

MT. LEBANON TRAFFIC BOARD

Meeting Date: May 7, 2014

Members Present: Mr. Setcavage, Mr. Adams, Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. Frenie

Staff Present: Lt. Fisher, Mr. Haberman, Ms. Kostelich

Mr. opened the meeting. Roll call was taken. Ms. Brown, Mr. Cooley and Mr. Gerhardt were absent. Commissioner Fraasch was also in attendance.

Agenda Item 1 – Administrative Discussion

Agenda Item 2 - Minutes of April 2, 2014 Traffic Board Meeting.

Motion was made to approve the minutes of the April 2, 2014 meeting. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 3 - Opening Remarks from the Chair

Agenda Item 4: Follow up Items:

a. Request for Changes to Intersection of Terrace at Woodland

Mr. Haberman, Gateway Engineers stated that a recommendation was sent to Commissioners to install two additional stop signs at this intersection. Commissioners did not approve this recommendation. Board members agreed to take no further action on this matter. Mr. Haberman also stated that the Safe Walking Route for Foster School is Terrace Drive to Hoodridge to Vermont. Only students who live on Woodland and streets that intersect Woodland are to utilize Woodland as their walking route. No further action was taken on this item.

b. Review of Recommendation for Replacing Yield Sign with Stop Sign On Inglewood at Beadling

Mr. Haberman, Gateway Engineers stated that a recommendation was made to Commissioners to replace the yield sign with a stop sign at this intersection. No action was taken by Commissioners due to the original request being withdrawn. Board members agreed that the yield sign should be replaced with a stop sign due to the sight distance issues created by existing trees and vegetation. A motion was made to replace the yield sign with a stop sign on Inglewood Drive at Beadling. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

c. Request for Signal Sequence Change on Beverly Road at Cochran

Mr. Haberman stated that the changes to the signal phase at this intersection had been done. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that he spoke with residents of the 600 block of Beverly Road and they wanted to thank the board for their help in getting these changes.

d. Request for Restriction of Over-Height Vehicle Parking in Metered Spaces in front of 691-695 Washington Road

Mr. Haberman presented signage options for these parking spaces without parking restrictions. Board members agreed these were good options but did not feel it should be the responsibility of the municipality. These recommendations will be forwarded to the property owner if requested.

e. Academy Avenue – 6 month review

Ms. Karen Dunham, 100 Academy Avenue stated that drivers are not paying attention to speed limit and requested that the 5 non-metered parking spaces be replaced for the residents of the apartment building.

Mr. Scott Zsadir spoke against making Academy Avenue a one way street. Although the removal of the parking spots does not affect him directly, he feels bad for the residents who use them.

Mr. Kevin Delacour, 113 Shady Drive West presented a petition with over 160 signatures from residents and business owners, against making Academy Avenue and one way street.

Mr. Bill Lewis, 816 Ridgeview Avenue stated he attend the meeting at 60 Academy Avenue with Commissioner Fraasch and Trans Associates. He stated that according to Municipal documents the size of the parking spaces do not conform to the ordinance.

Mr. John Williams, 120 Academy spoke in favor of replacing parking spaces and feels the narrow roadway keeps traffic slow.

Kim Fox, 131 Academy Avenue, stated that Academy Avenue scored a zero on the traffic study and stated that this study is valid. She asked that the 5 spaces be replaced and spoke against making Academy one way.

Mr. Tom Dempsey, 130 Academy Avenue spoke against making Academy a one way street. He also said that the removal of the parking spaces does not affect him directly but would like to see them replaced.

Mr. Bill Lewis spoke regarding a Residential Parking study that was done in the past, and Academy Avenue had the highest deficit of parking spaces.

Commissioner Fraasch spoke in favor of replacing the parking spaces. She stated she had been contacted by many residents and the ACLU regarding the need for the spaces for the elderly and handicapped residents who live in the apartment building. She spoke regarding the speed enforcement and advised that Pennsylvania is the only state that can not use RADAR to enforce speed in municipalities and local representatives were pushing for it.

Elizabeth Tighe, 132 Academy Avenue spoke in favor of the replacement of the parking spaces and against making Academy a one way.

Board members agreed to leave the parking restrictions and review again in 6 months. Mr. Setcavage stated he would not be willing to support making Academy Avenue one way. Mr. Adams also advised residents that he was 100% against making Academy Avenue a one way and would not support it.

New Items:

Agenda Item 5: Request for Installation of Turning Arrow on Traffic Signal on Bower Hill at Kelso Road

Mr. Haberman reported that PennDot has the upgrades to these lights scheduled as a part of the Bower Hill Corridor Cycle 2 Upgrade scheduled for this summer. No further action was taken on this matter.

Agenda Item 6: Request to change center lane on N. Meadowcroft to left turn only and right lane to straight and right turns

Mr. Haberman stated that he collected data at this intersection during the three highest traffic hours and the volume of traffic did not support such a change. The Board accepted the report and recommended no action/change.

Agenda Item 7: Request for Stop Sign on Fruithurst Drive at Parkside Drive

Lt. Fisher stated that this is an uncontrolled T intersection. Mr. Haberman agreed that this intersection met the criteria for a stop sign. A motion was made to install a stop sign on Fruithurst Drive at Parkside Drive. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 8: Request to Move Parking to South Side of Cedar Blvd. Between Morgan Drive and Wildcat Field

No one was present to discuss this matter. Lt. Fisher stated that a request was received to move parking from the south side of Cedar Blvd to the north side. He stated that it would increase the number of parking spaces and make it safer for people using these parking spaces when attending events at the fields. Lt. Fisher suggested this request was part of the turf project. Mr. Bill Lewis, 816 Ridgeview Drive stated that this request predated the turf project, he suggested it was due to blocked driveways and parking on the sidewalks. Board members requested that letters be sent to residents in this area to advise that this item will be placed on the June agenda for further discussion.

Agenda Item 9: Neighborhood Traffic Management

a. Request for Speed Humps on Longridge Avenue

Ms. Leslie Will-Mallory, 470 Longridge Drive presented a petition requesting speed humps on Longridge Drive. She stated that Longridge is used as a cut through from Cedar Blvd and Bower Hill Road. She stated there is also a sight distance issue making it dangerous for children walking the safe walking route to school. Ms. Jen Richardson, 476 Longridge stated that the line of sight is a larger issue than speed. She is also concerned about the volume. Mr. Joe Costello, 423 Longridge stated that neighbors have tried parking on the street, staggering the vehicles and it doesn't seem to help with the volume of traffic. Stephanie Snyder, 439 Longridge stated that the traffic is heaviest around 3:30pm, she requested speed humps or rumble strips. Mr. Tom Dempsey, 130 Academy Avenue stated he frequently uses Longridge and he feels it is a scary roadway and he feels vehicles are going too fast for the type of roadway. Mr. Adams explained the process for the Neighborhood Traffic Management program. Board members requested that Mr. Haberman collect the initial speed and volume data on Longridge Drive. Mr. Haberman will meet with the residents to determine the best place to collect the data.

Agenda Item 10: Items from the floor

Mr. Hahner, 1502 Worcester Drive, requested that the position of the stop bar for the Cochran Road southbound left turn lane at the intersection with Bower Hill Road be examined. He feels the bar is too far forward and makes it hard for eastbound left turns onto Cochran. The board requested that Mr. Haberman look at the placement of the stop bar.

There were no additional items. Meeting adjourned at 9:55PM.

Next meeting is scheduled for June 4, 2014

cc: All attendees
S. Feller
T. Kelley