

Minutes
Traffic Management Advisory Committee
Wednesday, August 14, 2019
7:00 P.M.
Needham Town Hall - Great Plain Room
1471 Highland Avenue
Needham, MA
Adopted September 18, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Anthony Del Gaizo; Rhain Holland; Stephen DeLisi; Seth Bauer; Justin McCullen; Rebecca Tarantino, Lt. Belinda Carroll; Robert Wilson, Traffic Civil Engineer; Daphne Collins, Recording Secretary.

PUBLIC PRESENT: See TMAC Sign-In Form of August 14, 2019 attached

Stephen DeLisi, Chairman, opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

1. MINUTES FOR JULY 10, 2019

Vote: Justin McCullen moved to accept the Minutes for July 10, 2019. Seth Bauer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously **approved**.

2. HIGHLAND TERRACE – Speed, Signage

PETITIONER: Daniel Gersh, 81 Highland Terrace

No one appeared to address the item. The item was tabled to the next meeting.

3. NOANETT ROAD – Signage

PETITIONER: Dan Levine, 91 Noanett Road

Mr. Levine said that there was blind driveway around a curve from Central Avenue along Noanett Road. Noanett Rd. is a major pass through to avoid Highland Avenue which is taken at great speeds making the area and the blind curve dangerous. He had difficulty getting out of his driveway and is concerned about his children playing on the front yard. He indicated that there are no signs on the street. He provided photos of the area and examples of possible signs: *Speed Limit*, *Blind Driveway* and *Slow Children*.

Lt. Belinda Carroll reported that data was collected on the street in 2003. She said a Speed Limit Trailer could be placed at the location. Anthony DelGaizo identified the speed limit on the road as 30mph. Mr. Levine maintained that 30mph was too fast and should be 20 to 25 mph.

Vote: Mr. DelGaizo moved to place speed data collectors at 73 Noanett Road and 100 Noanett Road after the start of the Needham school year. Mr. McCullen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously **approved**.

Mr. Levine was instructed to collect a petition of the neighbors in support of the installation of speed attenuation signs and to schedule the results of the petition at a future TMAC agenda. The speed collection data results will be posted on the TMAC website.

4. CRESCENT ROAD – Signage

PETITIONER: Richard Pollack, 32 Crescent Road

File records revealed a previous parking restriction request before the Committee in 2001 by Mr. Pollack.

Mr. Pollack reported that a response Fire Truck was unable to access the street because of parked cars impeding its passage. The Fire Department encouraged him to come before the Committee with his concerns about Emergency Response vehicles being blocked because of parked cars. He offered the following possible options: restrict parking on one side; allow parking on the berm; make the road one way; adopt street parking permits; tow offenders. He identified commuters and patrons of the Senior Center as the source of offending parking. He noted that there was a *No parking Here To Corner* on one side of Crescent Street.

Lt. Carroll reported that the Police Department had no filed concerns from the Fire Department. The Department files had numerous parking citations on the street. She will contact the Fire Department about fire truck access on Crescent Rd. She offered to increased enforcement on the street.

Mr. DelGaizo informed the street was 24' wide and that parking stalls are 8' wide. The required clearance between cars is 10'.

Debbie Towle, 166 Crescent Road, said that truck deliveries to her business were impeded because of on-street parking. She supported parking restrictions on one side of the street and to double the existing length of the *No parking Here to Corner*.

Alicia Santamaria, 11 Crescent Road, reported that when there are 2 cars parked on each side of the street it prevented traffic flow. However she did not approve of restricting parking on her side of the street and the elimination of on-street parking for the benefit of business delivery access. She thought communicating with the condominium owners to abide by parking rules would improve the situation.

Paul Peters, 3 Crescent Road, thought that the issue was teenagers from the condominium who parked improperly on the street and that communications with the condo association and the teens would control the situation.

Debbie Signore, 53 Crescent Road, said that road blocks are a common occurrence on the street. Honking and beeping are a nuisance when there is a blockage. Neighbors often have to move their cars to open the roadway. She fears that one day the cars that are blocking the road belong to unreachable commuters who aren't available to unblock the road. She also said there was a speeding problem on the street.

Barbara Ryan, 17 Crescent Road, said the corner is a problem when cars are parked on both sides. She supports some park limitation measures at the corner.

Vote: Mr. McCullen moved to place a *No parking Here to Corner* on the West side of Crescent Street. Four additional *No parking Here to Corner* signs to be located at Crescent Road and Union Street in front

of 18 Union Street and 19 Union Street; and at Crescent Road and West Street. Mr. Bauer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously **approved**.

Vote: Mr. DelGaizo moved to place speed data collectors at 53 Crescent Road. Mr. McCullen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously **approved**.

5. NORWICH ROAD, INTERVALE ROAD & PEACEDALE ROAD – Signage

PETITIONER: Carlo Cence, 89 Norwich Road

Mr. Cence reported that the Norwich, Intervale and Peacedale Road area was a quiet neighborhood experiencing an increase in traffic during commute hours because it is a cut through to 128. He said his son's car was sideswiped and had damages of \$1,800. He'd like a *No Left* sign on Intervale Road between 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Mr. DelGaizo said that a traffic study would have to be conducted in Spring 2020 after the completion of the Eversource Construction project. Mr. Cence said that the Eversource Construction project actually helps slow down the traffic.

Lt. Carroll said she could send a motorcycle police presence to the neighborhood to enforce the speed limit.

The Committee asked Mr. Cence to come back in Spring 2020 with a neighborhood petition. Mr. Cence did not believe he could get the neighborhood to support a petition.

6. PICKERING STREET & KINSBURY STREET – Signage

PETITIONER: Leslie Nelken, 100 Gay Street

Ms. Nelken requested a *Stop* sign at Pickering Street. Currently there is a stop line at the location.

Mr. DelGaizo informed that a study would be required to document the volume of cars at Pickering Street. A *Stop* Sign placement requires a minimum of 500 vehicles a day approaching an intersection.

Vote: Mr. DelGaizo moved to conduct a study of Pickering Street from the St. Joseph School side to document the need of a *Stop* sign. The study is to be conducted after the school year resumes. Rebecca Tarantino seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously **approved**.

7. FY2020 TMAC MEETING DATES

The Committee agreed to make the following changes to the *FY2020 Meeting Schedule* from Nikki Witham, July 30, 2019 Memo. The revised meeting dates are:

September 18, 2019

October 16, 2019

April 15, 2020.

The Committee will not meet in May.

Vote: The Committee unanimously **approved** the revised 2020 TMAC Meeting Schedule.

Mr. DeLisi will contact Ms. Witham to revise the calendar and reserve rooms for the new dates.

8. WEST STREET AT HILLSIDE AVENUE CROSSWALK – UPDATE

Robert Wilson reported that the speed study results at 36 mph and 29 mph indicated that children would not be visible at the crest of Hillside when approached at those speeds. A crosswalk at that location would be too dangerous.

Vote: Mr. McCullen moved not to locate a crosswalk at West Street and Hillside Avenue because the traffic study indicated that it was unsafe for children. Ms. Tarantino seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Lt. Carroll will no longer be attending the Committee meeting. Lt. John McGrath will be attending as a voting member.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.