



## **Transportation Advisory Committee.**

Date: June 12, 2024.

Time: 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM.

Location: Conducted via Remote Participation (Zoom).

### **Minutes**

#### **1. Administration.**

Members in Attendance: John Alessi (DPCD), Bill Copithorne (DPW), Lenard Diggins, Melissa Laube, Jeff Maxtutis, Ofer Mazor, Corey Rateau (APD), Scott Smith, James Stubbe, Laura Swan (Chair), and Shoji Takahashi.

Members Absent: John Aslanian and Beth Benedikt.

Members of Public in Attendance: Paul Schlichtman and Petru Sofio.

The Chair provided notice regarding Remotely Conducted Meetings, referring the members to the agenda attachment entitled “Governor Charles Baker’s 3/12/2020 Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law”. The Chair reviewed the meeting ground rules and announced that the meeting was being recorded.

#### **B. Approval of April 10, 2024 Meeting Notes.**

Minutes for the Meeting were approved.

#### **C. Correspondence Sent/Received from April 5 to May 3, 2024.**

“No Parking Signage on North Union St”, referral from Select Board to TAC, 05/22/2024, which is discussed under Section 5 below.

The Select Board approved the TAC Memo on Wachusett and Appleton.

#### **D. Advertising for New Associate Members.**

TAC will be seeking applications for new Associate Members, which will be posted in the near future.

**E. Summer schedule and in-person meeting.**

There will be no meeting in August, 2024.

**F. Town Day, September 21, 2024.**

TAC is interested in sharing a Town Day table with ABAC. Scott Smith and John Alessi will seek quotes from printing companies on a new TAC banner.

**2. Public Comments (for information only, not for action).**

No public comments were made this meeting.

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

**A. Update from the Department of Planning and Community Development (John Alessi, DPCD).**

Bluebikes Stations: Off-street asphalt installed for stations at Mass Ave/Grafton St and Mass Ave/Broadway. Three additional stations will be installed this year along the Minuteman Bikeway at Swan Pl, Mill St, and Lake St, in coordination with MassDOT. Petru Sofio inquired about traffic-calming measures at Mill St, and John Alessi responded that the Town will wait for the Traffic Calming Guide to-be completed. Bill Copithorne added that sidewalk improvements on Mill St will be performed after the AHS traffic signal is installed.

Traffic Calming Guide: Neighbor Ways was selected as the consultant.

Mystic River Path and Bikeway Connector: Stantec was chosen as the consultant for the design of the Mystic River Path Connection to the Minuteman Bikeway. There is a Federal earmark to pay for this project which will be accessed through MassDOT.

Mass Ave and Appleton St: MassWorks application for construction funding was submitted.

Mass Ave Bus-Lane Extension: RRFB hardware is scheduled to-be delivered and installed in August.

Minuteman Bikeway at Ryder St/Ed Burns Arena: CPA funding will be used to widen the Bikeway to accommodate a splitter for safety and add wayside areas.

**B. Update from the Department of Public Works (Bill Copithorne, DPW).**

Roadway striping, pavement markings, and signage: Medford St and Warren St bike lanes have been painted. Crosswalks at the bump outs are scheduled to-be painted. Sharrows on Warren St were painted too close to the door zone. They will be repainted in the proper location when they wear out.

Curb-ramp Upgrades: completed on Florence Ave and Ashland St. Herbert Rd near Hardy School is schedule for July.

Pavement Projects and Restoration: RFA will be posted soon for sidewalk and paving on Everett St and Harlow St. Pavement restoration will be performed in various locations.

National Grid Pavement Restoration: Maple St, Academy St, Jason St, and Irving St will be repaved. National Grid's long-relay project has been completed.

Chestnut St RRFB: parking-lot side button actuator is not functioning properly. This is the second failure, and it will be repaired under warranty.

Wachusett Ave / Appleton St: Stop sign will be installed.

Summer St / Sunset Rd: Crosswalk has been painted, and signs have been ordered.

Valentine Rd / Rhinecliffe St: Stop ahead sign was installed.

Broadway Water Project: anticipated to-begin in July with completion by the fall. Gas lines are located close to the water main, and National Grid may also decide to change the lines. If gas lines are changed, then repaving might take place in 2026.

**C. Update from the Police Department (Corey Rateau, APD).**

Coordinate signs with DPW.

Interview to replace Parking Officer.

Conduct traffic counts for the Select Board on Appleton St.

InControl Driving School grant was awarded and applications are now live.

Len Diggins added that the Select Board extended the overnight parking permits trial for one year with additional permits. The Select Board wants to see how overnight parking affects snow removal.

#### **4. Vote: Gray St**

Laura Swan presented the Working Group Memo and its recommendations. Len Diggins asked about the pedestrian-count threshold for justifying a crosswalk and what the harm is in placing a crosswalk. Laura Swan responded that TAC has a metric based on pedestrian volume that also accounts for the number of children, elderly, and mobility challenged users.

Corey Rateau added that ADA guidelines require that a crosswalk is accessible on both sides, and safety cannot be sacrificed. If there are not enough pedestrians using a crosswalk, then it blends into the background.

A motion to send the Memo to the Select Board passed unanimously.

#### **5. New Business: North Union Parking.**

Laura Swan and Scott Smith provided an overview of the letter and the conditions on and near N Union St. Parked vehicles narrow the travel-lane width creating challenging conditions for residents to enter and exit their driveways. This occurs during sporting events at Lussiano Field.

Creating a No Parking zone along Lussiano Field will eliminate 26 parking spaces. This might limit access for events and push the condition to Everett St.

Identifying the peak time for this problem is difficult, as it will require coordination with the Parks & Recreation Department to know the timing of events.

Jeff Maxtutis and Scott Smith suggested that TAC review the Bartlett Ave Memo, as the solution to N Union St may be similar. Bill Copithorne will obtain the Bartlett Ave Memo, noting that the recommendations to N Union St likely will apply to Everett St.

Corey Rateau said that temporary No Parking Signs can be provided to the Parks & Recreation Department, which would be tasked with putting them up and taking them down.

A Working Group was formed of John Alessi, Scott Smith, and Laura Swan.

#### **6. Adjourn.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.