

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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TOWN OF DEDHAM
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES
Remote participation via ZOOM
Tuesday, September 14, 2021 – 7 PM.

Present: John Bethoney, Chair
Charlie Packer, P.E. Member
Daniel O'Neil, Member
Dimitria Sullivan, SB

Jason Mammone, P.E., Director of Engineering
Michael D'Entremont, Dedham Police Chief

Absent:

Mr. Bethoney opened the meeting at 7:04 PM and reviewed the virtual meeting guidelines and protocols.

A roll call attendance was taken- above listed TAC members were present.

Agenda Item # 1 – Traffic Calming Request #2019-007, Central Ave, Kristina Hibbard (Applicant) – Discussion and Vote on Initial Evaluation.

The applicant was not in attendance. As such Mr. Bethoney suggested moving on and coming back to this item.

Agenda Item # 2 -Traffic Calming Request # 2020-001, Wentworth Street: Kylie Calzone (Applicant) – Discussion and Vote on Initial Evaluation.

Mr. Bethoney recused himself from this item (at 7:12) as he lives on Wentworth Street. He will leave the ZOOM meeting and rejoin when the discussion is complete. Vice Chair Charlie Packer will proceed with this item.

Mr. Packer picked up on this item where the TAC left off at the last meeting, which was to determine if Dedham PD had been present at the time of the data collecting. Jason confirmed with Chief D'Entremont that DPD was NOT present during the time the data was collected, as such the data stands as collected without any interference.

Mr. Packer sought a motion to deny the Initial Evaluation, Dimitria Sullivan, 2nd Dan O'Neil- all in favor. Jason discussed the possibility of installing sidewalks as was mentioned at the last meeting. The TAC agrees with pursuing the possibility of same. Mr. Packer mentioned the applicant was not in attendance but would be invited to a future meeting to discuss the petition for sidewalks.

Chairman John Bethoney returned to the meeting at 7:20 PM

Agenda Item # 3 – Traffic Calming Request #2020-003, Bonham Road: Jules Nohra (Applicant) – Vote to conduct an Initial Evaluation.

Mr Bethoney discussed the application that was submitted with 19 signatures and recognized the applicant, Jules Nohra and asked him to explain to the TAC his concerns that lead to him filing the application.

Mr Nohra has lived at 121 Bonham Rd since 2019. His concerns are speeding vehicles, safety of children playing and pedestrians.

Mr. Bethoney thanked the applicant and asked for any further public comments. Being none Mr Bethoney opened to TAC comment, being none Mr Bethoney asked Chief D'Entremont if speeding has been an issue on Bonham Rd. Chief was not aware but will check and get back to the TAC. Mr Bethoney mentioned that the application is limited to Bonham Rd and not the surrounding streets. Also, it was acknowledged that Bonham Rd is not a cut through street and traffic is primarily limited to residents. Mr Nohra acknowledged the traffic is primarily residents.

Mr. Bethoney asked Jason to explain to the applicant the process of conducting an Initial Evaluation. Jason explained that the Initial Evaluation is the first step in the process in which traffic data would be collected to determine if Bonham Rd meets the criteria for traffic calming measures.

Dimitria Sullivan made a motion to conduct an Initial Evaluation on Bonham RD, 2nd Dan O'Neil – all in favor.

Jason will keep the applicant updated on when the Initial Evaluation will be conducted.

Agenda Item # 4 – Traffic Calming Request #2019-002, Upland Road: Carlo Prisco (Applicant) – Review draft ballot for temporary traffic calming measures.

Jason reviewed the draft ballot that will be sent to the residents. The ballot includes a cover letter explaining the directions and reasons for the ballot. The ballot has a page with 7 response questions and a page that provides space for resident's comments. 75% of residents must return the ballot in favor of the traffic measures.

Mr Bethoney opened to TAC for questions and comments. Dimitria Sullivan suggested adding a response option of “unsure” to question # 6 that asks residents if they have noticed an increase in traffic patterns. The TAC agrees with adding that option.

Dan O’Neil motion to approve the draft ballot with the edit on question # 6, 2nd Charlie Packer- all in favor.

Jason will make the suggested revision.

Agenda Item # 5 – Traffic Calming Policy Discussion –

Mr Bethoney asked Jason to review and summarize the Policy amendments. Jason went through the changes starting with the Town Manager appointees. One of the three shall be a registered Professional Civil Engineer, and it is preferred the other two shall have experience in traffic/transportation engineering.

The submission of Traffic Calming Requests shall require 40% of the homeowners signatures supporting the request. A copy of the owners of record shall be obtained from the Assessors Office.

Eligibility for traffic calming projects now includes a link to a reference map showing eligible roadways.

The scoring table was discussed - in particular the Pedestrian Generators Section. The TAC would like the scoring to reflect an absolute problem before any traffic calming is recommended. Narrowing the scope from 1000 ft to 500 ft was discussed as well as reviewing the points for schools and parks.

The TAC will further review the recommendations and meet next week to finalize the policy amendments

Approval of meeting minutes from July 13, 2021

Mr. Bethoney asked if members had a chance to review July 13th minutes and if they had any proposed edits.

Dan O’Neil made a motion to accept the minutes as drafted, 2nd Dimitria Sullivan – all in favor by roll call.

Old/New Business

Jason stated he would contact the applicant from Central Ave regarding the sidewalk petition and schedule the item with the Policy Discussion meeting for 9/21/2021.

Motion to adjourn at 8:17 pm, Dimitria Sullivan, 2nd Charlie Packer, all in favor.

