

Traffic Safety Advisory Committee Reports

Date: 5-11-2023

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

Recording Link

Attendees: Andrew Levine Chief of Staff Co Chair, Wayne Amaral DPW Co-Chair, SGT Magen Tierney Police, Chief Steve Bradbury, Andy Port Planning Director, Richard Jones City Clerk Cllrs Donahue (ab), McCauley & Wallace
Tony Collins, Transportation Program Manager from MVP

Other Attendees:

Public Comment: Rick Taintor High St median cobblestone crossing concern. Hope a crosswalk could be placed at Myrtle. Some of crosswalks taken out when repainted were lost and would like to get those crosswalks back on that high volume street. Cllr McCauley- placed order 2 years ago to redo crosswalk between Myrtle and High. Cllr Wallace- echo Rick's concerns. Been asking for last 3 years since it was paved. It is in committee right now as part of my Ward 4 memo. Dir. Amaral would like to do a site walk and do not know history as to why these sidewalks were not replaced.

Agenda Items:

New Business:

- **Storey Ave Bike Lane** also sent to committee of Public Works and Safety. Liveable St sent a letter to state department and requested bike lane. Rick Taintor – group asked for a 3-4 ft shoulder in each direction surprised to see it a bike lane. Looks like MDOT came back with a bike lane which is good. Need better way to get to Market Basket. Andrew- interesting original request for shoulder but do feel this is a bike lane. Cllr McCauley – this is all in Ward 5 and would be acceptable to it. There will be signs to signal change up ahead. Will connect to existing bike lane and should not affect work to be done in that area nor parking. Vertical uprights wouldn't work well here. Clerk Jones – is this only east bound coming in? So, if you get to Market Basket how do you get back. Andrew- feels this gets into area of work we are going to do there. Dir Port- feel this might be interim until we get some of the work done here. As long as road width isn't lessened would support bike lanes on both sides. Agree stations are not a good thing for this area. Dir Amaral- don't see any opposition in this. Even an edge line would be challenge on the other side. Don't want to overdesign. Do not want to delay this. Andrew this is just MDOT asking us to sign off on it to be able to do the work. Cllr Wallace- if they are doing painting of this this year all of the pavement markets in area need to be done. Dir Amaral did send an email previously to MDOT about re-painting crosswalks.
- **Water Street Speed Enforcement** brought up by community member Violet Aldrich, 8th grade 29 Union St. Water St is long street and notice a lack of Speed limit signs. Feels it is often not enforced. A digital reflective board would be helpful to let folks know how fast they are going. Also, good to have posted officers to enforce it. Sgt Tierney – we do run traffic data collection throughout the city. Checking to see if signs conflict. Officers out there trying to enforce but we are pretty stretched out. Cllr McCauley Public Safety is trying to provide awareness, education then enforcement. In budget more signs as to speed limit for education. Goal one sign per ward and build to 2 each and move them around. You were correct they are about \$2-3,000 each. Andrew- budget does reflect an increase from \$100,000 to \$250,000 for traffic calming and

sidewalks. Dir Amaral – we need to make sure we have a policy procedure for how to manage and use the signs. Andrew- Violet we will follow thru and what we do about this.

- **Fruit Street Wrong Way Driving** more signage added and will leave on agenda as Cllr Donahue it out and was the one who requested this.
- **Approve previous meeting minutes:** March 2022 mtg., April 2023 Minutes approved
- **Updates from MVPC –**

Old Business

- **Speeding, High Street from State Street to Newbury** Cllr Wallace at Public Works Cllr Donahue voiced that the cobblestones near March's hill have not been working as they hoped.
- **Hunter and Lois Streets** – possible solution was a paint one with an arrow pointed to left directing them to the thru way. Just need to implement it. Dir Amaral would like the opportunity to look at the area to ensure signage is correct. Cllr McCauley- no place other than people's property to put signs so felt painting was best.
- **Fair and Liberty Street Intersection** Ward 2 so keep on agenda for next time when ward councilor is here.
- **Colby Farm Lane Traffic Light request** – Andrew don't have a lot of updates for this. Large change to get light in. Jon Eric had some ideas. Cllr Wallace- engineering was so supposed to review it so since Jon Eric isn't here hold.
- **Commercial Trucking Routes Posted** – applying to MDOT for exclusion of trucks using Turkey Hill Rd. Received response. Andrew read letter and it was denied but will be working with Dir Amaral on this. Have to look at numbers to see if we meet requirements for truck ban. Toni- requirements high from MDOT to get exclusion.

Anything else to discuss: Tony- have released 2024 -28 grant program. Out for public comment currently. Merrimac St project is on it. May 24th closing of Public Comment. Andrew- would love to move this project up sooner.

Adjourned 4:43