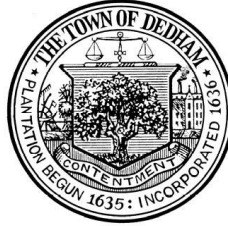


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JAMES ANTONIZICK, VICE CHAIR
DENNIS GUILFOYLE
CHARLIE PACKER
DANIEL O'NEIL



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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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TOWN OF DEDHAM
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES
Selectmen's Chamber Town Hall
Tuesday, February 11, 2020 – 7 PM.

Present: John Bethoney, Chairman
James Antonizick, Vice Chairman
Charlie Packer, member
Daniel O'Neil, member
Jason Mammone, P.E., Director of Engineering
Joseph Flanagan, Dir. Public Works
Michael D'Entremont – Chief of Police

Absent: Dennis Guilfoyle

Mr. Bethoney open the meeting at 7:02 PM.

Agenda Item # 1 – Traffic Calming Request #2019-006, Madison Street intersection with Circuit Road: Carly Wilcox (Applicant) Initial Evaluation

Mr. Mammone provided a summary of the Initial Traffic Evaluation (dated 2/3/20). Ms. Wilcox originally request that the Select Board install Stop Signs on Madison St at Circuit RD and Shiretown Rd. The SB acted on the request at their meeting of 07/18/19. The request was referred to the Engineering Dept for a traffic study. The findings revealed that Madison St did not meet criteria as a multi-way stop controlled intersection. But it was realized the crosswalk (Madison & Shiretown) was lacking the appropriate signage, as such the DPW installed the crosswalk signage.

Based on the Town's Traffic Calming Policy the application did not meet the criteria for traffic calming measures. The total score, based upon speed, volume, traffic collisions, pedestrian generators, residential density and pedestrian routes was 35 points, short of the 50 points required for traditional calming measures. Mr. Mammone recommended alternative, low cost measures to mitigate the neighbors' concerns. Mr. Flanagan will also work with the applicant to review the signage within the school zone and ensure it is all in place and visible, as signs can get damaged by vehicles plowing snow and vehicles parking.

Mr. Bethoney opened to public comment. Ms. Wilcox (applicant) and Bob LaPorto of Crane Street both spoke in support of the application and had questions regarding the Initial Traffic Evaluation report. Mr LaPorta suggested the following:

placement of the radar did not provide an accurate assessment of the volume of vehicles.

The speed indicator of 25 mph should have been 20 mph as it's a school zone

The radar should have been placed at the intersection or closer to Mt Vernon St.

Mr. Mammone stated that in his professional opinion the radar was placed in the optimal positional to capture the intersection traffic speed and volume.

He stated the 25 mph rate is used as that is the posted speed limit – the 20 mph is only used 2 hours per day, once in the morning and one in the afternoon.

He stated that he had conducted a traffic pattern study in 2016 and the radar was placed westerly (closer to Mt Vernon St) and it did not meet the speed requirements for traffic calming.

Ms Vivien Ortiz of Mattapan was present in support of the application. Ms Ortiz facilitates a school program called “safe routes”. She worked with the staff and students at Oakdale School to teach pedestrian safety. During her time at Oakdale she observed many vehicles that did not stop at the crosswalk, vehicles parked on the crosswalk and vehicles were speeding. Ms. Ortiz stated the crossing guard can provide firsthand information as the person on the “front line” every day. She stated a parent survey on walking and biking to school has been developed and will be going home with the students for parent input. This could ease the traffic burden.

Mr. Bethoney thanked Ms Ortiz for her presence and input. Mr Bethoney was an Oakdale parent himself for 9 years and is well versed in the challenges of pick up and drop off. He stated crossing guards are the best resource during peak times.

Ms Wilcox stated she received an email of support from the crossing guard which she read aloud to the TAC. She also submitted a letter of support from the school principal that was present to the Board for review.

Mr. Bethoney opened for comment from the TAC members – Charlie Packer thanked the applicant for her input and realizes she doesn't trust the data but from an engineering stand point the data is trust worthy and that if the study was done with the radar in a different location and it still didn't merit traffic calming would that be acceptable – the applicant stated it would not. Charlie suggested we combine the 2016 data with the current data and asked Jason if that would cause an increase in scores. Jason stated it would not, but he would provide the combined data for the TAC review.

Jim Antonizick mentioned that if the radar were at the intersection it would decrease the speed thus reducing the overall score.

Ms Wilcox is still very concerned about the safety at the school – she asked if a speed hump (like the one on Needham St by Riverdale School) could be considered. Jason stated that Needham St and Madison St are entirely different in volume and speed and the raised crosswalk part of the Needham Street redesign several years ago.

Mr. Bethoney suggested the applicant speak with the School Committee and the BOS to seek support on the issues, but the TAC policy is clear and if an application does not meet the policy requirements the TAC has no choice but to deny the request.

Mr. Bethoney sought a motion for Jason to prepare a statement that included the 2016 traffic data with the current data for the applicants review, Jim Antonizick , 2nd Charlie Packer UA.

Mr. Bethoney sought a motion to deny the request for Traffic Calming on Madison St Intersection based on the Initial Traffic Evaluation, Dan O'Neil , 2nd Charlie Packer UA.

Agenda Item # 2- Update on proposal to eliminate Sustainability Advisory Committee member from TAC.

Mr. Bethoney sought a motion for Jason to draft a letter to the Select Board requesting they remove the Sustainability Committee member seat from the TAC . Jim Antonizick 2nd Dan O'Neil, UA.

Approval of Meeting Minutes 12/10/2019

Motion to accept minutes as drafted Jim Antonizick 2nd Charlie Packer.

Old/New Business

Jason Mammone suggested the TAC postpone the review of Traffic Calming Request from Claryssa Robyn , Whiting Ave. until the School Circulation Study has been finalized as Whiting Ave was included in that study.
Motion to postpone, Dan O,Neil, 2nd Charlie Packer.

2020 Meeting Dates were presented -Next meeting date 3/10/20

Jim Antonizick made a motion to adjourn at 7:50 PM. 2nd Charlie Packer, UA.

