

South Acton Train Station Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes -  
February 3, 2011, EOC - Public Safety Building

**Committee Members Present:**

David Martin  
Peter Berry  
Pat Clifford  
Dore' Hunter  
Sean Hanley  
Michaela Moran  
John Sonner  
Tom Campbell

**Committee Members Not Present:**

Nick Zavalas  
Jim Yarin

**Other Attendees:**

Brian Martin  
Clare Siska  
Corey York  
David Barrat  
David Honn  
Jane Adams  
Janet Adachi  
Lauren Rosenzweig-Morton  
Pamela Harting-Barrat  
Philip Brake  
Ronald Rose

**Mr. Berry called the meeting to order at 7:40.**

Mr. Berry introduced Ms. Adams and Mr. Martin from Rep. Tsongas's office.

Mr. Martin said that Rep. Tsongas is aware of the situation from her weekly district review. The project was originally estimated at \$300M, but is now about \$200M. Small Starts grant \$75M was supposed to be submitted last year, but was delayed for Acton's needs. However, because of the preparation required, the application needs to be submitted now. If there is no agreement on the Section 106 provisions, there is a process to submit a waiver through the Dept. of Interior, which would take about 6-8 months, resulting in the loss of the Small Starts grant.

The MBTA says that if the AHDC vote fails, they would just skip the Acton station, leaving just a single track at the station. However, this would have to be approved by the FTA. If the FTA didn't approve that plan, the only other alternative would be the single platform design.

The AHDC would need another vote for the MHC to move forward. The FTA has said that they will fast-track the paperwork, if approved. After the application is submitted, the design could be worked on within the budget to reach 100% design by September. Add-alternates couldn't change the core of the structure. Bids have been coming in 20-30% under estimates. Counting on too small bids put the MBTA at risk. After a positive AHDC vote, the design would revert to pre-60%, until design details are worked out.

The town does not have a copy of the station in context.

Landscaping and having a gracious entrance are major issues in the design.

Ms. Moran reported that Ms. Acerbo-Bachmann plans to take a vote on Tuesday.

At the next meeting there should be a discussion if SATSAC should comment directly to the FTA/MHC.

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:02.**

The next SATSAC meeting is scheduled for 7:30 on Wednesday 09 February at the COA.

DDM

Links:

<http://www.acton-ma.gov/index.aspx?nid=244> is the SATSAC page.

<http://www.calltoacton.org/> is the local advocacy group.

<http://www.littletonma.org/content/49/3594/5590/default.aspx> is Littleton's MBTA Commuter Rail Advisory Committee.

[http://www.mbta.com/about\\_the\\_mbta/t\\_projects/default.asp?id=15585](http://www.mbta.com/about_the_mbta/t_projects/default.asp?id=15585) is the MBTA site about the project.