

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Meeting September 15, 2010
Newman Elementary School Conference Room, Needham, MA 02492
MINUTES

IN ATTENDANCE

Tony DelGaizo, Richard Merson, Glenn Schneider, Lt. John Kraemer, Thomas Stokes, Robert Wilson

Guests:

Scott Lively, Christopher Nowicki, Tad Staley

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was convened at 7:08 pm.

II. CROSSWALK AT CORNER OF A ST. AND SECOND AVE.

The crosswalk and speed issue at the intersection of Second Avenue and A Street was discussed. Ms. Vasquezi is concerned about the safety of pedestrians in the vicinity of this intersection because this intersection abuts a day-care center with young children. She would like to have a crosswalk painted across A Street at the center's entrance or parking area because the existing crosswalk at Second Avenue is too far away, not visible enough, and too close to the intersection.

Action: The committee recommended against the installation of an additional crosswalk in this area due to its close proximity to the existing crosswalk at the Second Avenue intersection. However, due to visibility concerns, it was moved and seconded that two "No Parking Here to Corner" signs be installed (one on the west side of Second Avenue and the other on the north side of A Street at the Second Avenue and A Street intersection. The motion was called to a vote and passed unanimously.

III. CROSSWALK AT CORNER OF RYBURY HILLWAY AND GREENDALE AVE.

Mr. Lively expressed his concerns about pedestrian safety in the area of the Rybury Hillway and Greendale Avenue intersection. Mr. Lively was concerned that the schoolchildren who live on Rybury Hillway have no crosswalk to get them safely to the other side of Rybury Hillway; and the issue is complicated by the road's steepness and curves.

Action: It was moved and seconded that the DPW Highway Division be asked to paint a crosswalk across Rybury Hillway at Greendale Avenue. The motion was called to vote and passed unanimously.

V. BICYCLE SAFETY ISSUES ON SOUTH STREET

Mr. Staley expressed his concerns about bicycle safety on South Street. Mr. Staley in particular was concerned about the interactions between bicycles and motor vehicles along the narrow and winding portions of South Street. Mr. Staley brought forth a couple of proposals for the Committee's review. One of which was to reduce the speed limit on portions of South Street and another was to install traffic calming devices along South Street. The Committee informed Mr. Staley that South Street is not designated as a Bike Route by the Town of Needham and that the town does not have the power to set the speed limits on roads. The Committee also informed Mr. Staley that copies of the Traffic Calming Guidelines booklet can be picked up in the Engineering Division office at the DPW. The Committee recommended to Mr. Staley, and he agreed, that non-regulatory speed limit tabs be used on South Street in lieu of the regulatory speed limit signs.

Action: It was moved and seconded that the Needham Police contact the DPW Engineering Division to discuss possible locations of the speed limit tabs along South Street. The motion was called to a vote and passed unanimously.

VI. PEDESTRIAN SAFETY ISSUES IN GLOVER RD./CENTRAL AVE. AREA

The issue of pedestrian safety in the Glover Road and Central Avenue intersection area was discussed. Ms. Eldridge is concerned about pedestrian safety on Glover Road. She says that there are many young children living on the street and the vehicles that travel on the street are travelling too fast. She says that many of the vehicles are lost vehicles that mistakenly turn onto Glover Road after missing the turn onto West Street.

Action: The Committee discussed the possibility of installing an additional West Street sign on the opposite side of Central Avenue at West Street to help increase sign visibility. It was moved and seconded that further discussion of this issue would be tabled until the next meeting. The motion was called to a vote and passed unanimously.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Richard Merson presented a plan for proposed geometric improvements at the Webster Street and South Street intersection.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

Thomas Stokes was recommended for appointment as chairman of the Committee and approved unanimously.

Mr. Nowicki was interested in learning more about the schedule of proposed traffic study in the May Street, Pickering Street, and Oakland Avenue area. The Committee informed Mr. Nowicki that the traffic study will be completed by the end of September and the results will be made available by October.

One overnight parking request was presented.

Action: It was moved and seconded that the overnight parking request for one vehicle at 21 Pilgrim Road be granted. The motion was called to a vote and was passed unanimously.

The minutes from the August 11, 2010 TMAC meeting were accepted.

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

Two items on the agenda were tabled without discussion until the next meeting.

Action: It was moved and seconded that Agenda Items 1 and 4 (Street Light at Greendale Ave. abutting St. Sebastian's and Intersection, Crosswalk, Speed, Signage at the upper end of Linden Street) be tabled until the next meeting. The motion was called to vote and was passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

These minutes are intended to convey the general content of the discussions at the TMAC meeting.

Minutes compiled by: Robert Wilson