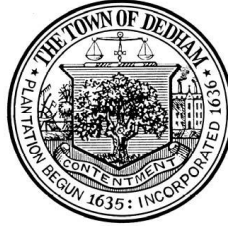


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TOWN OF DEDHAM
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES
Remote participation via ZOOM
Tuesday, June 8, 2021 – 7 PM.

Present: John Bethoney, Chair
Jim Antonizick, P.E. Vice Chair
Dan O'Neil, Member
Dimitria Sullivan, SB

Jason Mammone, P.E., Director of Engineering
Joseph Flanagan, Director of Public Works

Absent: Charlie Packer, P.E. Member

Mr. Bethoney opened the meeting at 7:05 PM and reviewed the virtual meeting guidelines and protocols.
A roll call attendance was taken- above listed TAC members present. Charlie Packer was absent.

Agenda Item # 1 – Traffic Calming Request #2021-001, Colburn Street, Jean Connally (Applicant) – Discussion and Vote on Traffic Calming Needs Assessment Report.

Mr. Bethoney asked Jason Mammone to provide a summary of the findings and recommendations of the Traffic Calming Needs Assessment.

Jason reviewed the report and recommended traffic calming measures. A map of the affected streets was presented that included the primary road as Colburn St and the affected roadways as Maverick St, Curve St, Waldo St, Denmark St, Hirsh Ter, and Gould St. Any proposed traffic calming measures utilized for Colburn St will likely result in increase of speed and volume on Curve and Maverick St, however based on conversations with the Fire Chief certain traffic measures will have a significant impact on emergency response. Thus one-way restriction and consistent vertical deflection measures can not be considered.

The proposed measures for Colburn Street are speed humps, speed cushions and a widening of the road from 19Ft to 23Ft.

Jason explained the pros and cons of speed humps that while they can slow traffic they can produce noise and can reduce the amount of on street parking. He presented a video of the use of a speed cushion showing how vehicles maneuver placement.

Jason recommends the traffic measures be placed temporarily for 3-6 months and then ballot the neighborhood to see if they should be made permanent. TAC policy requires 75% buy-in from residents of the primary street and 60% of the affected streets.

Mr Bethoney opened to TAC questions and comments.

Dimitria Sullivan thanked Jason for the report and asked why Hirsh Terrace and Waldo St would be part of the affected area.

Jason stated those residents must use Colburn, Maverick and Curve Street to get to their homes thus they would be impacted.

Dan O'Neil mentioned he lives on Maverick St and supports the proposed measures.

Jim Antonizick asked for clarification on if the measurers were proposed for the entire length of Colburn St. Jason stated the measures are proposed for the stretch of Colburn south of Denmark St from Maverick to Curve.

Jim asked if we will be able to determine if the speed humps are effective in reducing the number of side swipes. Jason stated we would need 3 years of data to determine the effects of side swipes.

Being no further TAC member comments Mr. Bethoney opened to public comment.

Kim Bevans of 135 Colburn Street asked if the grass strip along the sidewalk, that provides a buffer for pedestrians, would be removed if the road is widened.

Jason stated that they would be removed but the measure would reduce the speed of vehicles making it safer for pedestrians.

Jihane Beljacques of 295 Colburn St continues to have concerns about speeding and asked if making the street a one-way could still be an option even though the Fire Chief does not recommend it.

Jason stated that making the road a one-way was not an option. The Fire Chief would not approve it as it would have a negative impact on emergency response time.

Jihane has concern that speed humps/cushions would result in losing on street parking and asked if TAC could go back to the drawing board. Jason stated the final approval rests with the Select Board.

Jean Connally (applicant) of 299 Colburn St agrees with Jihane that making the street a one-way would be the best option to reduce the speed and sideswipes. Jean asked about other one-way streets and how the emergency vehicles navigate those without impact.

Jason stated that other one-ways may have been in place for decades. He stated the Fire Chief would not approve a one-way and it will not be an option for Colburn Street.

Jean asked about placing a Stop sign at the cross walk Maverick to Curve. Jason stated that Stop sign placement is regulatory and TAC is an advisory committee only.

Annika Cox of 291 Colburn St asked if permission was needed prior to speed humps / cushions being placed. Jason stated the Select Board has the final authority.

Being no further public comment Mr. Bethoney asked Jason for a time-line. Jason stated that the Capital request would be made now for the next fiscal year and the 6 month trial period of traffic calming measures would potentially be July 2022 – December 2022.

Mr Bethoney sought a motion to approve the “affected roadways map” Dimitria Sullivan motion, 2nd Dan O’Neil – by roll call vote – all in favor.

Mr Bethoney sought a motion to seek appropriate funding for the trial period of speed humps and cushions, Motion Jim Antonizick, 2nd Dan O’Neil, by roll call vote – all in favor.

Agenda Item # 2 – Traffic Calming Policy Discussion – Possible change to policy that would require a certain amount of signatories for a traffic calming request to be considered by the TAC

Jason discussed this issue came up when a recent Traffic Calming Request was submitted with only the signature of the applicant. At that time Charlie Packer questioned as to whether additional signatures should be required as the entire neighborhood would potentially be impacted if traffic calming measures were approved.

Jim Antonizick stated that most applications contain multiple signatures.

It was noted that the application packet has a dedicated page with spots for 20 additional signatures.

After some discussion it was decided that 40% of residents on the subject street would be necessary for the TAC to consider an application.

Dimitria Sullivan can make the recommendation to the Select Board to amend the Traffic Calming Policy to include 40% of resident’s signatures.

Jason, suggest we table the discussion until July when all members are present.

Approval of meeting minutes from May 11, 2021

Mr Bethoney asked if members had a chance to review the minutes and if they had any suggested edits. Dimitria Sullivan asked for the “BOS” reference next to her name be amended to “SB” as the Board of Selectman is now known as the Select Board.

Mr. Bethoney asked Adrienne to make the edit and then sought a motion to accept the minutes as amended from May 11, 2021 Motion, Dan O’Neil, 2nd Dimitria Sullivan - Roll call vote --all in favor to accept as amended.

Old/New Business

Jason mentioned that speed hump installation has begun on Upland Rd and he had been contacted by residents who were unaware of the TAC application and approved measures. Jason suggested having a dedicated web page on the TAC site for “current projects and happenings” and mentioning that the measures are temporary, and the neighborhood will be balloted before anything is permanent.

Dimitria Sullivan suggested an “information package” go out to the neighborhood to include a loose timeline and directed residents to the web page.

Mr Bethoney thanked Jason and stated this discussion will continue at the next meeting.

Jason stated the next meeting is tentative for July 13, 2021.

Being no further business Mr. Bethoney sought a motion to adjourn.

Motion to adjourn at 8:30 PM Jim Antonizick , 2nd Dimitria Sullivan -roll call vote – all in favor.