



Transportation Advisory Committee

Date: October 9, 2019

Time: 7:15 PM – 9:10 PM

Location: 730 Massachusetts Avenue, Town Hall Annex, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Minutes

Members in Attendance: Daniel Amstutz, Aravind Basavapathruni, Ky Bertoli, Wayne Chouinard, Lenard Diggins, Michael Gordon, Melissa Laube, Jeff Maxtutis, Howard Muise, Tycho Nightingale, Corey Rateau, Scott Smith.

Members Missing: Chuck Giroux.

Members of the Public: None.

1. Public Comments.

None.

2. Administration.

TAC members approved the minutes of September 11.

There was no correspondence for this month's meeting.

Muise distributed the individual action list and active projects list.

3. Town Issues/Activities (not already on agenda).

Wayne Chouinard reviewed his memorandum describing ongoing work. Chouinard noted the design is 90-95% complete on the Mystic Street Bridge, with construction likely in 2020. He noted that the Town is working with the designer on the Lake Street bikeway, with the goal of advertising towards the end of the month, with construction planned in Summer 2020. The Town is aiming to avoid requiring detours, if possible. Chouinard provided an update of work done at the intersection of Appleton/Wollaston/Virginia, which has been received well.

Corey Rateau noted that the Do Not Block the Intersection at Chestnut/Chestnut Terrace was approved at the Select Board meeting.

Rateau met with a resident at Broadway/Rossen to discuss parking near the crosswalk, and determined that the Do Not Parking sign was too close to the crosswalk. Rateau raised this with the Select Board, who approved moving the sign by approximately 20 feet. DPW will be installing the sign in the updated location. Rateau has received requests for STOP signs at Washington Street intersections, which were approved at Crawford St. and Candia St.

Rateau provided an update that the Town is close to getting a pay-by-phone system for parking. This will need to work with enforcement as well, with the system potentially integrating with the enforcement handhelds and parking system.

Daniel Amstutz said that the Sustainable Transportation Plan Advisory Committee had its first meeting, to discuss goals and purpose. There will be meetings in October, November, and December. The RFP for the plan will be going out next week. The bus lane paving has been delayed due to weather, with the likely start date on October 14. Rateau will change the parking signage to allow for parking until October 14.

Amstutz also finalized Bicycle Parking Guidelines for the Town, and is planning to release it in November. The Bikeway counts have also been completed and verified, with the automatic counters undercounting by approximately 5-10%, likely due to strollers/carriers and large groups of cyclists. About half of the users were cyclists and half were pedestrians. He also provided an update that Lime will likely not continue its contract in 2020, so the Town is looking at other options (Blue Bike, Lyft). MAPC will be releasing Lime travel pattern data publicly in November. Amstutz noted that two EV charging spots are being installed at the Railroad Lot near Water Street, to be wired to allow for up to six spots.

4. Update/Discussion: Parking and Traffic Direction on Bartlett Avenue.

Amstutz will be meeting with residents to discuss the request on October 10, to look at potential parking restrictions or one-way direction restrictions. Rateau may collect speeds and volumes if the weather allows it.

5. Discussion: Town Day.

Muise commented that next year, materials might include updates on items incorporated (e.g., Lake Street, Mass Ave. bus lane). Bertoli and Smith noted that they received comments about potential additional locations for bicycle parking. Muise read a number of comments from Town Day. Chouinard will check signal timing at Summer/Mystic, and Summer/Mill to look at the lengths of the pedestrian phases. Rateau will look into a U-Turn restriction on Mass Ave. at Orvis Rd. Muise will send a request about signage on the bikeway to ABAC. Rateau will look at

signage on Victoria Rd. Chouinard will look at the signal timing and function at Florence St./Park Ave.

6. Update: Appleton Street at Park Ave.

The Town did a count to see if the intersection would meet a signal warrant. The intersection met several of the applicable warrants. This included the 4-hour volume warrant, 8-hour volume warrant, peak hour volume warrant, and crash warrant. Maxtutis noted that it's a strong candidate for a signal, and should be considered as a measure to be installed. Smith noted that this could be coordinated with upgrades to the signal at Florence St. There would need to be a study of the signals at Mass Ave, Appleton, and Florence on Park Ave. as a system. Muise will set up turning movement counts at Mass Ave., Appleton, and at Florence.

7. Update: Crosswalk on Grove Street.

Melissa Laube provided an update with counts from two afternoons. She counted 27 people crossing the street from 2:20-3:15. From 1:55-2:45, Laube counted fewer crossings. Most of the crossings were towards the DPW/Dudley Street crossing. Lenard Diggins will do another day of counts in the morning of people crossing Grove St. Muise will review the original request.

8. Update: Crosswalk on Academy at Maple Street.

Rateau will plan to do a count to determine how many pedestrians are crossing at Academy and Maple Street.

There being no further business, Muise adjourned the meeting at 9:40 PM.