

**Transportation Committee Meeting
May 2, 2005**

Present: Don Jones, Lois Kwantz & Sean Rafter

Absent: Seaver Leslie & Marguerite Rafter

The meeting opened at 7:05 PM with the reading of the April minutes. After correcting FIS to EIS in paragraph two, the minutes were accepted unanimously. Sean Rafter reported that he has seen survey crews out in the Bradford Rd. area marking out "routes" - perhaps bypass routes? He also had heard from Andrew Gilmore that there is to be a meeting sometime in May of the selectmen and MDOT. The EIS is now scheduled for sometime towards the end of the calendar year.

Don reported that the status of the Bath Rd. Study is still in limbo; the selectmen have made no movement towards signing the MOA (memorandum of agreement) yet. They continue to tie the Bath Rd. agreement to the bypass for discussion. Andrew is still attempting to know what it is that Wiscasset wants but he also recognizes that compromise is necessary.. He is also going to try to speak with our representatives and senators on the Federal level about how the percentages for financing a bypass project break down: 90% Feds, 7% state?, 3% Wiscasset?.

Concerning Gateway 1, the selectmen have signed the MOU (memorandum of understanding) and the Gateway 1 study is ready to move into phase 2. The selectmen now need to choose a response panel of 7-10 people to address issues on three levels - the town, the region and the full corridor. While there has been no communication from the selectmen regarding forming this panel, Don feels that the Wiscasset Transportation Committee would be an appropriate base with additional people. Kathy Fuller and staff will probably be contacting the board to push them a bit toward forming the panel.

Don reported that the 25 MPH speed limit sign has been returned to the lawn area of the town office building and there are now three signs including this one plus the one near "the Ledges" and the one at the bridge.

The town has heard from Bruce Ibarguen re: the signs on Rte. 295 for Brunswick and Rte. 1N. There is to be a hearing on May 5th to discuss things like variable message signs and what changes should be made. He is, however, opposed to removing the "coastal" designation from the signs on 295. Don stated that he felt that even just an "informational" sign indicating the appropriate exit # for points north to Belfast/Bucksport/Bar Harbor would be helpful in directing people toward the new Augusta bypass.

We adjourned at 8:10 PM after setting Monday, June 6, 2005 at 7PM for our next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Kwantz, Secretary