



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

June 23, 2023

ITEM 1 | Call to order

8:34am

ITEM 2 | Attendance:

Committee Members: John Connors, Joe Conway, Steve Maio, Bill Renault, Dan Benjamin, Lois Benjamin, Matt Keeley & Lieutenant Joe Anderson

ITEM 3 | Pledge of Allegiance

Led by Dan Benjamin

ITEM 4 | Public Engagement

Any member of the public who wishes to address the Traffic Advisory Committee is asked to submit any comments or concerns to <https://www.wakefield.ma.us/publicparticipation> at least two hours prior to the start of the meeting. Alternatively, members of the public are invited to participate via the Zoom virtual meeting, using the instructions listed above.

- Brian Noise, 36 Old Nahant Street – Following up with concerns about the lack of vehicles stopping at the Oak Street stop sign and overall speeding in the Farm Street/Old Nahant Street/Oak Street area. Brian explained he has witnessed on a consistent basis no adherence to the stop sign.
 - Lieutenant Anderson mentioned this intersection will not be getting the flashing stop signs as they are more permanent than expected and are being used at Prospect and Chestnut. Studies regarding the speed conditions have been completed and speed alert signs to educate drivers have been taken away as it did not have the traffic calming effect that was anticipated.
 - Bill shared plans at Green and Oak with a three way stop sign. A speed study was completed further down Oak by Melrose Ave and found a need to address. There will be plans to create two round-abouts in the Nahant Street area. One at the end of the Metro Tech driveway and realigning Hemlock Rd. with a round-about.
 - Lieutenant Anderson requested more information regarding the improvements to Old Nahant and Oak. Bill explained there is a wide opening and looking to narrow the opening of a resident driveway and making it a tighter radius. Matt recommended looking at the trees near the intersection and cutting them back.

ITEM 5 | Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Bill motioned to approve the meeting minutes from February 25, 2023 meeting. Seconded by Steve and unanimously approved by Committee.



ITEM 6 | Stop Sign Request Update

- Pleasant Street and Salem Street intersection – Bill recommends a four way stop sign to be installed. Matt and Lieutenant Anderson agreed with the recommendation with warning signs added as well.
- Kathleen, a Wakefield resident, is thankful for the recommendation and questioned if the crosswalk could be moved to the other side where the light is. Bill mentioned crosswalks will be included on both sides of the intersection.
- Motion by Bill to install four way stop sign at Salem Street and Pleasant Street. Seconded by Matt and unanimously approved by Committee.

ITEM 7 | School Zone Expansion & Enhancements

- Bill explained Mass DOT now allows for a longer length of school zones in the Commonwealth. Engineering evaluated each of the schools within the town to see where we can expand school zones. Bill shared maps with the new school zones throughout town and recommended the committee approve the modifications to the school zones as presented.
- Bill confirmed all signage would be consistent.
- No public comment regarding this item.
- Motion to install a new school zone assemblies consistent with the 2022 Mass DOT MUTC Amendments by Bill. Seconded by Steve and unanimously approved by Committee.

ITEM 8 | Wakefield Memorial High School Development

- Erin Prestileo introduced Stephen Siragusa from BSC Group to discuss the design update. Lieutenant Anderson thanked the group and mentioned it was a pleasure working with them.
- Stephen shared the general layout of the new design. This is a single lane approach to the roundabout.
- Steven shared traffic statistics that they observed and updates of entrance and exits of the school. No left turns coming out of the school to Farm. Entrance and exit will now be from Hemlock so that more vehicles utilize the roundabout. Stephen mentioned the impact of traffic was more in the morning.
- Bill was happy with the plan and mentioned more logistics on how to get vehicles back to Farm Street need to be discussed. Bill thanked the group for addressing the comments from the last meeting.
- Matt was interested in getting the numbers that will be circulating through the roundabout. Stephen confirmed the volume numbers were accurate.
- Dan asked if they took an estimate of the volume of the new vocational school. Bill responded the vocational school will have a separate driveway.
- John asked where the main entrance to the new high school would be. Erin shared a diagram of the traffic flow of the new school.
- Dan questioned what the timeline would be for the new roundabout. Construction is slated for Summer 2027.
- No public comments.
- Motion to approve the roundabout layout as presented by Bill and seconded by Matt. Unanimously approved by Committee.

ITEM 9 | 460-462 & 472 Main Street – New Development

- Attorney Brian McGrail presented the site plan for the new development.
- Team member, Peter, shared the architectural rendering and overview of the 16 residential units and up to 6 retail unit project.
- Brian mentioned they will have 24 parking spaces. This meets the zoning requirement with 2 extra parking spaces.
- Team member, Scott, presented information on the traffic impact of the project. Traffic increase in the area is estimated to be .3% - 1.6% with a minimal impact in the area.
- Bill shared that there will be a bump-out in front of the area with the Envision program. Bill supports the project.
- Matt is in agreement with the study. Confirmed the residential parking would be private.
- Discussion about allowing the left turn into the building
- Lieutenant Anderson questioned if the project meets the parking bi-laws. Re-evaluation of the project confirmed there would be 22 parking spaces and 24 are required.
- Steve mentioned the town will not be issuing on-street parking permits for this project.
- Conversation about left turn in and left turn out. Bill recommends the left turn restriction into the project.
- No public comment.
- Bill or Matt will prepare a memo for this project and outline the conditions discussed.

ITEM 10 | Handicapped Parking Space Request

- A request was sent to the Disability Commission for a handicapped parking space in the area of 43 Crescent Street.
- Lieutenant Anderson recommended having all spaces painted to maximize parking in the area.
- Motion to approve the handicap space and stripe the parking spaces. Seconded. So moved.

ITEM 11 | Matters Not Anticipated for Agenda

- Steve recommended adding the handicap parking space and four way stop sign in the July 10th Town Council agenda.
- Dan mentioned the lines that were painted by North Ave and Richardson Ave need to be adjusted. Lieutenant Anderson will speak with Joe Conway.

ITEM 12 | Adjournment

- 10:03am