Creating a Transportation Committee

There is hereby established a seven (7) member Transportation Committee to <u>advise</u> the Select Board on matters related to current and future transportation options in the community.

The purposes of the Committee are to advise the BOS and the Town Administrator (TA) on matters of policy related but not limited to:

- Assess transportation needs of residents, including older adults, people with disabilities, school-aged children, and non-drivers. Compile existing data from the North Reading Master Plan 2030 and Age Friendly North Reading, and collect additional data as needed.
- Understand and publicize the current means of transportation available to residents.
- Establish and maintain an ongoing dialogue with transportation providers to understand how the Town can work with them;
- Optimize the capacity of current programs to meet resident needs, through collaborative planning with Elder Services, Veterans' Services, and other transportation providers.
- Update the Town of North Reading's contractual agreement with the Merrimack Valley Regional transit Authority (MeVa) to provide Ring and Ride curb-to-curb transit service within and around North Reading for high-priority trips.
- Study best practices and programs from other towns, including regional transportation collaborations, and make recommendations that may better serve our community.
- Work with staff to review options for funding transportation services, and obtain grants in cooperation with other public and private entities.
- Work with State Legislators to identify available funds that could be used to upgrade and expand the Town's transportation options; and to identify regional and state-level policy that could support North Reading residents' access to regional and state transportation systems.
- Advise the Select Board and any other Town departments or official as appropriate, on matters related to transportation in the community.

The Committee Shall be made up of five (5) voting members appointed by the Select Board for the following "initial terms":

- Two (2) Members with Three (3) Year Terms
- *Two (2) Members with Two (2) Year Terms
- *One (1) Member with One (1) Year Term
 {*All Subsequent Terms will be Three (3) Year Appointments}

Additionally, non-voting liaisons may be assigned:

- o A member of the Select Board, appointed by the Select Board as liaison
- A member of the Community Planning Commission, appointed by the Community Planning Commission as liaison
- In selecting the Committee membership the Select Board/Town Administrator should give consideration (but not limited) to members representing the following interests within the community:
 - Member(s) representing veterans' interests.
 - Member(s) representing older adults' interests.
 - Member(s) representing youth interests.
 - Member(s) representing the interests of adults with disabilities.
 - Residents who have expertise in transportation systems, community planning, research, marketing, or other areas of expertise and experience which would assist the community in evaluating transportation options and otherwise carrying out the mission of the Committee.

In addition, <u>Associate Members</u> may be appointed by the Select Board for Three (3) year terms. Associate member positions are Non-Voting.

This Committee shall administratively fall within the Select Board. Town staff, including the Director of Public Services (on an as-needed basis) can be assigned to assist the Transportation Committee with prior approval granted by the Town Administrator.

Approved by the North Reading Select Board November 21, 2022