

Traffic Safety Coordinating Committee
June 29, 2007
Flynn Building, 9:00 am
Minutes

Present: Jody Kablack, Bill Place, Ken MacLean, Peter Fadgen

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am.

1. Union Ave./Concord Road Intersection

Several comments have been received regarding the functionality of the new intersection. Both the Police Chief and Fire Chief have expressed concern about the need for the "bump out" and the confusion it may be creating at the intersection. Prior to modifying the intersection there was no apparent speed concern, so it was questioned if the "bump out" may be introducing a hazard by making motorists slow down, turn right, and then swing left.

The committee was also in receipt of emails on this subject from Rod DeMille dated June 13, 2007, and Pat Siff dated June 19, 2007.

Bill Place noted that the striping has not been installed and will be completed next week. This will better delineate the travel lanes and may reduce confusion in the intersection. Mr. Place also noted that the wooden guardrail that was proposed to be installed in front of 201 Union Ave cannot be installed due to subsurface impediments (old pavement and concrete utility vaults). He suggests a small stone wall be constructed in place of the guardrail. Reflectors can be placed in the face of the wall for night time view. A light will also be installed shortly on the utility pole in the new island to better illuminate the intersection at night. The reflector barrels will be left in place for several more weeks until residents get used to the intersection (but will be removed for the July 4th parade).

Peter Fadgen discussed the 2 accidents that have recently occurred at the intersection, and it appears that neither were due to the new design. Officers have been assigned to watch traffic flow and have not observed any back-ups on Concord Road.

Large trucks do not seem to be having any problems navigating the intersection.

The committee would like residents to use their blinkers as they travel north and south on Concord Road to give warnings if they will be turning or staying on Concord. It was noted that using blinkers on Concord Road southbound may cause confusion due to the close proximity of Old Lancaster Road, but in general, blinkers should help the traffic flow. Traffic speed should be decreasing through the intersection due to the bump out. Concord Road north seems to be functioning as expected. Union Avenue north seems to be functioning well, and was the major improvement to safety in the intersection. The striping will alleviate the sight distance issue with the fence. All motorists should be stopping at the stop line before making the turn.

The committee agreed to discuss the intersection again in 2-3 months after it is fully constructed and painted and residents get used to it. There were no recommendations to make any changes now.

2. Blueberry Hill Lane Pot Hole

The committee is in receipt of an email from Tom Moriarity dated June 13, 2007 requesting a large pot hole be fixed near 84 Blueberry Hill Lane. Bill Place has temporarily repaired it, with a permanent patch scheduled for the fall, 2007.

3. Peakham Road walkway

Bill Place noted that KeySpan is currently replacing the walkway along Peakham Road from Blueberry Hill Lane to Pratts Mill Road. This is beyond the scope of their gas line installation that was completed last summer, but needed and well appreciated.

4. Mowing at Rice Road and Rt. 27

The committee is in receipt of an email from Christopher Bleck regarding vegetation obstructing the intersection of Rice Road and Rt. 27. Bill Place noted that this area has been mowed since receipt of the email.

5. Dakin Road Traffic Light

The Sudbury Police Dept and the DPW Dept have been observing the intersection of Dakin Road and Route 117 to determine cause/time of alleged back-ups. No serious conditions have been observed to date. A police officer will be assigned to observe once school is back in session in Sept. The back-up may be due to a school bus stopping along Route 117.

6. RFP For Traffic Consulting Services

Jody Kablack reported that a joint effort between her office and the DPW Dept. will be underway in the near future to prepare an RFP for traffic consulting services for the Town. These services will include a corridor study of Route 20, including Landham Road, and other services needed by the Town.

7. Sudbury Commons 40B Application - Circulation

The committee discussed the proposed circulation pattern in the new development. Jody Kablack noted that a work session with the applicant, ZBA and DPW Director is scheduled for July 6 at 8:00 am. The applicant will be submitting more in depth information on the location of pavement and driveways in order to better assess the issue. Once a pattern has been decided on, it will be brought back to the committee for comment.

8. Wayland Town Center Project

Jody Kablack noted that this project is back on. One issue for Sudbury is the recommendation to have 2 main accesses to the site – one on Route 20 and one on Route 27. The recent plans submitted show both accesses. Sudbury needs to follow the application to make sure this remains on the plans.

9. Town Center RFP

Jody Kablack noted that her office is developing an RFP for engineering and design of the Sudbury Center intersection project.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 27, 2007.