

Traffic Safety Committee DRAFT Minutes
7/25/14, 9:00 am, Flynn Building
Bill Place, Scott Nix, Jim Kupfer, Jody Kablack

1. 424 Concord Rd request for installation of convex mirror – email from Kathleen Kealey, 9/9/2013. The Town cannot authorize it to be installed on a utility or street light pole since the Town doesn't own the pole. Some residents have installed them and we have not heard of any enforcement issues from the pole owners. DPW will continue annual roadside vegetation removal to improve sight distance, but residents can also assist with this in tough spots.
2. Possum Lane speed reduction – email from Elizabeth Schlessman, 9/27/2013. The SPD reported that they have conducted sporadic electronic monitoring as other complaints have been made, and they will continue monitoring. DPW will be directed to install signage noting caution for children on Possum Lane. It is noted that the TSC not in favor of speed bumps of any variety due to the maintenance and wear and tear on town and public safety vehicles. Plowing operations are difficult, they create noise and impede drainage, and tend to divert traffic onto other already over-burdened streets.
3. Crosswalk materials – email from David Kleinschmidt, 11/22/2013. The TSC experience that it is a perception that the blue crosswalks present slippery conditions. Mr. Kleinschmidt is welcome to send in specifications for other types of crosswalks for review by the DPW Director. However he is not inclined at this time to change standards. The intersection of Route 27 and Fairbank Road is known by SPD to have problems due to speed and the slight grade, but they have not experienced accidents due to the crosswalk material. The TSC will continue to monitor the performance of the painted crosswalks before making any changes.
4. Old County Road request for speed bumps - email from Paul Maranian, 3/19/2014. SPD will write a letter to local dealerships notifying them of the concerns of the residents regarding speeding, and the TSC will continue to monitor this complaint. It is noted that the TSC not in favor of speed bumps of any variety due to the maintenance and wear and tear on town and public safety vehicles. Plowing operations are difficult, they create noise and impede drainage, and tend to divert traffic onto other already over-burdened streets.
5. Old Garrison/Dutton Rd intersection – email from ngodonnell@yahoo.com, 3/18/2014. The Town has a plan to redesign the intersection to make it safer, but needs an easement from an abutter. Due to our inability to obtain an easement, we are unable to reconfigure the intersection at this time. It is noted that there is a stop sign on Old Garrison Road at Dutton Road, which the resident indicates has no signage. It is Dutton Road which is unsigned. Caution is advised, as well as the use of blinkers.
6. Goodman's Hill speed limit signs, truck restriction and Station Rd stop sign request – email from Henry Noer, 3/21/2014. DPW will check speed signage on Goodman's Hill Road and install if necessary; It was confirmed that there is no truck restriction on Goodman's Hill Road; Regarding the comment that there is no stop sign on Station Rd and Route 20, the TSC will review it to see if necessary due to sight constraints, but addition of a stop sign will

require amendment to Traffic Rules and Orders by the Selectmen and a permit from MA DOT.

7. Concord Rd request for speed bumps – email from Jen Baker, 4/1/2014. It is noted that the posted speed limit in this area is 35 mph, however Concord Road is a variable speed road. The TSC is working with MA DOT on making several roads more uniform for speed (including Concord Road), and to possibly reduce speed limits. It is noted that the TSC not in favor of speed bumps of any variety due to the maintenance and wear and tear on town and public safety vehicles. Plowing operations are difficult, they create noise and impede drainage, and tend to divert traffic onto other already over-burdened streets.
8. 579 Concord Rd request for guardrail – Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Black, 5/8/2014. The TSC will review the location to see if a cut in the guardrail is possible so that residents can access the walkway on the opposite side of Concord Road. The TSC is not in favor of installing a crosswalk at this location, as there are sight distance and speed issues.
9. Fieldstone Farm Road speed reduction request – email from Linda Lyons, 5/19/2014. The TSC believes this is a neighborhood issue which should begin by talking to neighbors about it. A stop sign may be a possibility, and will require amendment to Traffic Rules and Orders by the Selectmen. It is noted that the TSC not in favor of speed bumps of any variety due to the maintenance and wear and tear on town and public safety vehicles. Plowing operations are difficult, they create noise and impede drainage, and tend to divert traffic onto other already over-burdened streets.
10. Traffic light at Sudbury Crossing – email from Kathy King, 6/12/2014. The traffic light is owned and controlled by the MA DOT and would be costly to add a left turn phase. It is noted that the Northern Bank construction project will add a pedestrian activated phase to the light, but there are no plans to alter this traffic signal at this time.
11. Old Lancaster Road speed signage – email from James Casey, 6/24/2014. Old Lancaster Road speed control - a number of traffic safety issues have been discussed on this road over the last several years: (1) The TSC has requested MA DOT review the speed limits on Old Lancaster Road and create a uniform speed limit (and possibly lower it) – review pending; (2) a neighborhood petition to install a walkway was attempted about 5 years ago, but failed to get the requisite percentage of signatures from the affected property owners. The SPD will monitor with the electronic speed limit sign and DPW will review signage and install additional signs if warranted. The TSC is not in favor of restricting access from Goodman's Hill Road, nor of installing grooved pavement.
12. Parking on Cutler Farm Rd – email from Brian Mulcahey, 7/1/2014. The TSC agrees that parking along either side of the Cutler Farm entrance should be prohibited, and will seek approval from BOS to amend the Traffic Rules and Orders (if needed). DPW will post No Parking signs on the exit lane. The issue has also been forwarded to SPS Superintendent.
13. Route 20 walkway between Carding Mill Rd and Bigelow Rd – email from Zaheer Ali, 7/1/2014. Bill Place and Jody Kablack have informed the resident of walkway petition

