

MT. LEBANON TRAFFIC BOARD

Meeting Date: June 6, 2012

Members Present: Ms. Brown, Ms. Meub, Mr. Petulla, Mr. Adams

Staff Present: Lt. McMurtrie, Ms. Jampole, Ms. Kostelich

Mr. Petulla opened the meeting. Roll call was taken. Mr. DiGioia and Mr. Ashbaugh were absent

Agenda Item 1 – Administrative Discussion

Mr. Petulla stated that Mr. DiGioia had completed the revisions to the new Traffic Management Policy. The Policy was distributed to board members for additional input. Board members agreed to hold off on voting until Mr. DiGioia was in attendance at the September meeting.

Agenda Item 2 - Minutes of May 2, 2012 Traffic Board Meeting

Motion was made to approve the minutes from the May 2, 2012 Traffic Board meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 3 - Opening Remarks from the Chair

No additional remarks were made.

Agenda Item 4 - Follow up items.

- Request for Sign Changes near Hoover School

Ms. Jampole presented her modified recommendations as requested by members of Juvenile Protection and PTA members of Hoover School. She stated that a Do Not Enter sign at the end of the governor's drive is currently facing the school and should be turned around to face the street. She recommended removing six No Parking signs on the eastern side of Robb Hollow Road between Larchdale Drive and Bower Hill Road and replacing them with 3 new No Parking This Side signs. For Larchdale she recommended the installation of a 25MPH speed limit sign on the north side of Larchdale Drive immediately west of Firwood. Regarding the handicap parking space, Ms. Jampole recommended relocating the space on Robb Hollow to be five feet north of the northernmost driveway. An existing No Parking sign would be removed replacing it with a handicap parking only sign along with painting the curb. Regarding the northerly end of the governor's drive, Ms. Jampole recommended installing a "Buses Only 3:00 – 4:00 PM". Regarding the driveway entrance Trans Associates recommends the installation of a sign on the northbound Robb Hollow Road to prohibit left turns into the driveway. Ms. Schnirel stated she is opposed to an all day prohibition because the driveway is used during the day for visitors to the school. Board members also suggested installing a chain at the entrance. Ms. Brown stated that cones would be a better recommendation because in the case of an emergency the chains would slow response, emergency vehicles could go over the cones. Ms. Shnirel stated that parents would still make the three point turns thinking they are not making an actual left turn. Lt. McMurtrie stated that they would technically still be making a left turn and it would be enforceable. Mr. Byrne asked if cones were used could the crossing guard move the cones at the beginning and end of shift. Lt. McMurtrie stated no, they are not permitted to do so, their responsibility is crossing the children safely. Ms. Karen Morris, 393 Maplewood Drive asked if there were any recommendations on parking on Larchdale. Ms. Jampole stated that she could not find anything indicating why the parking was switched but did not recommend changing it back because it would not improve visibility. Ms. Csont requested that any recommended changes be made by start of school in September. Ms. Jampole also stated that an evaluation of the traffic flow and pedestrian usage was done on May 24, 2012 and based on the volumes it is was found that the crossing guards are appropriately placed. A motion was made to recommend approval of the removal of 6 no parking signs on the eastern side of Robb Hollow Road between

Larchdale and Bower Hill and replace them with 3 new No Parking This Side signs; the installation of a 25MPH speed limit sign on the north side of Larchdale immediately west of Firwood; to reposition the Do Not Enter sign at the governor's drive to face the roadway and not the school; relocation of the handicap parking space on Robb Hollow Road to be located 5 feet north of the northernmost driveway and remove an existing no parking sign and replace with handicap parking space sign and paint the curb to mark the handicap spot and the five foot no parking area between the driveway and parking space; add a Buses Only 3:00pm – 4:00pm sign at the northerly end of the governor's driveway; and the installation of a No Left Turns 8:00am-9:00am and 3:00pm-4:00pm sign at the entrance to the northerly driveway to parking lot and school office area, with the recommendation to the school to also place cones at the end of the driveway during these times. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

- Request for Stop Sign on Osage at Valleyview

No one was present to discuss this matter. No further action was taken.

- Request for Traffic Study on Jefferson Drive near intersection with Hemlock

Ms. Jampole stated that based on the manual turning movement counts collected on May 23, 2012 at this intersection it does not meet the criteria for installation of a traffic signal or an all-way stop. Trans Associates also conducted sight distance measurements and collected speed data and based on the methodology, the available sight distance exceeds required sight distance. Crash data was collected for the last 6 years, for the length of Jefferson. There were six accidents and none were at the intersection of Jefferson and Hemlock. Ms. Kathy Taback, 200 Jefferson Avenue questioned what the weather was like or if it was an altered school day because the counts seemed very low. She did note that May 23 was the senior prom and many of the high school students would not have attended school that day making the numbers lower. Ms. Taback asked Ms. Jampole if they looked at the turning radius and at the tire marks on the curb. Mr. Petulla stated he lives in the area and feels it is a very busy area with pedestrians and vehicle traffic. Ms. Taback said while she understands the results of the study it is different living there and it is an unsafe area. Mr. Petulla requested that Trans Associates look at this location again to see if there were any other low cost safety enhancements that could be used at this intersection. No further action was taken.

