

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting October 13, 2010

Newman School Conference Room, Needham, MA 02492

MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE

Thomas Stokes, Chief Thomas Leary, Lt. John Kraemer, Tony Del Gaizo, Robert Wilson, Richard Merson, Glenn Schneider, Sarah Smith, Rebecca Turner

Guests:

Bill Cutting, Aaron Goldberg, Dave Healey, Patti Cloonan, Cory Wegielewski

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was convened at 7:03 pm.

I. INTERSECTION, CROSSWALK, SPEED, SIGNAGE AT UPPER END OF LINDEN ST.

Ms. Wegielewski expressed concern about vehicle speed and lack of signage at the upper end of Linden Street in the area of High Rock Homes and Fairview Road, Murphy Road, Summit Road, and Yurick Road. Ms. Wegielewski was encouraged to contact the Needham Engineering Department for help on sign selection and sign placement on Needham Housing Authority property.

II. INTERSECTION, SIGNAGE AT CAROL RD/RTE 135 INTERSECTION

Mr. Goldberg spoke about safety issues with cars parking along both sides of Carol Road near the intersection of Great Plain Avenue. Some of the cars may be parked there to drop off children at a nearby daycare.

Action: It was moved and seconded that the Needham Police Department speak to the day care and request voluntary cooperation with safe parking procedures on Carol Road and that Mr. Goldberg seek permission from the resident on the north west corner of Carol Road at Great Plain Avenue to install a "No Parking Mon-Fri 7 AM-5 PM" sign on his property. This was called to a vote and passed unanimously.

III. INTERSECTION, SPEED, SIGNAGE AT GREENDALE/GREAT PLAIN

Mr. Cutting and Mr. Healey expressed concerns about the steady traffic flow turning right from Great Plain onto Greendale creating safety issues with pedestrians crossing Great Plain/Greendale and with vehicles trying to enter Greendale Avenue from side streets. It was noted that the widening of Route 128 in the area including the Great Plain Avenue bridge will begin in the next year or two and will probably cause even more traffic in the short-term although the eventual construction of the Kendrick Street ramps should ease traffic congestion along Greendale Avenue.

Action: It was moved and seconded that DPW review the pedestrian signal timing and investigate the placement of a "No Right Turn on Red While Pedestrian Crossing" sign at the Great Plain/Greendale intersection. This was amended to include a request that the MA DOT tighten up the intersection as part of the Route 128 widening project. The amended motion was called to a vote and passed unanimously.

IV. INTERSECTION, CROSSWALK, SPEED, SIGNAGE AT PAUL REVERE/TOWER/HOOVER

Ms. Cloonan expressed concerns about pedestrian safety at the Paul Revere/Tower/Hoover intersection.

Action: It was moved and seconded that the Engineering Department move forward with the warranted Stop sign at Hoover and with a conception redesign of the intersection to be presented at a community meeting. This was called to a vote and passed with one abstention

and the rest in favor.

V. TRAFFIC PATTERNS AROUND HIGH SCHOOL

Ms. Turner related concerns from parents about morning drop off at Needham High School and the No Left Turn prohibiting northbound traffic on Webster from turning into the High School lot. Police Chief Leary explained that without the No Left Turn sign, traffic backs up on Webster trying to get into the high school lot and also backs up in the high school lot, trying to get back out onto Webster, creating gridlock and safety issues. There are no plans to remove the No Left Turn sign.

VI. FOLLOW UP REPORTS

From the 8/11/2010 meeting: The traffic study at the intersection of Marked Tree Road and Oak Street has been completed.

From the 9/8/10 meeting: The DPW Highway Division has painted a crosswalk across Rybury Hillway at Greendale Avenue and has been notified to replace or install “No Parking Here To Corner” signs at the A Street/Second Avenue intersection. The DPW Engineering Division and the Needham Police have performed a field investigation of possible speed tab locations on South Street.

From the 10/13/10 meeting: A copy of the “Traffic Calming Guidelines” booklet has been made and is available for pickup by a representative of the High Rock Homes development at the DPW Engineering Division. A letter from the resident at #1636 Great Plain Avenue has been received at the DPW Engineering Division regarding “No Parking” signs on Carol Road. The DPW Engineering Division has investigated the pedestrian signal timing at the Great Plain Avenue/Greendale Avenue intersection. A traffic regulation for the proposed “stop” sign on Hoover Road at Tower Avenue has been prepared for the 11-9-10 Selectmans meeting.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

The Committee voted to take no action on two agenda items.

Action: It was moved and seconded that no action be taken on Agenda Items 7 and 8 (Street Light at Greendale abutting St. Sebastian’s and Speed, Signage at Glover Road/Central/West). The motion was called to a vote and was passed unanimously.

One item on the agenda was tabled until the next meeting.

Action: It was moved and seconded that Agenda Item 3 (Speed, Signage at Longacre Road) be tabled until the next meeting. The motion was called to a vote and was passed unanimously.

Officers were elected.

Action: It was moved and seconded that Thomas Stokes be elected as Chair of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee. The motion was called a vote and was passed unanimously.

Action: It was moved and seconded that Sarah Smith be elected as Vice-Chair of the Traffic Management Advisory Committee. The motion was called a vote and was passed unanimously.

The minutes from the September 15, 2010 TMAC meeting were accepted.

Action: It was moved and seconded that the minutes from the September 2010 meeting be accepted. The motion was called a vote and was passed

unanimously.

The November Traffic Management Advisory Committee meeting was moved from November 10th to November 17th so as not to conflict with Special Town Meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 pm.

These minutes are intended to convey the general content of the discussions at the TMAC meeting.
Minutes compiled by: Rebecca Turner