

## **Town of Arlington**

### **Transportation Advisory Committee**

Minutes of 9/15/10, 7:15 pm to 10:10 pm, Town Hall Annex, Second Floor Conf. Room.

Minutes submitted by Laura Wiener.

**Members and Associates Present:** Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Jean Clark, Jonathan Janik, Steve Kurland, John Lentz, Andy Machado, Jeff Maxtutis, Howard Muise, Mike Rademacher, Corey Rateau, Scott Smith, Ed Starr, Laura Wiener;

Missing members: Jessica French, Richard Turcotte

**Visitors Present:** Bobbi Delaney (66 Dickson Ave) and Zou Zou Jammal (15 Christine Rd)

1. Public Comments. None.
2. Administration.
  - Minutes of 8/11/10 were approved unanimously.
  - Correspondence and other handouts were reviewed.
3. Downing Square Design. Contract with BSC is finalized and ready to be executed.
4. Mass Ave. Corridor. FST will resubmit 25% plans to Highway Division in the end of September. Plans have changed to include flush medians and 2 pedestrian refuges (raised medians) in the Capitol Square commercial district.
5. School Opening. Stratton School implementation went smoothly. Bishop signs are next. School opening went pretty smoothly overall.
6. Flag Pilot Project. Jean distributed a list of possible locations for flags. Jessica made flag holders. Jean will have a draft program description and a few sample flags for October TAC and Selectmen's review, possibly Oct. 25.
7. Town Day. Materials will include a half size mounted plan of the Mass. Ave. redesign project, TAC Progress Report, bus schedule, "Traffic Rules You May have Forgotten", and other materials.
8. Brigham's Site. Working Group met with developer and traffic consultant, who is revising the report. Issues include possible need for mitigation at Jason/Mill/Mass. Ave. and Minuteman Bikeway crossing of Mill Street. ARB discussion on traffic is September 27.
9. Signs at Mountain and Dickson. Two residents in the area of the Stratton School, Bobbi Delaney and Zou Zou Jammal, attended meeting to convey concerns about signage. Too many signs, and the signs on the island reflect into the house of Ms. Delaney. Ed noted that some of signage can be removed once drivers get used to the changes in traffic pattern. TAC will also look at angling of signs.
10. Library Way. Laura and Mike looked at moving bus stop west of Peg Spengler Way. Would lose the opportunity for a bump out there. The crosswalk in front of the bus stop is not ideal for visibility when the bus is present, but removal of parking could help visibility slightly when bus is not present. Curve in Mass. Ave. west of Library creates poor visibility of oncoming traffic. There isn't room for a shelter east of Peg Spengler Way. Could also explore widening the sidewalk east of the Library. Laura will find out if the MBTA can pay for bump outs as part of their program of improvements on the #77 bus line. More exploration needed.
11. East Arlington Parking Study. Study recommendations include marking parking spaces in the commercial district (Orvis to Lake, and Grafton to Winter), discouraging employee and owner parking on Mass. Ave., and long term development of some public commercial parking at the Crosby School. TAC will discuss further best ways to measure progress. Voted unanimously to approve report.
12. Marathon/Waldo. There has been a request for a all-way stop here. Scott reported that although traffic volumes on Waldo were not high enough to warrant an all-way stop, other actions could be taken to improve safety. They include
  - a. Stop bar and placard "cross-traffic does not stop"
  - b. Trimming the hedge near the intersection (visibility issue, in apparent violation of the zoning bylaw)
  - c. No parking within 20' of the corner.Voted unanimously to approve these recommendations.
  - d. d.
13. Cambridge Discovery Park. Howard reviewed a draft memo requested by Brian Sullivan analyzing the Section 61 Finding for the project from MassDOT. The memo described what a Section 61 Finding is (noting it comes at the end of the MEPA process), the contents of the MassDOT Finding, and the projected impact of the project on Arlington. The memo, which reported that the project was approved by the City of

Cambridge and has two buildings and a garage already constructed, was approved unanimously and forwarded to the Town Manager.

14. Town Reports.

- a. Laura reported that Selectmen will discuss bus shelters on Oct. 4. ARB has requested TAC to look at vehicle access system at Mystic/Summer Street Gulf Station. Howard will work with Laura and Jonathan.
- b. Mike reported on a complaint about the pedestrian crossing light on Summer St. at the ice rink shining into someone's house. Elisabeth will take a look at it.

15. Meeting adjourned at 10:10 pm.

Handouts:

- Ed's Meeting Package: 1) Agenda 9/15/10; 2) Memo to Transportation Advisory Committee from Board of Selectmen Re. Stratton School Circulation, dated August 12, 2010; 3) Memo from Transportation Advisory Committee to Board of Selectmen Re. Alternate Plan for Stratton School Circulation, dated 9 August 2010; 4) Memo to Transportation Advisory Committee from Board of Selectmen Re. School Sign Plans, dated August 12, 2010; 5) "Recommendations for the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager Regarding Traffic Supervisor Locations"; 6) "School Area Signs for Arlington Schools"; 7) Memo to Transportation Advisory Committee from Board of Selectmen Re. Speeding Traffic on Grafton Street, dated September 7, 2010; 8) Memo to Transportation Advisory Committee from Board of Selectmen Re. Request: "Slow Children Playing" Sign on Wyman Street, dated September 10, 2010; 9) Email from Bobbi Delaney to Transportation Advisory Committee Chairs and Board of Selectmen Re. Signage facing 66 Dickson Avenue, dated September 7, 2010; 10) Email from Susan Bernhard to Ed Starr and TAC re. Eustis Street, dated September 10, 2010; 11) Email from Kendra Pelletier to Susan Bernhard, Ed Starr and TAC re. Eustis Street, dated September 10, 2010; Email from Richard Pelletier to Ed Starr re. Eustis Street, dated September 10, 2010; 12) Active/Planned TAC Projects and Working Groups, dated 9/15/10; 13) Completed TAC Projects; 14) BoS/ARB Project Status, dated 9/15/10; 15) Draft Actions from 8/11 meeting; 16) Status of Outstanding Actions, 9/15/10; 17) Town Day 2010; 18) Memo from TAC to Board of Selectmen Re. East Arlington Parking Study (DRAFT), dated 11 August 2010; 19) "Parking Enforcement—version 2—9/14/10"; 20) Appendix 2. "Process for Monitoring East Arlington Business Parking Availability"; 21) Memo to Board of Selectmen from Transportation Advisory Committee Re. Recommendations for Marathon Street and Waldo Road, Dated September 15, 2010. 22) Drawings, "New Thomp—1" 23) Memo to Brian Sullivan from Transportation Advisory Committee Re. Cambridge Discovery Park, Massachusetts Department of Transportation Section 61 Finding, dated September 15, 2010;
- Minutes of 8/11/10
- TAC-Crosswalk Flag Pilot proposal, dated September 15, 2010