tools and approaches to support the work of the organization.

City of Hampton, VA

Jan. 2005 - Aug. 2009

Senior City Planner (October 2006 - August 2009)

City Planner (January 2005 - October 2006)

Areas of responsibility included project planner for area Master Plans leading plan development and implementation activities and working on environmental policy, which included the Chesapeake Bay Act, Hampton's Green Initiative, stormwater regulation, and other issues. Quality work and ability to build effective relationships with community leaders, city staff, businesses and the general public resulted in rapid promotion and increasing responsibilities.

Rhode Island Senate Policy Office, State House

January 2003 - June 2003

Senate Policy Office Fellow

Conducted research on public policy and planning in the state including low-income housing and local economic development.

EDUCATION

Senior Executive in State and Local Government Certification, Harvard Kennedy School Executive Education, July 2016.

Master of Studies in Environment Law, Vermont Law School, August 2004, Magna Cum Laude.

Master of Community Planning, University of Rhode Island, May 2003.

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, University of Virginia, May 2000.