

Traffic Safety Coordinating Committee
January 25, 2008
Flynn Building, 8:30 am
Minutes

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

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am.

Requests from Residents:

1. Union Ave/Concord Road intersection – email dated 1/10/08 from Roxanne Cartwright and email dated 11/19/07 from Abraham Siff

Chief Fadgen stated that 3-4 accidents have occurred at the intersection in the last few months, all of them during snowstorms. Bill Place reported that the light pole is not operational yet as NStar has yet to wire the pole. He will put pressure on them to do that. It is possible that lack of adequate lighting may be a cause for some of the problems at the intersection. The committee will continue to evaluate the comments and accident data over the next several months. Bill Place will also consider installing additional signage on Concord Road south to warn motorists of the intersection.

2. Commuter bus parking – email dated 1/6/08 from Roberta Glass

A resident wrote that she takes the commuter bus and is having problems finding a parking space in the Route 20 area. She has been asked not to park at the Goodnow Library, and has been asked to move from private lots in the area. The committee discussed the potential town properties that may be appropriate for parking, and suggested the Bushey property, and Feeley Field. Neither of these properties have high parking demand, and would not cause a problem for parking in winter months since they are not high propriety areas for snow plowing. The resident is encouraged to seek private alternatives in the Route 20 area by asking businesses if parking can be leased. If bus service is increased in the future, this is something the Town may need to plan for.

3. 353 Dutton Road – email dated 11/18/07 from Clark Pan

A resident has asked that a crosswalk be installed from their driveway to Amanda Road so that children can cross Dutton Road safely to the bus stop. In the alternative, the resident suggested a flashing light be installed at the curve. It is not the practice of the DPW to install crosswalks at individual homes. Chevron curve signs have recently been installed in the area. The Police Dept. will monitor speeds in the area at the time mentioned to determine if cars are speeding. It is again noted that the process for changing the speed limit requires monitoring speeds for the 85th percentile, and typically results in the speed limit increasing. Chief Fadgen will check the existing speed data for that section of Dutton Road to see what the speeds have been. The committee is not in favor of installing a flashing light.

Butler Road: The Police Chief noted for the committee's information that his department has been trying to resolve an issue where parents are parking at the Fairbank Road

intersection and waiting for the bus in their cars, which is blocking the intersection for other motorists. A resolution has been reached whereby these cars will wait in the Haskell Field parking lot, where the bus will pick up and drop off. Bus stop walkers will still be picked up/dropped off at the intersection. The School Dept. and the bus company have agreed to this. This should only be an issue during the winter months when snow banks are narrowing the road.

Weir Hill Road: As noted in the minutes from the last meeting, residents have asked that the roadway shoulder be expanded at the curve on Lincoln Road near the Weir Hill Road intersection. The property is owned by SVT, who has agreed to review this with the town. Jody Kablack and Bill Place will conduct a site visit, but this may be a costly project due to the presence of ledge.

Concord 40B: Jody Kablack updated the committee on the application process. The planners from Acton, Concord, Maynard and Sudbury met with the developer to discuss planning issues, including the roadway improvements necessary to make Powder Mill Road/Sudbury Road safe for the expected increase in volume of cars. The developer seems willing to make the necessary improvements, but has not seriously looked at alternative or secondary access. They will also be looking more closely at the Route 117/Powder Mill Road intersection in Sudbury. The Fire Chiefs of the 4 towns will meet later this month.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 28, 2008.