Central York County Connections Study

January 20, 2010
Public Meeting
Agenda

• Study Introduction and Approach
  • Who is part of this study?
  • What will the study accomplish?
• Public Involvement
• Initial Baseline Data
• Work Stations: What we need from you
Who is part of this study?

• Study Area Communities: Alfred, Arundel, Biddeford, Kennebunk, Ogunquit, Lyman, North Berwick, Sanford, Waterboro, Wells
• Funders: MaineDOT, Maine Turnpike Authority
• Regional Planning Organization: Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission
• Other area organizations
• The public
Study Committees

• Study Team: Consultants, MaineDOT, MTA, SMRPC
  • Manage and conduct study
• Steering Committee: Ten communities in Study Area
  • Inform Study process by local understanding and regional perspective
  • Update municipal officials
• Advisory Committee: Diverse interest groups
  • Voice of the public
  • Update constituents
Public Communications

- Meetings/Workshops
  - Five public meetings throughout Study Area
- Website: www: ConnectingYorkCounty.org
  - Meeting minutes, study documents, question and answers
- WebOT: via ConnectingYorkCounty.org
  - Interactive, solicits opinions and attitudes
  - Provides details about potential costs and tradeoffs of study options being considered
  - Helps you to understand impacts of choices
Study Website

Welcome to the Central York County Connections Study

Study Overview
The study’s goal is to identify a series of recommendations designed to preserve or enhance transportation connections between central York County and US Route 1 and the Maine Turnpike. The study was begun in September 2010 and was authorized by the following Legislative Directive from the 123rd Legislature. Click here to view the directive.

It is important to understand the reasons behind this study. While there are some pockets of peak hour traffic congestion along the state routes that connect central York County to the Turnpike and Route 1, it is clear that the transportation concerns heard from residents are about more than just an easier commute. They are also about how best to improve economic development prospects in the area.

The study will answer questions such as:
- Can improved access to greater Sanford, as the region’s service center, make a meaningful economic difference to the prospects of Sanford and its surrounding communities?
- In the long run, are those prospects best served by a northerly (Portland-oriented) or a southerly (NH/MA-oriented) connection?
- Can upgrades to existing routes serve these purposes or are more radical improvements needed?
- How will any proposed improvements affect traffic conditions elsewhere, in particular at existing connections to the Turnpike?
- How much will managing land use and access along these roads contribute to achieving these purposes?
- Finally, would improving economic development have the added benefit of allowing people to live closer to newly created jobs and services? And would this reduce the amount people travel and thus meaningfully reduce congestion?

These are the central questions this study will answer between September 2010 and December 2011.

There are ten towns participating in this study, along with the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) and the Maine Turnpike Authority. The towns are Biddeford, Kennebunk, Wells, Ogunquit, North Berwick, Sanford, Alfred, Waterboro, Lyman and Aundel. The Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission is also a participant.

We ask everyone who has a stake in this region to help these towns and agencies by being involved and providing feedback. For more information on how, go to Public Involvement.

If you have questions about this study, please email them to Carol Morris at cmorris@morriscomm.net. You may also call her directly at 207-329-6582.
What’s important to you?

The CYCC Study is charged with identifying transportation needs for the region over the next 25 years and proposing measures to help address those needs. In most studies, we find that different – and possibly conflicting – transportation needs and potential solutions are identified.

By providing us with information, you can help us understand your transportation needs and how we could manage the potential trade-offs and opportunities that will arise. This will be the first of several surveys on various transportation, economic and land use topics we’ll be posting for you.

Submitted by CYCC Study Team on Tue, 01/18/2011 - 23:05

1. How many days per WEEK do you typically commute to work?
- None, I am retired
- None, I work at home
- 1-3
- 4
- 5
- More than 5

2. Do you commute by:
- Car
- Bus
- Bike
- Walk
Study Area
Study Purpose: To identify and evaluate transportation and land use strategies for 2035 that will:

- Enhance regional economic growth
- Increase regional transportation interconnectivity
- Improve traffic safety
- Direct expected travel demand through a strong mix of multimodal strategies
- Preserve/improve existing infrastructure while maintaining the visual, cultural and historic character of village centers and rural areas.
Study Work Flow and Timeline

• Study Initiation

• Initial Development and Evaluation of Concepts
  Oct. 2010 – May 2011

• Detailed Screening and Evaluation of Strategies
  April 2011 – Sept. 2011

• Study Finalization
Maine STPA Principles

Sensible Transportation Policy Act [STPA] Requires

Transportation dollars invested by MaineDOT & Maine Turnpike Authority be coordinated with local land use management and economic development efforts to assure that every opportunity for extending the life of that investment is taken.
Consistency with STPA

STPA Objectives

1. Minimize the harmful effects of transportation;
2. Coordinate available and potential future modes;
3. Give preference to non-highway new capacity projects before building new highway capacity;
4. Repair, maintain & improve Maine’s transportation system for safety, efficiency, & adequacy;
5. Reduce reliance on foreign oil & promote energy efficient transportation;
6. Meet transportation needs of all Maine people, (incl. rural and urban populations ... elderly & disabled);
7. Be consistent with ... Comprehensive Planning and Land Use Regulation Act;
8. Incorporate public participation process ...
9. Promote investment incentives for communities that act to preserve the system;
10. Be cost effective & operate within fiscal constraints
Study Land Use Questions

- Do current Comp Plans, zoning and codes support regional travel corridors - now and in future?
- Do current Comp Plans, zoning and codes support enhanced economic development potential for the region?
- Are the answers to the above two questions in conflict? How might any such conflicts be resolved?
Study Transportation Questions

- What do travel patterns look like today? How might they change in the future?
- How do existing corridors perform today… and how in the future (mobility, access, safety)?
- How might added road capacity or new connections change transportation access and affect development opportunities?
- How could TDM, TSM and transit help efficiently address transportation?

Rte 111 and Sanford Main St (Rte 109) are heavily traveled
Congestion is localized and seasonal
Study Economic Development Questions

- To which future markets should Central York County relate?
- How can Central York County most effectively connect to the larger job and consumer markets along I-95?
- How would a better jobs-housing balance in Central York County affect traffic?

70% of York County workers live in the County
55% of York County residents work outside of the County
Existing Conditions Data

**Natural Resources**

**Historic Resources**
Crash History

Central York County Connections Study

CYCCS Crash History 2007-2009 (Injuries Only)

Data Source: MaineDOT
Updated: November 19, 2010

- Fatality
- Incapacitating
- Non-Incapacitation

Study Area
Town Boundary
Railroad

0 1 2 Miles
1,000 acres

MaineDOT
Crash Rates
2007 - 2009
Study Area Transit Routes
Work Stations and Topics

• Transportation and Economic Opportunity: Which links are most important?
• Environmental, Rural, Community Character: Which locations are most valued?
• Improved transit access: What role can transit play and what types of improvements would be most useful?
• Measures of Effectiveness: Which ones have the highest value to you?
• Purpose and Need Statement: Your thoughts?
Work Stations and Topics

• We are interested in your feedback
• We are gathering data that in some cases may differ from perceptions.
• In some cases we are simply asking for a better understanding of your values
• All input is helpful!
• An overview of your collective comments will be posted at www.connectingyorkcounty.org
Next Steps

- Set up travel and economic impact models
- Evaluate initial ideas for solutions: identify benefits and impacts
- Next Public Meeting in April