

## TRAFFIC AND SIDEWALK COMMITTEE (TSC) MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 7:00PM

Weston Police Training Room  
180 Boston Post Road By-Pass

### Committee Members Attending:

Jay Doyle (Chair), Andrew Chase, Tom Benson, Olga Shulman

### Ex Officio Members Attending:

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

### Public Attending:

Barbara Fullerton  
Barbara Gillman  
Jonathan Buchman  
Dan Hill  
Eric Rosenthal  
Tom Crane  
Elliot Lobel  
Lenore Lobel  
Justin Woodside  
Mike McGovern  
Tyler Burns  
Alex Faigel  
Lauren  
Stephen Winter  
Bonnie Winter  
Kristin Barbieri

1. Introductions
2. Approval of minutes from previous meeting/posting of old minutes/assign someone to take minutes
  - The October minutes were approved, unanimously.
  - Tom Benson volunteered to take the minutes for tonight's meeting.
3. Public Comments / Letters from Residents
  - Barbara Fullerton - 3 Winter Street. Trucks driving on the road – pertaining to Rte. 30 “squaring of the intersections” see additional information below.
  - Jonathan Buchman - 518 South Ave – updated traffic study for the 40B project on Rt 30. Supplemental analysis is on Town Website.
  - Bonnie Mackool on Chestnut Street – incidents regarding the narrow/curved nature of the road, her sons have had close calls with trucks and side mirrors. Poles are close to the street. 27 Chestnut street was for sale and twice the realtor sign was hit and knocked down. Pictures were included in the email.
  - Lenore Lobel - 31 Love Lane is having a similar experience on Love Lane.
4. Route 30 Reconstruction Project – Design Update
  - HSH is working on the design documents that will show intersections and other specific requirements. Need work product for the committee to review between now and the holidays to have HSH come before the T&SC at the January meeting. Once the review is complete, we will look to present to the BOS in late January or February.
  - Dan Hill did some research on options for the shared use path. Why is there a preference for a shared use path separate from the roadway instead of a “flex post” solution on the roadway? Dan

feels that avid bikers would prefer to be on the roadway; the local residents would like the shared use path for recreation. Dan feels the roadway alternative would require “less of a cut” into the abutters’ property. Steve will be referring this question to the designers. Steve mentioned that the designers have stated that the separate solution is known to be preferable to MASS DOT.

- Barbara Fullerton is concerned about the long landscaping trucks making a turn into the “squared up” intersections that are being suggested by the design team. Jay suggested that the design team should be asked about clearance for these types of trucks. She suggests that DPW be consulted to be sure that the snowplows will be able to negotiate these turns. She suggests that “rumble strips” be considered instead of “squaring up” the intersections.

#### 5. Special Studies: Chestnut/Love Lane and Merriam/Rt 117 – Preliminary Findings by VHB (consultant)

- Jay presented a summary of the VHB findings for both Love Lane and Chestnut Street
- Concern for access of emergency vehicles, speed tables, and options. Breaking up the country roads because of a 21<sup>st</sup> century technological problem would be a travesty – Tom Crane
- Temporary speed bumps might be a good option to try this solution
- Speed bumps and the truck exclusion on Lexington Street did seem to reduce the speed and volume of traffic
- Chestnut Street has a speed problem; residents are concerned about vehicle speed irrespective of vehicle volume
- Mike McGovern has expressed concern about the Rt20 40B project traffic study did not take into consideration the impact on Love Lane. He questioned whether there is coordination between the 40B project and the T&SC. Jay suggested that a Road Safety Audit (RSA) would be helpful to look at the total impact of the 751-761 BPR 40B, Love Lane, and the potential signal at Highland Street. This is consistent with the recommendations in the June 28, 2019 Transportation Peer Review of the 40B project prepared by the ZBA’s consultant MDM.
- Question about the timeline of a resolution for the issue.
  - Review options that were suggested by VHB
  - Get answers and clarity in advance of the December meeting
  - If we have the information in time, we could make a recommendation at the December meeting.
  - Goal is to take action within the next two meetings
- Route 117 and Merriam Street Discussion – consultant HSH reviewed the intersection
- Results of the study so far came in today. Jay reviewed the highlights of the submitted DRAFT study.
- Pros and cons of the raised or flush island were discussed. Island gives some refuge for pedestrians crossing.
- Question about the raised island in Lincoln near Drumlin Farm; is there any data about its impact? The fact that the island edge is not a 90-degree curb, an inclined edge instead.
- Comment raised about the difficulty crossing the intersection prevents folks North of Rt 117 from connecting with town. In order to bike in town, the bicycle needs to be driven into town.
- If there were pedestrian crosswalks, where does the landing occur and go to?
- Implementing the striping and island may allow a speed study to show the benefit of lowering the speed limit through the intersection to 35 MPH.

#### 6. Updates on Walkway/Sidewalk projects

##### a. Merriam Street

- Progress on easements – certified mail to those residents who have not responded.
- We want a bid package from the consultants by February 2020

- Culvert project is moving along for the culvert replacement; cannot be in the water until July 1, 2020
  - Targeting April vacation for water main valve work on Merriam
  - Laying the groundwork for sidewalk construction, culvert construction, drainage construction, and paving for 2020 construction season.
- b. Ash Street
- No update
7. Updates: Projects/Designs/Studies/Issues:
- a. Route 20 at Wellesley Street Design
    - Progress being made. Plan to be on BOS agenda for December 10 meeting to have the consultants make a submittal to MASS DOT for 25% design.
  - b. Woodleigh Farm – ZBA is going through hearings on this project
  - c. Email regarding traffic at the School Street/BPR intersection. A request was made to install the anticipated stop sign Westbound on BPR at School Street. DPW and Police agreed that with the existing construction and condition of the road, it would not be a good idea to install the stop sign at this time.
  - d. Police Dept - reports of speeding northbound on School Street. Police deployed the speed board on the section by the library
  - e. Fire Dept concerned that the Rt 30 project take into consideration what the controls are at the Fire Station at Ash Street. We are not at a point in the plans where we need to have that discussion.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: December 11, 2019**