

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of September 14, 2011 Meeting
Broadmeadow Elementary School Media Center
MINUTES — DRAFT

IN ATTENDANCE: Anthony DelGaizo, Lt. John Kraemer, Richard Merson, Jeffrey MacMann, Donna Mullin

Guests: David and Nancy Johnson, Paul and Ruth Richards, Adam Wiesel, Chris Jensen, Jennifer Leonard-Schaffstein, Connie Barr, Mary Elizabeth Coleman, Jim Dufort, Mark Rosen

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Lt. Kraemer. However, there being no quorum, the official meeting was immediately closed. Attendees and guests agreed to remain for informal discussions of the topics on the agenda with the understanding that no official business could be conducted in the absence of a quorum.

It was noted that Mark Rosen was a new nominee to the Committee, but since he had not been sworn in yet he could not count toward the establishment of the quorum.

I. EDGEWATER DRIVE

Ms. Coleman and Ms. Barr described the hazardous conditions at the T-intersection. After some discussion, it emerged that the hazards were exacerbated by poor visibility in the turning movements caused by vegetation at the corners. Lt. Kramer explained that there are regulations that establish setbacks for vegetation and other objects at intersections in order to maintain safe visibility. Mr. Merson and Mr. DelGaizo agreed to follow up with DPW to survey the intersection to check whether the setbacks meet requirements.

A question was raised about the possibility of placing a stop sign at the intersection. Mr. DelGaizo explained the warrant guidelines for stop signs include certain traffic volume requirements. Mr. Merson and Mr. DelGaizo agreed to order a DPW traffic count be conducted at the intersection. They also noted that if the traffic does not support the placement of a stop sign, then an informational "T Intersection Ahead" sign could be installed.

II. LINDEN STREET

Since the petitioner was not present, there was no substantive discussion of this item.

III. CHESTNUT/OAK INTERSECTION

Mr. Richards described how traffic backs up on Oak Street at this T-intersection with Chestnut Street to the extent that the queue exceeds the length that can pass through on the green phase of one light cycle. As a result, cars and trucks take shortcuts from Oak to Chestnut through the adjacent driveways and parking lots on Oak Street. Mr. Richards asked if the "No Turn On Red" sign

could be removed to allow the traffic on Oak to turn right when there was no cross traffic on Chestnut, but Mr. DelGaizo said that the sight distances at the intersection and traffic volumes on Chestnut Street did not meet the requirements for removing the sign.

However, Mr. DelGaizo did agree to review the synchronized timing between the new School/Chestnut traffic light and the Oak/Chestnut light to see if lengthening the green phase for the Oak Street traffic would be justified.

IV. ABBOTT/BORDER/WARE/WINFIELD INTERSECTION

Guests Durant, Jensen, Leonard-Schaffstein, and Wiesel distributed a handout and presented their concerns about dangerous conditions at this intersection caused by the combination of high volumes of through traffic (bypassing the Great Plain/Central intersection), the abundance of small children, a school bus stop, and the peculiar geometry of this four-way intersection, with no traffic signs or crosswalks.

There was much discussion of various traffic control measures such as reduced speed limits, stop signs, speed bumps and tables, crosswalks, and handicap ramps.

It was agreed that at the next meeting where we have a quorum, we will make recommendations about placing "T Intersection Ahead" signs on the Abbott and/or Border approaches to the intersection as well as the construction of handicap ramps.

In the meantime, Mr. DelGaizo said he would add the intersection to the Highway Department's list of handicap ramp locations to reserve a place in the queue until the official recommendation of the Committee would be forthcoming.

V. MANN/FAIRFIELD INTERSECTION

This item was tabled because the petitioners were not present.

VI. TILLOTSON/TANGLEWOOD AND TILLOTSON/DAMON INTERSECTIONS

This item was tabled because the petitioners were not present.

VII. OLD/OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. DelGaizo noted that the minutes from the August 10, 2011 TMAC meeting should be amended as follows:

- Strike the phrase "and proceed with" from the last sentence of Item I.
- Replace the phrase "had been installed" with the phrase "should be explored" in the next-to-last sentence of Item II.

Minutes compiled by Jeff MacMann