

## **Traffic Safety Advisory Committee Reports**

**Date: April 20, 2023**

**Zoom Link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82370334648>

**Recording Link:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/IOdx\\_yGiJbohQkw92p5HaR6RXxgiqRR8PvQCJ8NS5hijLYyS9kTu-L3k44HcFz7p.DRUPuCKUmF-54pZr](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/IOdx_yGiJbohQkw92p5HaR6RXxgiqRR8PvQCJ8NS5hijLYyS9kTu-L3k44HcFz7p.DRUPuCKUmF-54pZr)

**Attendees:** Andrew Levine, Chief of Staff; Jennifer Sullivan, Acting DPS Deputy Director, Co-Chair; Sgt Eaton, Police; Andy Port, Planning Director; Geordie Vining, Senior Project Manager; Jon-Eric White, Acting DPS Director/City Engineer; Richard Jones, City Clerk

**City Councillors Jim McCauley and Christine Wallace**

**Agenda Items:**

**New Business:**

- High Street at Myrtle Ave Traffic Mitigation Proposal – funded by shared streets and spaces program. Some traffic mitigation by use of cobble stones. Will be formally presented at council meeting. Jon Eric- High St will mimic March's Hill at the other end of city. Starts before Plumber. Cobblestone median strip. Cllr McCauley- question why are we starting before Plummer and not going all the way to Myrtle? Jon Eric- asked to stop before Olive's so parking won't be lost. Parking will be lost in area of cobblestone strip. Recommendation to submit to council. Clerk- if you want in packet for Monday, I will need material.
- Water Street Speed Enforcement – tabled as resident who wished to speak on this was unable to be here today.
- Merrimac Street Safety Zone (Plummer to Moulton)
- Merrimac Street Safety Measures from Merson to Rotary – we need a permanent solution to make this area safe. Springtime and we have boats and heavy trucks coming thru. This is a priority to build out safety zone. Passed 2 years ago. Would like to work on a permanent solution. Would like update if there is anything happening with this. Dir Port- also what is going to happen with parking on the side is going to affect this. Cllr Wallace- all the same safety zone. Plumber got moved up because there was a near miss at the school. Don't want to wait another 2 yrs. Also have an assessable playground going in there. Andrew- going before conservation commission – Kim Turner managing that – and working on funding. Working with con com as to ways to permit it. Outcome of conservation commission will affect plan. Cllr Wallace- we approved plan with parking in the front and now that has changed – so it would be good to let the council know about changes. Cllr McCauley- safety zone is Merrimac St. Design was mostly paint, lights and signage. Support moving forward with paint, lights and visuals. Jon Eric- depending on the design I do not feel we could get everything ready for that timeline. Cllr McCauley- agree - fair.
- MassDOT Route 1 Project at Rotary- 3 yr. contract to work on project. Involves some reconfiguration of rotary has shared use path with overhead pedestrian beacon. Gillis bridge DOT project. Geordie Vining Initially part of resurfacing project, but MDOT decided to do it separately. Goes back several years with community talking about cycling across bridge. MassDOT design group decided to use one lane approach for buffered bike lane. Don't feel the way it came out is ideal. Concerns about back up are not warranted. MassDOT does not feel it will affect traffic or cause back-ups. We will have to see how this goes. Dir Port both Nbpt and Salisbury has been asking for better crossing for a while. Whenever doing theses project they are supposed to integrate them. Geordie- flex posts have not gone in yet but those will help folks to better understand this. Cllr McCauley- I understand this is MDOT's road. We submitted petition and

they denied it. I would suggest when you talk to MDOT and suggest they have joint meeting to discuss this. Neither community had an idea of this. Need communication plan to sell this and to why it is good. Dir Port will continue to try to do this. Have advocated for public meetings without success. Jon Eric – first came to my attention thru a co-worker as it was being installed. I am against and feel it is dangerous. Bike lane is being squished into area that is already tight. Nothing to separate area where sculpture is to cars going 50 mphs onto this ramp. MDOT is getting pressure to accommodate several modes of transportation. Agree this project blind sided me. Geordie- we did originally ask MDOT to Merrimac St and they did not want to do that. Do not feel connection is great. Do not agree that having a gap in the fence will have folks walking out into traffic. Do not feel it is an issue. Clerk Jones – if we feel MDOT is having a deaf ear did we contact our representatives. Cllr McCauley. Yes, they have been contacted.

- Coffin Street Dead End Issues Dir Port- talked about this with Jane. Planning Bd allowed lot and have road finished. Years later house built, and area put in for home to be built. Unfortunately, ZBA decision was not clear and did not ensure no one was to be parked there. Vehicles should not park there. Intended to be emergency access. Cllr McCauley- looking at 2014 ZBA decision- area from Coffin St to Jefferson Street was a public way. Home could not be built on a private way. Clear it was a public way and used to grant building of 13 Coffin St. This design was not followed by developer. One could argue it is an enforcement issue. Andrew – careful not to move to fair on this. Cllr McCauley – what is the ask? Jon Eric- from technical standpoint. True hammerhead you need a left and right. This only has right and you have to turn onto Jane’s property to turn around. Dir Port- might have been reference to public way and it may not be a public way. Signage appropriate way. Cllr McCauley- wall has make it inclusive of properties driveway. Cllr Wallace- agree there is a point that this goes beyond us. Should submit to council and it may be a better place to submit. Like to talk offline about what could work.
- Fruit Street Wrong Way Driving - this was already addressed. Brought up by Cllr Donahue who is not here.
- Speeding, High Street from State Street to Newbury
- Arlington Street Speeding
- Colby Farm Lane and Low Street Intersection
- Approve previous meeting minutes: Motion to approve - Passed.

**Public Comment: none**

## **Old Business**

- Three Roads Project – Update from MPVC. They have been looking at a roundabout design, but then found it was part of highway system and would not be allowed. Looking to see if Mosely can be taken off highway list. Planning another local meeting in May or June. Cllr McCauley- councilors have repeatedly said a roundabout would not be approved. Concerning that they would look at removing a historic roadway such as Mosely Ave especially without any public input. Feel there is better ways to do this. Jon-Eric MDOT- did concede with round about design and rejected idea of roundabout- not a good idea to move the traffic around in that area. Looking into car count on Mosley Ave. Feel now they are looking at more conventional design
- Colby Farm Lane Traffic Light request
- Fair and Liberty Street Intersection
- Commercial Trucking Routes Posted – still asking for trucking routes.
- Motion to adjourn