

## ARTICLE 20. Amendments to Charge, Composition and Name of Public Transportation and Bicycle Committee (PTBC)

### History

The Public Transportation Committee was established by a vote of the 1975 Town Meeting. At that time, there was a separate Committee on Bicycling. The annual Town Meeting of 1995 rescinded the Committee on Bicycling and added a permanent sub-committee on bicycling to the charge of Public Transportation Committee. This created a joint Public Transportation and Bicycle Committee. The Town Meeting also increased membership from seven to nine members, with two of those members to represent the Town's cyclists.

### What this article does:

- Adds pedestrian issues and concerns to the stated responsibilities of the committee.
- Broadens the committee's purpose, to include a clear and inclusive vision: "promote public transportation, bicycling and walking as integral parts of daily life in Amherst, so that persons of all ages, abilities and circumstances can safely, conveniently, and affordably use these modes of transportation for all types of trips."
- Reduces the number of members of the committee from nine to seven.

### Why these changes are necessary:

*Add pedestrian:* The committee has long accepted pedestrians as part of our responsibility. This formalizes that responsibility.

*A clear and inclusive vision:* A clear vision can guide the committee for many years to come. Improving public transportation, bicycling and walking for Amherst requires providing for safe, affordable and convenient access to destinations for everyone regardless of age, ability and circumstances, and no matter how they travel.

*Seven members:* A seven-person membership can represent a range of transportation concerns but allow us to more easily obtain a quorum to better conduct business on behalf of the Town and residents.

