

Minutes
Traffic Management Advisory Committee
Wednesday, September 9, 2020
7:00 P.M.
Zoom Meeting ID # 823-4252-8108
Adopted October 14, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT: Justin McCullen; Seth Bauer; Donna Mullin; Rhain Hoyland, Town Traffic Engineer; Anthony DelGaizo, Town Engineer; Suzanne Stein, Rebecca Tarantino, Lt. John McGrath

STAFF PRESENT: Robert Wilson, Traffic Liaison Engineer; Daphne M. Collins, Recording Secretary.

PUBLIC PRESENT: Michael Collins; Dylan Attia, Sundip Pradhan, Peter Rockett.

Mr. McCullen, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

1. MINUTES FOR JULY 15, 2020

Vote: Ms. Tarantino moved to accept the minutes for July 15, 2020. Mr. Bauer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously **approved**.

2. STATUS REPORT UPDATE

Mr. Wilson reported the following update:

- Holland Street between Webster and Manning Street – *Slow Down Children Present* Parking signs – installed.

3. DEDHAM AVENUE AT WARREN STREET – Speed

PETITIONER: Dylan Attia, 166 Warren Street

Mr. Attia was concerned about the speed cars are taking when making a right turn onto Warren Street to avoid Needham Center when travelling westbound on Dedham Avenue. Warren Street is narrow, and visibility is challenging for cars approaching Dedham Avenue from Warren Street. Long term parking by commuters and employees on one side adds to the difficulty.

Mr. Attia proposed that a two-hour parking restriction Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. be adopted on Warren Street and a *no right turn* restriction be imposed westbound from Dedham Avenue.

Mr. Wilson informed that the opposite side of Warren Street across from Dedham Avenue has a one-hour no parking restriction. However, there are no signs indicating the restriction.

Ms. Tarantino asked how Mr. Attia knew cars were turning right on Warren Street and if speed was the issue. Mr. Attia responded that he walks his dog and has observed cars speeding when turning right

westbound on Dedham Avenue. Turning left to Warren Street from Dedham Avenue is not an issue because of the oncoming eastbound traffic.

Ms. Tarantino posit that the intersection was a cut through to the High School used by teenage, high school drivers. Mr. Attia hadn't noticed a change in speed when school is out.

Mr. DelGaizo noted that there are plans for a *complete street* reconstruction at the intersection at Dedham Avenue and Warren Street. The plans will condense two crosswalks to one crosswalk. If speed is a concern, he suggested a speed study be conducted.

Mr. Hoyland added that seven years ago a *complete street* consultant was hired to look at traffic calming locations in Town and two conceptals were proposed at the intersection. Funding for the location was presented at Town Meeting without success. A smaller scale proposal is planned for next year. A determination based on the design and cost is scheduled within a few months. Depending on the cost it can be done with available funds to be authorized by the Director of Engineering. Otherwise it will have to be presented to Town Meeting for an allocation.

Mr. DelGaizo inquired if painting a turn radius could be done at the corner. Mr. Hoyland said it could be marked which could provide valuable information for the design of the corner.

Mr. DelGaizo requested that the petitioner conduct a petition of the residents in support of a parking restriction. He could not recommend a *no right turn* restriction at the corner. He was in support that the corner be reconstructed.

Vote: Mr. DelGaizo moved that a speed study be conducted and that the speed tracking device be placed 100 feet from the crosswalk. Mr. Tarantino seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously **approved**.

4. HIGHLAND AVENUE AT RIVERSIDE STREET – Sign and Crosswalk

PETITIONER: Sundip Pradhan, 19 Riverside

Mr. Pradham reported that there is no sign or crosswalk for the school children to cross safely on Highland Avenue when the bus drops them off after school. He requested that a crosswalk and sign at the intersection of Highland Avenue and Riverside Street be installed.

Mr. DelGaizo reported that that MassDOT is undertaking the reconstruction of Highland Avenue. There is a cross walk at Riverside Street as well as a *Stop* sign. Design plans are available to view. He suggested that the petitioner contact Tom Sarno, Engineer, tsarno@needhamma.gov for the sections on Highland Avenue and Riverside Street. The work is scheduled to begin in September 2020.

Ms. Tarantino suggested that the petitioner contact Shane Marchand, Director of Transportation, shane_marchand@needham.k12.ma.us and the principal of the school to request a route change so that the children do not have to cross Highland Avenue. The bus driver is not authorized to make route changes. She cautioned that a crosswalk or sign does not mean the location is safe for crossing.

5. MASON ROAD AT GREAT PLAIN AVENUE - Stop Sign

PETITIONER: Peter Rockett, 1649 Great Plain Avenue

Mr. Rockett requested that a *Stop* sign be installed. He reported that traffic accidents have occurred at the location. He felt the accidents would have been prevented if a *Stop* sign was present.

Mr. DelGaizo stated that a study would not be necessary since the street is a local arterial street.

Vote: Mr. DelGaizo moved that a *Stop* sign be installed at Mason Street at Great Plain Avenue. Mr. Bauer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. DelGaizo clarified to the petitioner that the sign requires the approval by the Select Board. Once approved, a notice will be placed in the paper a week prior to the installation.

6. HOLLAND STREET BETWEEN WEBSTER AND MANNING STREETS – Signage Relocation

PETITIONER: Michael Collins, 35 Holland Street

Mr. Collins requested that the “*Slow Down – Children Present*” sign located near Manning Street be relocated 32’ eastward (38’ from Manning Street). Mr. DelGaizo asked if the adjacent property owner agreed to the relocation. Mr. Collins provided a signed affidavit that Yasue and Ken Keyes, 261 Manning Street, approved of the relocation. Mr. Wilson inquired if the relocation site was at the red cone. Mr. Collins affirmed that that was the correct location.

Vote: Mr. Bauer moved to relocate the “*Slow Down – Children Present*” on Holland Street 32 feet eastward (38’ from Manning Street). Mr. DelGaizo seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.