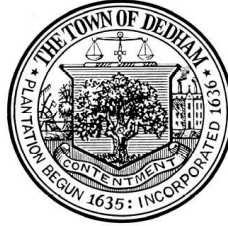


COMMITTEE MEMBERS

JOHN BETHONEY, CHAIR  
CHARLIE PACKER, P.E. VICE CHAIR  
DIMITRIA SULLIVAN  
JACK KELLIHER  
DANIEL O'NEIL

DEDHAM TOWN HALL  
450 WASHINGTON ST  
DEDHAM, MA 02027  
www.dedham-ma.gov



JASON MAMMONE, P.E.  
DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING

JOSEPH FLANAGAN  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

MICHAEL D'ENTREMONT  
CHIEF OF POLICE

ADRIENNE T ALBANI  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

TOWN OF DEDHAM  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**Remote participation via ZOOM**  
**Tuesday, October 12, 2021 – 7 PM.**

**Present:** John Bethoney, Chair  
Charlie Packer, P.E. Member  
Dimitria Sullivan, SB  
Jack Kelliher, Member

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

**Absent:** Daniel O'Neil, Member

Mr. Bethoney opened the meeting at 7:07 PM and reviewed the virtual meeting guidelines and protocols.

A roll call attendance was taken- above listed TAC members were present. Mr. Bethoney extended a special welcome to new member Jack Kelliher. Daniel O'Neil was excused.

**Agenda Item # 1 – Update on revised Traffic Calming Policy–**

Mr Bethoney asked Jason to review and summarize the Policy revisions. Jason went through the changes and mentioned the Select Board voted unanimously to accept the revisions recommended by the TAC. The updated Policy is effective immediately.

Dimitria Sullivan asked Jason if the policy has been updated on the Towns website- Jason stated that he updated the website immediately following the vote of the Select Board.

**Agenda Item # 2- Traffic Calming Request #2021-002: Ashley Schell (Applicant) Discussion and vote on Initial Evaluation**

Mr. Bethoney asked Jason to provide a summary of the Initial Evaluation dated 10/5/2021. Jason discussed the speed and traffic volume data that was collected and the results show that Hillside Rd does not experience a higher-than-normal volume of

vehicles. The average speed during peak hours is 24 mph. Crash data revealed 1 (one) crash that did not involve a pedestrian or bicyclist.

The scoring criteria resulted in 37 total points, not reaching the 50 points required. As such, traditional Traffic Calming Measures are not recommended for Hillside Rd.

Jason mentioned the Engineering Department offered the following low-cost measures:

#### Step 2 Kid Alert Visual Warning System

Staggered parking on either side of the roadway to narrow the road, causing motorists slowing down as they navigate the roadway.

Contacting Dedham PD to have a “Your Speed Is” indicator sign placed on the street at various times throughout the year.

Mr. Bethoney thanked Jason for the report and opened to TAC members for any questions or comments.

Dimitria Sullivan commented that the data suggested it is the residents of the neighborhood and not cut through drivers. She then asked Chief D’Entremont if a police officer is ever placed in that area to deter drivers from speeding.

Chief stated officers are placed in school zones during peak hours and in this case the officer would be on Needham St.

The volume on Hillside Rd does not warrant a regular police presence.

Mr. Bethoney opened to public comment and recognized Ashley Sarro of 50 Hillside Rd. She has seen many near accidents at the intersection of Valley & Parker Staples Rd. She stated the Stop sign is too far back to be visible and by the time motorist see it, it is too late.

She stated that she feels the intersection is dangerous.

Mr. Bethoney recognized the applicant, Ashley Schell of 25 Hillside Rd. She stated that many cars are slowing down to pull in and out of their driveways and asked Jason of this could have impacted data collected. Jason stated it would not, that all traffic is considered as natural traffic patterns and the data only captured traffic between 15-70 mph.

Ashley feels that staggered parking on the street can be a problem with children walking as they may not be visible to motorists.

Mr. Bethoney opened to further comment from TAC members. Charlie Packer asked Jason if the Stop Sign elevation could be looked at as it sounded like it was creating a blind spot for motorists. Charlie asked if Stop Signs are considered for traffic calming measures. Jason stated studies have shown that Stop Signs are not effective for traffic calming.

Jason will ask DPW Director Joe Flanagan to look at the Stop Sign and see if any action should be taken.

Mr Bethoney sought a motion to accept the Initial Evaluation and deny the applicants request for traffic calming, Dimitria Sullivan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Charlie Packer, all in favor by roll call vote.

**Agenda Item # 3– Traffic Calming Request #2021-004, Brookdale Avenue: Henry Mahegan (Applicant) - Vote to conduct Initial Evaluation**

Mr. Bethoney recognized applicant, Henry Mahegan (of 31 Harvard St) to summarize the reason for his application.

Mr. Mahegan stated his concerns about traffic speeding through the neighborhood and rolling past the Stop Sign at the intersection of Harvard St and Brookdale Ave. He has been working from home during the pandemic and became aware of the problem and witnessed a bicyclist struck by a car. He has seen many “close calls”. He stated that cars are parked along the road as there are no clearly defined sidewalks and this impedes pedestrians and bicyclists. His application was signed by 16 residents that share his concerns.

Mr. Bethoney recognized John Heffernan of 26 Brookdale Ave. who lives across the street from the applicant.

Mr. Heffernan shares the applicants concerns. He stated the area does not have any defined sidewalks and residents are merely parking in front of their homes. He mentioned that residents simply pulling in and out of their driveways is dangerous as motorists are not slowing down. Its dangerous for children walking to school with no sidewalks.

Mr. Bethoney opened to TAC comments.

Charlie Packer asked if the TAC Policy changes apply to this application. Jason stated “yes” but the 40% resident’s signatures will be waived as this application was received prior to the acceptance of the Policy changes.

Mr. Bethoney supports the TAC conducting an Initial Evaluation and sought a motion for same. Charlie Packer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dimitria Sullivan, all in favor by roll call vote.

Jason stated an Initial Evaluation would be conducted as soon as possible and a copy would be provided to the applicant. There are other applications pending but Jason hopes to complete this repost prior to snowfall.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes from 9/14/21 & 9/21/21**

Mr. Bethoney asked if members had a chance to review the minutes as drafted.

Dimitria Sullivan, motion to accept minutes from 9/14/21 as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> Charlie Packer, all in favor by roll call. Mr Kelliher did not vote as this is his first meeting.

Dimitria Sullivan, motion to accept minutes from 9/21/21 as presented, 2<sup>nd</sup> Charlie Packer, all in favor by roll call. Mr. Kelliher did not vote as this is his first meeting.

**Old/New Business –**

Jason stated the next meeting will be November 9, 2021.

Being no further business at 7:52 Mr. Bethoney sought a motion to adjourn, Charlie Packer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dimitria Sullivan – all in favor.