

Traffic Safety Coordinating Committee  
September 21, 2012  
Flynn Building, 9:30 am  
DRAFT Minutes

Present: Jody Kablack (Dir. Of Planning and Community Development), Bill Place (DPW Director), Rick Glavin (Police Chief)

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am.

1. Request for speed bumps/speed reduction on Hemlock Road, email request from Lisa Burge on August 22, 2012: Lisa Burge was present to discuss her thoughts for traffic improvements to Hemlock Road. She is particularly concerned about drivers from Sudbury Swim and Tennis Club who speed into and out of the property. She has requested a speed bump in Hemlock Road, as well as a speed reduction from 30 mph to 10 mph. Bill Place has previously discussed the speed bump issue with Ms. Burge and is not supportive of installing these on Town roads, not even seasonally. The process for getting state approval to reduce the speed limit was discussed, and the TSC thought it was unlikely that the state would approve such a reduction. Chief Glavin suggested communicating with SST members, as enforcement is good, but education is better. Additionally, it was suggested that SST install an additional speed bump on its driveway. The DPW Dept. will mark the edge of the right of way to ensure the hump is on private property and not within the town's right of way. Ms. Burge agreed and will set up a meeting with SST board members to discuss this for the 2013 summer season. The SPD will work with them to educate members, and will continue to enforce speed control. The TSC recommended additional signage is installed, including a Dead End sign, and a speed limit sign.
2. 141 Landham Road fence, emails from Joe Durning dated 4/4/12, Kenneth Taylor dated 6/5/12 and Peter Glick dated 7/6/12: The fence was moved back in the summer, and no further complaints have been submitted.
3. Request for crosswalk – Meadow Drive to Old Lancaster Road, email from Jodi Krauss dated 5/24/12: The TSC is not in favor of this request, as installing crosswalks mid-block on a through street does not give vehicles adequate notice of potential pedestrians, and gives pedestrians a false sense of security that it is safe to cross a street without proper precautions. With or without a crosswalk, pedestrians must ensure that traffic is not present, or fully stopped, before crossing. We are concerned that installing crosswalks throughout Sudbury will increase danger for pedestrians, not reduce it.
4. Request for crosswalk at First Parish, email from Bridget Hansen dated 7/20/12: For the same reason stated above, the TSC is opposed to this request. Crosswalks will be installed once the intersection project is completed.
5. Request for deer crossing sign on Nobscot Road, email from Scott Hamilton dated 7/10/12: The DPW Dept. will install signs at the Town line on Nobscot Road.
6. Request for horse crossing signs on Dutton Road, verbal request from Marlee Soberal dated 9/13/12: The DPW Dept. will install 2 signs on Dutton Road at the RR crossing.

7. Request for “blind drive” signs at 382 Willis Road, email from Karen Lowe dated 7/13/12: The TSC is not in favor of installing a sign since this driveway has 2 curb cuts and one has adequate sight distance. The DPW Dept. will monitor and mow the brush along the right of way to increase sight distance.
8. Request to trim vegetation and add pavement markings at Peakham/Old Lancaster Road intersection, email from Kathy Jacob dated 7/20/12: The intersection was under construction over the summer when this request came in. Construction is now complete, including warning signage and vegetation trimming and removal. If problems continue to occur, residents should notify the TSC.
9. Request for speed reduction on Hudson Road near Allene Ave, email from Stephen Buchanan dated 8/8/12: A crosswalk was installed over the summer, and portable speed control signs have been used in the vicinity. The TSC is not in favor of requesting speed reduction, as it is felt that the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile will be higher than the posted speed limit. It is noted that this is a fast stretch of Hudson Road, and the SPD and the DPW Dept. will monitor for additional improvements to reduce speed and increase safety.
10. Request for crosswalk at Nobscot Rd entrance to Shaw’s Plaza, email from Phyllis Bially dated 8/13/12: The TSC is not in favor of installing a crosswalk at this location. It is noted that a crosswalk exists at the entrance to Springhouse Pond development which leads directly to the Shaw’s Plaza and is open to the public for use. There are sight distance concerns at the Shaw’s Plaza driveway due to the curvature of the road. The DPW Dept. will check vegetation along the side of the road to see if that can be trimmed back to increase sight distance.
11. Petition from Massasoit Ave residents regarding installation of traffic signs, letter dated 8/5/12 from Paul Brady: The TSC understands the issue to be commuters who are backed up along Route 20 drive through the neighborhood to avoid the evening traffic. The TSC is in favor of installing 2 speed limit signs (one on Massasoit and 1 on Indian Ridge), 4 caution children signs on Massasoit and Indian Ridge, and a new dead end sign on Massasoit pertaining to Franklin. The TSC is not in favor of adding stop signs. The above signs will be installed, and residents should monitor traffic to see if it gets better. The issue of prohibiting traffic from entering Massasoit during the evening commute would likely resolve some of the identified issues, but would have to apply to all cars, not just through traffic. The petitioners should discuss whether this is acceptable, and if desired should communicate this back to the TSC for further discussion. If this proceeds, it requires a hearing with the Board of Selectmen.
12. Request for bicycle lanes on North Road, email from Peter Hoenig dated 9/7/12: The TSC notes that the North Road right of way is not wide enough for a traditional bike lane, and there are many areas along that road with wetland constraints which would make widening the road difficult (absent the cost). Adding signage to “Share the Road” on Route 117 would appear isolated, unless other roads were also signed. The Town’s goal is to provide a 2 foot wide shoulder along the public roads where possible. No action is recommended at this time.

