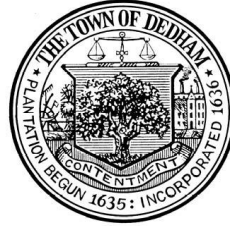


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TOWN OF DEDHAM
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES
O' Brien Meeting Room Town Hall
Tuesday August 13, 2019 – 7 PM.

Present: John Bethoney, Chairman
James Antonizick, Vice Chairman
Dennis Guilfoyle
Charlie Packer, member
Daniel O'Neil, member
Jason Mammone, P.E., Director of Engineering
Michal D'Entremont, Police Chief

Absent:

Mr. Bethoney open the meeting at 7:08 PM.

Agenda Item # 1 - Traffic Calming Request #2019-004, Lowder Street; Jim McGrail, applicant and Kate Levesque (Ursuline Academy Head of School) invited to discuss and set limits for traffic study with TAC.

Mr. Bethoney asked for any comment from Mr. McGrail who introduced Ms Levesque, Ursuline Head of School. Ms Levesque stated her office is located at 112 Lowder St. and overlooks the street. The increased traffic has caused congestion and become a serious safety issue. She stated that Ursuline hosted a neighborhood meeting and had over 40 people in attendance. They are seeking relief from the TAC. Mr. McGrail sits on the Building and Grounds committee for Ursuline and he sees the issue are more of the entire neighborhood rather than just Ursuline. Dennis Guilfoyle agrees and stated it has become a cut through area for vehicles from 109, 135 and 128 and that Chute Rd and Pacella Dr are experiencing similar problems.

Beverly Wilkes of 40 Sawyer Dr stated the area has become very dangerous and the street has many blind curves. She stated a 65 acre development that is being proposed for Lowder street will cause further traffic concerns. Mr. Bethoney suggested the proposed development was not part of this issue and is in the distant future needing Town Meeting approval.

Kinnon Williamson of 41 Sawyer Dr asked if “local traffic only” signage would be helpful for the peak hours of 4PM – 7PM and if that could be considered as mitigation.

Jason Mammone suggested the problems stems from the side streets off Lowder and it is more of a neighborhood problem and the traffic study should be viewed from a systemic, global perspective.

Jason discussed the process of a traffic study and then a traffic calming assessment, from there a ballot would be sent to those directly impacted residents and a 75% approval to implement mitigation would be needed from that group and a 60% approval from the satellite groups.

Jason provided a locus map of the area and those in attendance had a chance to review the area. It was decided that the scope of the traffic study would include the following streets:

- Lowder Street
- Village Avenue
- Chestnut Street
- Bullard Street
- Allindale Way
- Wampatuck Road
- Martin Bates Street
- Highland Street
- Sandy Valley Road
- Pacella Drive
- Chute Road
- Richards Street
- Haven Street

Jason stated the scope of the study is too great to be conducted by the Town Engineering Department and will be referred to an outside traffic consultant. The cost of the study will be shared by (the applicant) Ursuline (Ms Levesque attested to this) and she has been in contact with Allison Webster, DCD Head of School, regarding same and while she can not speak for DCD she feels they would be willing to do what is necessary to solve the problems.

Dennis Guilfoyle made a motion to conduct a traffic calming study, 2nd Charlie Packer UA.

Agenda Item # 2 – Update on proposal to eliminate Sustainability Advisory Committee Member from TAC.

Mr. Bethoney stated he spoke with John Gorham chair of the SAC regarding the vacant seat on TAC. A member has yet to step up to fill the vacancy. Mr. Bethoney will give Mr Gorham a final chance to fill the seat and if there is still no interest the TAC will move forward with eliminating the seat.

Agenda Item # 3 – Approval of meeting minutes from 7/9/2019.

Motion to accept minutes as drafted, Jim Antonizick, 2nd Dan O’Neil, Dennis Guilfoyle abstain, UA.

Old/New Business

Regarding Chute Rd / Pacella Dr, Jason stated turn restriction signs went up in June and will be evaluated through September to see if they are curing the problem. Chief D’Entremont reminded TAC that “local traffic only restriction signs” are unconstitutional on a public road and that Step II Kid Alert System are NOT to be placed in the roadway.

Next meeting scheduled for October 8th, 2019 7:00 PM

Dennis Guilfoyle made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 PM. 2nd Charlie Packer, UA.