- Request for Loading Zone in front of 300 Castle Shannon Blvd.

Ms. Jampole stated that a study at the intersection of Castle Shannon Blvd and Poplar Drive was conducted to evaluate if the requested loading space would impede the required minimum sight distance. Based on the measurements sight distance looking right is deficient due to shrubs on the property at 300 Castle Shannon Blvd. Ms. Jampole recommended that in order to meet the sight distance requirements for one loading zone space this shrubbery should be removed. This space can be placed within the existing on-street parking. She also recommended that the 3 hour parking sign be relocated approximately 20 feet east and a No Parking 15-minute Loading Zone sign be installed. Ms. Horn of 300 Castle Shannon Blvd. stated she would have the shrubbery removed right away. A motion was made to relocate the 3 Hour Parking sign 20 feet east of it's current location and Install a No Parking 15 minute Loading Zone sign. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 5 - Request to Discuss speeding on Valleyview Drive

No one was present to discuss this item. No further action was taken.

Agenda Item 6 – Request to discuss the lack of 25MPH signs in Washington Road business district and the parking/2 way traffic problem on Oak Way

Mr. Michael Brown, 34 N. Meadowcroft Avenue stated that he frequently uses Oak Way and when vehicles are parked there it makes it difficult to get through. Ms. Jampole stated that the existing No Parking sign is located mid-block on the southern side of Oak Way is old and faded. She also stated that the corner of the intersection at Washington Road is not painted so vehicles park on Washington Road obstructing the sight distance. A motion was made to recommend approval of the replacement of the

existing no parking any time sign located mid block on the southern side of Oak Way and approximately 30 feet of yellow curb be painted on Washington Road to increase sight distance and also removal of the no parking sign placard from the top of the No street parking in Mt. Lebanon 2AM- 6AM located on the northern side of Oak Way near Washington Road. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Mr. Brown also stated that he felt that drivers are not aware that the speed limit is reduced to 25MPH in the commercial district on Washington Road. He requested that more speed limit signs be installed in this area. Ms. Jampole stated that to meet MUTCD requirements there is to be a speed limit sign at least every ½ mile and those requires are met with the exception of one sign that is missing on the northbound side across from Oak Way. She recommended the replacement of this sign. Ms. Brown asked if there was a standard "Begin" new speed limit sign. Mr. Byrne suggested adding signs at the traffic light at Bower Hill and Cochran Roads warning of the decreased speed limit ahead. Ms. Brown asked if the speed limit signs were in good locations. Ms. Jampole did not recommend any changes to the location. Mr. Petulla requested Ms. Jampole look at bringing all the signs up to code and the possibility of installing transition signs. Lt. McMurtire will send a request to Municipal Manager Feller to have the missing Speed Limit sign replaced on the northbound side of Washington Road at Oak Way. Ms. Jampole will report any additional recommendations at the September meeting.

Agenda Item 7 – Request for traffic study at intersection of Cedar Blvd and Hollycrest/Salem Drives

Mr. Larry Holt, 779 Lebanon Avenue stated that he met with Rep. Matt Smith and Commissioner Kelly Fraasch to discuss his concerns regarding the difficulty of entering and turning at the intersection of Hollycrest/Salem and Cedar Blvd. He stated that during the school year it is very difficult to turn onto Cedar Blvd. from Hollycrest and Salem Drives. He request a traffic signal be installed at the intersection but understands that a study was done in the past and a traffic signal would cause back-ups on Cedar Blvd. and Cochran Roads. He suggested that the traffic control only operate during peak times. He feels that to continue to use the intersection as it currently exists is risking the safety of drivers, pedestrians and the crossing guard. Mr. Noah Halper, 767 Lebanon Avenue stated before high school traffic added to the already dangerous intersection he appeared before the Traffic Board regarding the poor sight lines. This resulted in the elimination of one parking space in front of the church on Cedar Blvd. and one space in front of the tennis courts. He suggested that since additional parking has been added across the street from the tennis courts, eliminate addition spaces in front of the church and tennis courts. Ms. Natalie Ozeas, 778 Lebanon Avenue requested that the study be done during school hours. She also asked if speed limit could be lowered. Board members advised can't be lower than 25 mph. Ms. Brown asked if they are planning any changes to the traffic pattern with the new high school. Ms. Jampole stated that there have been meetings regarding traffic patterns and communication could continue with the school. Board members requested Ms. Jampole conduct a further study of the intersection. Ms. Jampole will look at the sight lines and present any recommendations for improvement in September. Once school is back in session she will do a further study to include counts and speed.

Agenda Item 8 – Items from the floor

Ms. Holt, suggested that when streets are closed for block parties there should be a warning in advance of the closure. She recently was on Orchard Drive and came to a closure and had to turn around. With an advance notice she could have avoided turning on to Orchard Drive.

Mr. Byrne made a motion to table comments and a vote on the Traffic Management policy and suggested making comments via email in order for board members to take a vote in September. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

There were no further items. Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for September 5, 2012

cc: All attendees
S. Feller
T. Kelley
R. Sukal