13. Request to address cars passing bicycles on Concord Road, email from Ariel Gertzenstein dated 8/26/12: The material submitted was thought provoking, but it is impossible for the town to legislate risky driving. No action is recommended at this time.
14. Request for crosswalk at 551 Concord Road, phone call from Raj Manachanda on 8/29/12: The TSC has studied this intersection, as well as the Central Transportation Planning Staff, and has not been able to easily resolve the pedestrian issues of getting across the street to the high school. Minutes referenced for discussion include 5/10/11, 2/17/11 and 8/26/10. No further action is recommended at this time.
15. Request for crosswalk pedestal at 166 Mossman Road, email from Michael Leonard dated 9/5/12: Crosswalk placard has been installed. Residents are urged not to move the placard to the middle of the road, as the width is too narrow and causes a traffic safety issue.
16. Request for stop or yield sign at Wake Robin/Juniper Road, email from Peter Gish dated 9/10/12: The TSC is not in favor of this request as the intersection does not warrant signage. Neighbors might want to communicate the need to drive carefully with others.
17. Request to abandon right of way at Route 20/Lafayette Drive, letter from Robert Weiss dated August 2012: The TSC is not in favor of this request, as the negatives significantly outweigh the positives for the Town.
18. Turtle crossing signs, email from Debbie Dineen on behalf of Danielle Hinckey dated 6/13/12: The TSC is not opposed to the placement of home-made wildlife crossing signs. The resident should make sure their location does not impact sight distance along the road.
19. Frost Farm/Cummings Properties traffic issues, letter from Frost Farm Trustee dated 4/26/12 and response from Cummings Properties dated 6/22/12: No action by the TSC. The parties should attempt to resolve these issues on their own, as this is not public property.
20. 4 way stop at Grouse Hill/Mahoney Farm and Old Framingham Road, request relayed by Bill Place: The TSC is not in favor of creating a 4 way stop on Old Framingham Road. Sight distance issues at these driveways have previously been studied. Keeping vegetation trimmed along the road is important. The condominium associations are encouraged to have the shoulder trimmed by their landscapers in order to facilitate pulling out of the respective driveways.
21. Willis Road Truck Restriction, request by Bill Place: Due to the narrowness of the roadway, Bill Place recommends a restriction on trucks greater than 2 ½ tons along the section of Willis Road from Maynard Road to Marlboro Road only. This will be recommended to the Selectmen by the TSC for final action.
22. Request for signage at 422 Dutton Road, email from Jeanne Lavine dated 9/20/12: The TSC is not in favor of installing additional signage. Roadside vegetation will be checked by the DPW Dept. It is noted that the speed signs appear accurate, as the limit changes in the vicinity of #422. It is 25 mph south of 422, and 30 mph north of 422.
23. Follow up from Feb. 10, 2012 meeting:

- a. North Road/Great Road – The wires were finally removed from the utility poles this week, and the pole should be down in the near future. The temporary bump out will be marked in the field in early October for a 2 week period. A news story will be put on the town’s website, and public opinions will be taken for the trial period. Construction should be completed this fall.
- b. Dudley Road removal of No Left Turn sign on Nobscot Road – The TSC had agreed to recommend a 6 month period. This needs Selectmen approval to remove the sign. Baseline data will be recorded with the use of an Automated Traffic Recorder (ATR) by the SPD. BOS approval will be sought. Then at the end of the 6 month period, the ATR will be deployed to record traffic volume again. The TSC will then discuss as to whether to recommend permanent removal of the sign, or re-installation.
- c. Route 20 walkway between TJ Maxx and Mill Village – Bill Place and Jody Kablack will be meeting with the Maple Meadows developer on Sept. to determine the location of the walkway. It is hoped that it can be partially constructed this fall.

24. Miscellaneous items

- a. Jody Kablack will continue to try to find out what other towns do about resident requests for traffic solutions in order to improve on what we do.
- b. Jody Kablack will speak with MA DOT about variable speed limits on several town roads, with the goal of reducing and standardizing.
- c. The DPW Dept. will investigate the installation of additional speed control signs where warranted in order to increase driver awareness of the speed limit. The IT dept. will be asked to generate a map of all speed limit signs in Town for TSC review.

25. The minutes of 2/10/12 were approved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.