

## TRAFFIC AND SIDEWALK COMMITTEE (TSC) MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at 7:00PM

Weston Police Training Room

180 Boston Post Road By-Pass

### Committee Members Attending:

Jay Doyle (Chair), Tom Benson, Andrew Chase, Richard Gula

### Ex Officio Members Attending:

Steve Fogg (Town Engineer), Captain Tom Kelly (Weston Police Dept.)

### Public Attending:

Barbara & Richard Gilman 15 Winter St; John Gifford 68 Nobscot Rd; Nina Light 4 Black Oak rd.; Bill Burgess, 26 Skating Pond Rd; Leeanne Nardone 546 South Ave; Jack Doyle 53 Skating Pond Rd; Jonathan Buchman 518 South Ave; Steve Dazzo 2 Seaport Lane; Boston, Betsy Flanagan 1 Winsor Way; Laura Eisen 10 Winsor Way; Tom Ellis 5 Winsor Way; Alex Feigel 77 Chestnut St; Sandip Datta 140 Merriam St; Donna & Stephen Carter 820 Boston Post Rd; Michael Page 50 Page Rd; Jim Polando 242 Merriam St; Fernadal Bourlot 9 Newton St – 387 Wellesley St; Traci Shulkin 109 Sherburn Cir; Mike Nurczynski 8 Hemlock Rd; David Varela, Jude Arbogast Northeastern University (NU); Shane Cahalane NU; Amanda Carro NU; Hadly Seidman NU; Alex Trzszakowski NU; Leon Gaumont, Town Manager; Stephen Fogg Town Engineer; Elika Bahrevar Weston DPW.

### 1. Introductions

### 2. Approval of minutes from previous meeting/posting of old minutes/assign someone to take minutes

- The March minutes were approved, unanimously.
- Andrew Chase volunteered to take the minutes for tonight's meeting.
- Weston Media Center recorded the meeting.

### 3. Public Comments / Letters from Residents

- No public comments

### 4. Route 20 @ Wellesley Street Intersection Design – public information meeting

- Tonight is a continued discussion of the intersection improvement project and a design status update. There have been a number of items updated related to the intersection and several prior forums at which public discussion has taken place about the project. The Town continues to work with its design consultant VHB on the project, which started back in 2013.
- VHB design consultants, Tim McIntosh Project Manager and Keith Lenard Traffic Engineer discussed the current status of the project and noted that a Road Safety Audit was recently completed.
- The consultants explained the existing conditions along Rte. 20 which is a State highway under the jurisdiction of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT). They talked about crash history and current roadway existing conditions. The project involves reconfiguration and signalization of the intersection of Rte. 20 with Boston Post Road and Wellesley Street, and realigning the north end of Winsor Way to connect with Wellesley Street. Other project elements would include lane reconfigurations, sidewalks, crosswalks, and bicycle accommodation. VHB summarized the various alternatives that were considered during the course of its study, which had been presented in prior public forums with the Traffic and Sidewalk Committee (Committee). Alternative 1 would include minor changes and updates to the intersection, Alternative 2 provides

an all new traffic signal with new lanes and crosswalk signals. Alternative 3 would be a roundabout. Considering the tradeoffs of the various alternatives and the high crash history of the intersection the recommended alternative includes signalization with the reconfiguration of the lanes and approach roadways as summarized in the report.

- The intersection would include traffic signal equipment, accessible crosswalks with pedestrian signals at all four corners and “don’t block the box” type pavement markings at the intersection of Wellesley Street and realigned Winsor Way.
  - Questions and comments from the T&SC and residents included the following, the placement of the traffic signal head for visibility for cars turning from Rte 20 westbound onto Boston Post Road and visibility of crosswalk there; the difficulty of making a turn from Winsor Way to go toward town center or toward Cases corner; would a light there be needed at Winsor Way, screen of Winsor Way open space area, the new sidewalks and any additional connections to existing sections of sidewalk connecting along Wellesley Street to the south, a “do not block the box” at the entrance to Winsor Way and how to enforce it, were emergency vehicle and school bus turning requirements considered for the new intersection layout, particularly at Winsor Way/Wellesley Street. All questions and concerns were discussed between VHB and residents.
  - See recording of meeting for complete details.
5. Northeastern University Civil Engineering student presentation – Capstone Project on potential Route 117 Improvements at multiple roadway intersections.
- Talked about the density and number of homes along the length of road. They discussed the positive relationship with public transit, the MBTA which on average 250 people daily. Talked about what exists along the road, business and attractions. Talked about safety of the road via walking and biking. The presentation showed how improvements would strive to keep the roads existing charm, similar to other places in Weston. Improvement would be for all. The suggestion and improvements at Viles St. would include bump outs and updates intersection. The suggestion and improvements at Merriam and North Ave would include a roundabout to calm speeds and provide for safer pedestrian crossings. The team talked about crash history along the road and where the most incidents occurred. The T&SC members all felt the presentation was good and thought provoking and provided the committee with a lot of food for thought on how to make North Ave better.
6. Hanover Weston development (510, 518, 540 South Avenue) – public information meeting
- Jonathan Buckman, Steve Dazzo with Hanover Co. discussed the project and current status. The South Ave project is on @ 9.5 acers and would include a building with 200 units. 2 points of access, the main entrance and fire/safety access road, wide enough for emergency vehicles. The projects management has proposed to work with town and engineers to install sidewalks as part of the project. A large discussion surrounded the lack of the traffic study and that it was still being drafted
  - Questions and comments from the T&SC and residents included the following, will the town be doing their own traffic study and would there be time for the public to review the study, who would do peer review to be sure it was correct, will the town do a school committee do study to see what the impact of the project would be, where would the construction vehicles be entering and exiting, how long would the project take until residents could move in, questions also came up about the surrounding wetlands, how many parking spaces were part of the project. The largest number of questions were targeted at the traffic study and safety plan for the project and if there a traffic issue.
7. Updates on Walkway/Sidewalk projects
- a. Merriam Street
- Easements are being worked on, there are 3 to 6 which currently need to be completed

- The culvert notice of intent is coming for those residents in the area, cubing, stone walls, and utility poles that are impacted.
- b. Ash Street
- Bids opened for case estate component, still working on different pieces to do during construction season.
- d. Other
- Nothing noted
8. Updates: Projects/Designs/Studies/Issues
- a. Route 30 – TIP project design status
- Concepts and other would hopefully be discussed during the May meeting. Plan to see if they can get to the 25% plan requirements.
- b. 751-761 Boston Post Road development aka Woodleigh Farm
- Town just received traffic report to discuss when possible. Board of Selectman are in favor of project but we have not had a chance to review the traffic report.
- c. Traffic consultant priority assignments (Love Lane/Chestnut St. and MerriamSt//Rt.117)
- Traffic consultants brought on and what is the update on any - Love lane cut through and speeding – suggestion of turn restrictions, signage. As it relates to Love lane, waiting on scope & fee for project
  - Residents’ concerns on both Love lane and Chestnut is the traffic and speeding
  - Also at 117 and Merriam street – Scope and fee @ \$24k – traffic analysis, road safety audit,
- d. Parking issues on neighborhood roads accessing Cat Rock
- Parking continues to be an issue and more study time should be allowed
- e. DPW-Police-School Dept. requests
- PD requested work to be done toward a mitigation plan for Rte. 20 and Highland St., continued traffic accidents and issues.
  - Board of Selectman signed School St. signage for reducing speed limits to 30 from 35 MPH.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: May 29, 2019**