initiative and encouraged him to apply if a walkway along Route 20 to Bowditch Road is desired. This may require approval from MA DOT if the walkway is constructed within the state right of way. The TSC is not in favor of installing a crosswalk at this location as it will likely be denied by MA DOT. Speed limit along this stretch of road is 50 mph and a pedestrian crossing at that speed presents an unsafe condition.

14. Massasoit Ave vehicle restriction – email from Paul Brady, 7/18/2014. SPD has agreed to conduct a speed study on Massasoit Ave to determine speed, volume and time, and the TSC will reassess after receiving the results. The TSC is also considering a No Right Turn restriction on either King Philip or Massasoit during evening commuter times to reduce the bypass traffic through the neighborhood. Mr. Brady is encouraged to contact residents in the area to ascertain their support for this, as any restriction would apply to all drivers.
15. North Rd request for crosswalk at #436 – email from Laurie Hurtt, 7/18/2014. The TSC is unwilling to recommend a crosswalk at this location as it is in an unsafe location and may create a hazard for pedestrians. Placing crosswalks in the middle of a through street creates a safety hazard, as pedestrians may think they are safe in the crosswalk, but cars are not anticipating any hazard and may not notice the crosswalk. The residents are encouraged to assist children across the street to the walkway. It will also be suggested to create a visual cue, such as carrying a flag when crossing, to visually alert drivers.
16. Old Lancaster Truck Restriction - SPD will conduct traffic study in conjunction with earlier request

Follow up -

- Bill Place will check speed signage on Old Garrison to make sure it is correct.
- 87 Woodside - Town cleared vegetation to the extent possible. Town cannot authorize installation of mirror mounted on utility pole since we do not own them.
- LSRHS traffic queue on Concord Rd - TSC will review again with new superintendent for better traffic queuing. Chief Nix will contact Bella Wong and make her aware of the Central Transportation Planning Staff 2011 study of the intersection.
- Spring Street street light request - Bill Place will check to see if the light has been replaced. SPD recommends residents secure vehicles, houses and valuable possessions. Majority of car breaks involve unlocked doors.
- Dutton Rd kennel – ZBA permit issued for smaller kennel than proposed. No further action by the TSC.
- Pratts Mill crosswalk sign has been re-installed and crosswalk painted.
- No Left Turn sign on Dudley Rd – The Planning Dept. has created a survey of the neighbors at the request of the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen to see if they are in favor of removing the No Left Turn sign. Results will be discussed in August and the BOS will discuss at that time. The SPD again made it clear that they are not in favor of allowing residents only to make the left turn.
- Variable speed limit letter sent to MA DOT on June 9, 2014 - Jim will follow up after vacation
- Minutes of August 26, 2013 were approved

Miscellaneous -

- Nixon School crosswalk on Concord Rd – The TSC discussed a possible reconfiguration of the crosswalk location as part of the paving project to increase safety. DPW will look at this during the paving project and make adjustments as necessary. It was also discussed that the school may begin redirecting parent traffic onto Newbridge Rd in order to relieve the congestion at the Concord Road entrance. This will need to be discussed with neighbors, as well as may need improvements on Newbridge Road to ensure safety at both the school property and the Concord Rd intersection.
- Great Lake Dr. – Chief Nix reported that there was a substantial accident recently and the SPD is investigating.
- Hemlock Road - SPD has spoken with resident regarding the Sudbury Swim and Tennis Club traffic. A speed control sign will be installed sporadically to monitor.
- 375th Committee use of Town Common on 8/23 and fireworks display on 9/6 - SPD has concerns for traffic for both events, but has resolved issues related to the 8/23 event at the Town Center.
- The TSC agreed to schedule meetings in Jan and July so that a regular meeting schedule can be followed.

Adjourned 10:35 am