

TRAFFIC AND SIDEWALK COMMITTEE (TSC) MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 7:00PM

Weston Police Training Room

180 Boston Post Road By-Pass

Committee Members Attending:

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

Ex Officio Members Attending:

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

Public Attending:

Karen and David Ott

Rebecca and Louis Mercuri

Lise Revers

Steve Brand

Kin C. Lam

Prabhat Samaratunga

Barbara Gilman

Hannah Peters

William Widugilis III

Malee Audchareevorakul

Barbara Fullerton

1. Introductions
2. Approval of minutes from previous meeting/posting of old minutes/assign someone to take minutes
 - The July minutes were approved, unanimously.
 - Tom Benson volunteered to take the minutes for tonight's meeting.
3. Public Comments / Letters from Residents
 - Email regarding the Wellesley Street, Route 20 update. Comments from the email were shared at the Board of Selectmen meeting September 10.
 - Orchard Road resident mentioned a problem with trucks cutting through. Jay said we would look into the issue.
 - Wellesley Street sidewalk condition – resident concerned about condition of the sidewalk between the Mass Turnpike and Wellesley town line. Tom Cullen, DPW, responded that it is on the list of projects in the queue.
4. Route 30 Reconstruction Project – Design Update
 - Bridget Myers from Howard Stein Hudson (HSH) gave an update on the design progress for the Route 30 corridor from Natick to Newton. This is an update, no decision to be taken tonight.
 - Working on the 25% design documents
 - Potential to connect with Newton shared use path project. As a result, the decision was made to standardize on a shared use path for the entire corridor. There is an area in the middle of the corridor where a shared use path may not be possible due to terrain. The designers are looking into options.
 - Ledge issue near Oak Street – looking at shifting the alignment of the roadway slightly northward to reduce the impact to residents on the south side of the street. There is a narrow version of the shared use path through this area.
 - Committee recommending a setback of some kind on the northwest curb of Fields Pond Road to assist the westbound through traffic to navigate through the

intersection from the slight northerly shift back to the existing roadway which is on a more southerly path.

- Concern was expressed about losing the planted median in Ash Street at Route 30. Questioned why the geometry needs to be so narrow which would require the removal of the planted median.
- Can there be points of connection between the shared use path and the Weston High School athletic grounds?
- How about a baseball/other sport viewing spot on the path by the Weston High School grounds?
- 502 South Avenue resident expressed concerned about the project taking a buffer area from the front of their property.
- Several residents raised question about the legal status of the town Right-Of-Way. *(subsequent to the meeting Weston DPW checked with Town Counsel and confirmed town ownership of the Route 30 Right-Of-Way.)*
- How about having the shared use path transition to the North side of Route 30 at Wellesley Street? More room on the south side generally and trying to limit the number of crossings of Route 30 from side to side.
- Concern about the narrowing of the approach roadways at intersections prevent right hand turn lanes because of having to wait for cars going straight or left. Designer response is that the narrower intersection reduces speed and increases safety.
- HSH will continue to develop the overall design and address input received at this meeting, eventually aiming to present the design concept at a future Board of Selectmen meeting.

5. Updates on Walkway/Sidewalk projects

a. Merriam Street

- DPW is continuing to pursue remaining easements needed, and to coordinate with the culvert replacement and utility work.

b. Ash Street

- Legacy trail construction is about to begin. No update on the Ash Street portion; CPC deadline will be missed. Working with DPW to move the project forward.

d. Other – None noted

6. Indian Hill Parking – comments via email and past 3-4 meetings have brought a great deal of feedback on the issue. These comments include feedback on Page Road and other points of access to Cat Rock Park. The committee moved to recommend to the Board of Selectmen make no further parking restrictions around Cat Rock. Motion made and passed unanimously.

7. Updates: Projects/Designs/Studies/Issues:

a. Route 20 at Wellesley Street Design

- Review of the Board of Selectmen meeting last night. Approaching 25% design. Residents from Winsor Way requested another look at the configuration recommended at west end of Winsor Way and its proposed intersection with Wellesley Street. Board of Selectmen asked for this action and the designer VHB will look at alternatives and report back to the board in 60 to 90 days.

b. Highland Meadows crosswalks – committee voted unanimously to recommendation to the Board of Selectmen to advance the two proposed pedestrian crosswalks on Highland Street.

c. Traffic consultant priority assignments (Love Lane/Chestnut St. and MerriamSt//Rt.117)

- Consultant is working to get traffic counts completed now that school is back in session.

d. DPW-Police-School Dept requests – None noted

NEXT MEETING DATE: October 23, 2019