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TOWN OF DEDHAM
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

July 13, 2021

Mr. & Mrs. Hibbard
278 Central Avenue
Dedham, MA 02026

RE: Traffic Calming Request Form #2019-001 – Central Avenue

Mr. Jemiola,

Based upon the data presented in the Initial Traffic Evaluation dated 06/16/21 that was provided to you and the public meetings held to discuss this request with the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC), the TAC is informing you that your Traffic Calming Request for Central Avenue is not being recommended for traditional traffic calming measures since it did not score greater than 50 points based upon the criterion presented in Table 1 of the latest version of the Town's Traffic Calming Policy.

Although Central Avenue does not qualify for traditional traffic calming measures, the TAC would like to provide you with some options for low-cost traffic calming measures that can be utilized by you and your neighborhood. These low-cost measures when utilized properly have shown reductions in vehicular speeds.

- Purchasing a Step2 Kid Alert Visual Warning System – These can be purchased at Wal-Mart, Amazon.com and other similar retail and online stores for about \$25 to \$35. The Step2 Kid should be placed at the end of your driveway so it is visible to motorists. This should only be placed out during times when kids are actually outside playing. By having it out all the time, it will reduce its effectiveness. Studies have shown that when used properly, it usually aids in the reduction of vehicle speeds.



Photo of Step 2 Kid Alert

- Work with your neighbors to park your cars on side of the street to reduce the openness of the roadway while still allowing for the safe passage of emergency response vehicles (i.e. Police, Ambulance, Fire Engine). This measure physically narrows the roadway making the motorist slow down to negotiate by the parked vehicles.
- Coordinate with the Police Department to see if they can place their mobile “Your Speed Is” sign on Pratt Avenue a couple of times throughout the year.

Also to note, although traditional traffic calming measures were not approved for Central Avenue, the TAC did agree with the initial evaluation pertaining to the increased pedestrian use on Central Avenue. In an effort to close gaps on our residential roadways that do not have at least one sidewalk that connects to a collector/arterial roadway that does have sidewalks, coupled with the goal of making Dedham more walkable by providing sidewalks for its pedestrians the TAC is recommending for approval by the Select Board the funding needed through a capital improvement request for the design and construction of sidewalks on both sides of Central Avenue from Wentworth Street to Rustcraft Road.

If you believe that the speeds and/or conditions on Central Avenue have become worse, you are eligible to submit another Traffic Calming Request one year from the date of this letter. Please feel free to contact the Director of Engineering, Jason Mammone, P.E., at 781-751-9352 should you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

John Bethoney, Chairman

Cc: Board of Selectman
Leon Goodwin, Town Manager
Nancy A. Baker, Assistant Town Manager
Michael D’Entremont, Chief of Police
Joseph Flanagan, Director of Public Works
Jason Mammone, P.E., Director of Engineering