

South Portland City Council
Position Paper of the City Manager

Subject:

ORDER #182-16/17 – Appointing Scott Morelli to the PACTS Policy Committee and Maxine Beecher as Alternate to the PACTS Policy Committee. Passage requires majority vote.

Position:

In 1975, the Portland Area Comprehensive Transportation Committee (PACTS) was designated as the federally mandated "metropolitan planning organization" (MPO) for the Portland region. The federal government established these entities in all urbanized areas of the country in order to improve the coordination of transportation planning and investment decisions by state, municipal, and public transportation organizations. The PACTS area up until 2010 included portions or all of 15 communities: Arundel, Biddeford, Cape Elizabeth, Cumberland, Falmouth, Freeport, Gorham, North Yarmouth, Old Orchard Beach, Portland, Raymond, Saco, Scarborough, South Portland, Standish, Westbrook, Windham and Yarmouth.

Today, as a result of the 2010 Census, PACTS members now include 18 communities, seven public transportation providers, the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), the Maine Turnpike Authority (MTA), the Greater Portland Council of Governments (GPCOG), the Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission (SMRPC), the Southern Maine Corridor Committee (SMCC), other public and private transportation organizations, and interested citizens.

PACTS has four standing committees. The Policy Committee is the governing body of PACTS. The Planning, Technical, and Transit Committees advise the Policy Committee. PACTS is staffed with a Director, a Senior Transportation Planner, and a Transportation Planner and is also assisted by GPCOG staff.

PACTS provide a continuing, coordinated, and comprehensive planning process for the Greater Portland urbanized area and a forum for collaborative decision-making amongst the members. PACTS sponsors and conducts studies, assists other planning agencies, and monitors compliance with federal air quality goals. PACTS also approves the use of

Federal Highway and Federal Transit funds for transportation improvements in the PACTS area.

As a result of the 2010 Census, the PACTS area exceeded 200,000 in population, which changed the agency's federal designation from a "metropolitan planning organization" (MPO) to a "transportation management area" (TMA). This change will require PACTS to slightly modify the way they do business. As a result of the new TMA requirements, PACTS' will now have a larger representation of elected officials serving on the Policy Committee. To reflect this requirement and many other federal requirements that are now imposed on the agency, PACTS staff and membership went through a process of redrafting their bylaws. In January of 2013, the current sitting PACTS Policy Committee acted on the new bylaws.

Currently, Planning and Development Director Tex Haeuser sits on the Policy Committee. Additionally, Tex sits on the Planning Committee and the seat on Executive Committee is vacant. The new bylaws call for two appointments to the Policy Committee, with two appointed alternates. The appointments could be all elected officials, all staff, or a mixture of both.

In 2013, the Council selected Tex Haeuser and Jim Gailey to serve on the Pacts Policy Committee. Public Works Director Doug Howard was selected to serve as one of the alternates with the second alternate seat left vacant with plans to be filled by a City Councilor. That alternate seat is still vacant.

Requested Action:

Council passage of ORDER #182-16/17.



City Manager



CITY OF SOUTH PORTLAND

PATRICIA A. SMITH
Mayor

SCOTT T. MORELLI
City Manager

EMILY F. SCULLY
City Clerk

SALLY J. DAGGETT
Jensen Baird Gardner & Henry

**IN CITY COUNCIL
ORDER #182-16/17**

ORDERED, that Scott Morelli be appointed to the PACTS Policy Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDERED, that Maxine Beecher be appointed to the PACTS Policy Committee as Alternate.

District One
CLAUDE V. Z. MORGAN

District Two
PATRICIA A. SMITH

District Three
EBEN C. ROSE

District Four
LINDA C. COHEN

District Five
BRAD FOX

At Large
MAXINE R. BEECHER

At Large
SUSAN J. HENDERSON

Fiscal Note: Less than \$1,000

Dated May 1, 2017