

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the April 6, 2016 Meeting
Public Services Administration Building
Needham, MA

IN ATTENDANCE

TMAC Members: Jeff MacMann, Donna Mullin, Ford Peckham, Mark Rosen, Tony Del Gaizo, Lt. John Kraemer, Stephen DeLisi, Glenn Schneider and Bob Wilson, Technical Advisor

Guests/Presenters: Lindsey Gallagher, Daniel Green, Zach Kaplan, Max Peyser, Suzanne Stein and Amy Levingston

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was convened at approximately 7:05 p.m. by the Chair of the Committee, Jeff MacMann

I. TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT KENDRICK STREET AND FOURTH AVENUE

Lindsey Gallagher presented her concerns regarding the fact that it is extremely difficult to make a left turn from Fourth Avenue onto Kendrick Street. Ms. Gallagher suggested that installation of a light at this intersection would alleviate the problem.

It was explained to Ms. Gallagher that until the new entrance and exit ramps at Kendrick Street are completed and the plans for the development of the General Dynamics parcel are finalized, especially with respect to the streets within the parcel, a decision on what can be done to the intersection should be deferred until at least August, as completion of the ramps and development of the parcel may result in a solution to this difficult intersection.

II. SIGNAGE ON ADMIRAL GRACEY AND KINSBURY STREET

Daniel Green, Zach Kaplan and Max Peyser presented their findings and concerns over the traffic back up that occurs when a vehicle tries to make a left turn from Admiral Gracey onto Kingsbury Street, especially on school days from 7:30 a.m. to 8:05 a.m. The group suggested that left turns be prohibited at that time and that traffic be directed to turn right onto Kingsbury Street and then left onto Warren Street and left again onto May Street in order to access Webster Street.

After a discussion of the issues, a motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to conduct a traffic study on left turns at Kingsbury and Webster Streets and May and Webster Streets to determine the difficulty of making left turns at each intersection.

III. CROSSWALK, SPEED, SIGNAGE ON CENTRAL AVENUE AT NEWMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Amy Livingston presented her concerns that when crossing guards are not present it is very difficult to cross Central Avenue from the Newman Elementary School as vehicles are going extremely fast on Central Avenue and do not observe the crosswalk designation. Ms. Livingston suggested the installation of additional signage, flashing lights or even a push button signal to activate the crosswalk.

After a discussion of the issues, it was determined that there is nothing that can be done presently to improve the situation unless additional funding can be obtained to install new and improved signage.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Status of the Eliot School School Zone/Crosswalk

Suzanne Stein reported on the status of the designation of a portion of Central Avenue at Cedar and Hunnewell Streets as a School Zone and install of crosswalk markings. Ms. Stein was satisfied with the outcome of the designation of the area at issue as a school zone, but hoped that flashing LED lights could also be installed.

It was explained to Ms. Stein that unfortunately due of the lack of funding, installing flashing LED lights was not possible in the near future. In so explaining an extensive discussion was had on the capital project process and that in all likelihood, it would be a 2 year process to obtain the requisite funding.

After explanation of the installation of a second street light at the crosswalk at Great Plain avenue and Hillcrest Road, the Committee unanimously passed a Motion to accept the Minutes of the February 16, 2016 TMAC meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:50 p.m.

Minutes compiled and summarized by Mark Rosen