

TMAC MEETING NOTES – 09/10/2008

Attendance: Meredith Page, Jack Cogswell, John Kramer, Tom Stokes, Anthony DelGaizo, Richard Merson, Tom Leary, Kate Fitzpatrick, Bob Wilson

Guests:

7:15

DEDHAM AVENUE, WARREN STREET, HARRIS AVENUE, SCHOOL STREET AREA TRAFFIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

Open Meeting/Introductory Remarks – Meredith Page

Background Information/History – Kate Fitzpatrick

Kate emphasized that the purpose of the meeting was to get input from the neighborhood residents regarding the safety improvements

Accident Data Summary – John Kramer, Tom Leary

John summarized the accident data over the past eight years in the Dedham Avenue/Warren Street/Harris Avenue intersection area

John also noted that traffic safety at the intersection of Warren street and School Street has improved since the installation of a four way Stop sign

Resident Questions/Comments – *How many citations given out by NPD for Stop sign violations on School Street at Dedham Avenue?* (John was unsure of the number)

Why not just install traffic signals at the intersection? (Tony will answer that question during his formal presentation)

Formal Presentation – Tony Delgaizo

Tony answered resident question related to traffic signals by saying that traffic needs channelization before traffic signals can be installed based on the standards put forth in the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD)

Tony gave a history of the design process of the intersection

Tony briefly discussed the issues related to the possibility of putting a road through the park

Tony presented the various preliminary design options for the intersection area

Tony noted that options included alignment with either Warren Street or School Street and may involve reverse curves

Tony also mentioned possible ways to improve traffic safety at the intersection without making geometric improvements including adding more signs and crosswalks

Tony reiterated that the committee is looking for input from the residents regarding the design (Which option do you, as residents, choose?)

Residents Questions/Comments –

Comment: You should do the redesign in phases

Comment: You should close Warren Street between Dedham Avenue and School Street

Comment: Residents not consulted regarding “property takings” involved in new design proposals – Committee said that the design proposals presented are only very preliminary and are used to garner responses from neighborhood residents

Comment: Continue School Street to Dedham Avenue even with new roadway in place (make School Street dead end at Dedham Avenue) – Committee took special note of this comment

Comment: Make Warren Street one-way to Great Plain Avenue

Question: Would traffic be diverted to Grant Street when the redesigned intersection is completed? Committee said possibly but unknown

Question: Would access to the hospital be affected by the redesigned intersection? Committee said no.

Question: Would the amount of traffic be increased at the redesigned intersection to the expansion of the hospital? Committee said no, because there will be a new entrance to the hospital from Chestnut Street

Comment: Make phase one of the redesign be to make School Street dead end at Dedham Avenue

Comment: Make School Street one-way to Warren Street

Comment: Slow Dedham Avenue traffic in the area – Committee said that it would have the Needham Police increase enforcement in the area

Comment: Narrow the southbound Warren Street approach at Dedham Avenue

Closing Remarks – Meredith Page

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 P.M.