



**CITY OF DOVER**

## TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting  
Meeting Location: FINANCE DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM,  
(TOP FLOOR, CITY HALL)  
Meeting Date: **Monday, December 14, 2009**  
Meeting Time: **7:00 pm**

Meeting of the Dover Transportation Advisory Commission was called to order by the Chair at 7:04 PM.

### 1. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Karen Weston (Chair), John Scruton, Bruce Woodruff (Planning), Peter Schmidt (Coast Bus Rep), Ed Wentworth, Marn Speidel (Police), Ben Clark (Community Services), and Dennis Munson.

Others Present: Rod Grimsley.

P.Schmidt made the motion to move items C, D & E to the front of the agenda. M.Speidel seconded. **Vote:** Unanimous.

### 2. NEW BUSINESS

#### **Election and appointment of officers.**

P. Schmidt nominated K.Weston to serve as Chair. The Chair noted that she would like to table the election and appointment of officers to the next meeting. M.Speidel noted that two members may be up on their time to serve. The Chair noted that the Committee should find out from the City Clerk. It was noted that everyone on the Committee wished to continue on the Committee. B.Woodruff noted that a letter should be sent to the Appointment Committee asking them to reappoint. The Chair noted that there is a form on the City website for the reappointment. P.Schmidt withdrew his motion.

P.Schmidt made the motion to investigate the actual membership of the Committee and await Council action in the reappointment of K.Weston. The Committee members agreed.

#### **Review and discussion of 2010 meeting dates**

P.Schmidt noted that he would like to discuss either changing the meeting dates or times. He proposed meeting at 6PM. B.Woodruff suggested placing this on the next agenda for a formal vote. He added that a change of meeting time would have to be posted and by-laws would have to be changed. There was a general consensus of the Committee to try the new proposed meeting time of 6PM.



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P.Schmidt made the motion to recommend a By-Law change of 6PM. B.Woodruff seconded. **Vote:** Unanimous.

P.Schmidt made the motion to set a special meeting time of 6PM for the January 25, 2010 meeting. D.Munson seconded. **Vote:** Unanimous.

### **Review of TAC By-Law**

M.Speidel informed members of process to changing By-Laws and suggested that clarification of wording was necessary in regards to member terms. After discussion, the consensus of the Committee was to leave the wording as written.

The Chair noted that if the Committee decided to change the meeting times, page 3 -Article B of the By-Laws would need to be revised. In addition, she suggested that the meeting location should be updated. B.Woodruff noted that there was a provision in the By-Law that states “unless another location has been agreed upon”. There was a general consensus to recommend changing the By-Laws from 7PM to 6PM.

### **Horne Street Stop Sign Concerns**

R.Grimsley of 24 C Maple Street noted that there was a 4-way stop on the corner of Hough and Maple; however, he had witnessed drivers gliding directly through the stop signs without stopping. He recommended that all intersections on Hough Street have a 4-way stop starting at Horne and Hough going through to Central. He noted that he concerned for the residents of the neighborhood as well as the school children. He added that a pattern of 4-way stops would assist.

The Chair read from a traffic engineering handbook concerning stop sign: *Stop signs should not be installed for the sole purpose of controlling the speeds of motorists. Multi-way, 4-way or all-way stop allocations can be used as a safety measure or in lieu of traffic signals at some locations where the volumes on the intersecting roads is approximately equal and the following conditions have been established...* The Chair asked if there were traffic counts for this area. M.Speidel stated “no” and added that the volume on Horne Street exceed those of Hough Street. B.Woodruff noted that the last count on Horne Street was 3,065 vehicles per day and was a high volume for a local street in that area. He added that Hough Street was hardly a third of the volume and he felt the stops signs were in the wrong place. He stated that you never put stop signs at the major street intersections and let the minor street traffic flow. He felt that people roll through the stop sign because there is no opposing traffic. He



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noted that when you don't follow the proper warrants that there can be safety issues. P.Schmidt noted that he would recommend the appropriate investigation be conducted to see if the current location of the stop sign on Hough Street is warranted based on principal of traffic management and public safety.

*P.Schmidt left the meeting.*

R.Grimsley noted that the traffic is coming from the Hillcrest area. M.Speidel noted that the Committee took an affirmative vote in July of 2007 to recommend a 4-way stop at the intersection of Horne and Hough Street. He added that for various reasons an ordinance did not make its way to the City Council.

M.Speidel made the motion to reaffirm the Committee's earlier vote for a 4-way stop at the Hough and Horne intersection. He noted that if the Committee was in favor of the motion, it would be the basis of an ordinance amendment to the City Council. He noted that from a Police Department perspective, it would not support a simple switch to the major street/minor street because that would be more confusing and inherently less safe. He added that at some point we may want to revisit the issue of removing signs from the major street. D.Munson seconded.

D.Munson suggested redesigning the intersection. B.Woodruff noted that we should take all local neighborhood streets (non-collector or arterial streets) and change the speed limit to 25 MPH. In addition we should be working on the synchronization of the timing of the lights on Central Avenue. B.Woodruff noted that the 4-way would be a step in a better direction and would need a code change. **Vote:** A majority was in favor. J.Scruton noted that he was opposed because he would like different traffic designs.

There was a general discussion regarding reducing the speed limit City wide. The Chair suggested some posting and public hearings. M.Speidel noted that he would not necessarily be in favor of posting speed limits. B.Woodruff suggested postings at the entrances to the City. The Chair suggested placing neighborhood speed limits on the next agenda for discussion.

M.Speidel stated that in July of 2007, the Committee also voted to recommend a 4-way stop at Mt. Vernon & Hough.

M.Speidel made the motion to reaffirm its vote from 2007. B.Woodruff seconded. **Vote:** Unanimous. It was noted that this could be one resolution.



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### 3. OLD BUSINESS

#### Review/Approval of meeting minutes from November 23, 2009

Page 1:

- M.Speidel suggested changing P. Schmidt from *excused* to not present. It was suggested that it read a Coast Bus Meeting conflict.
- M.Speidel noted that under New Business he would like to eliminate the sentence that reads: *He felt that travel from Morningside turning left onto Riverdale would have the right of way.*
- M.Speidel would like the following sentence to read: *M.Speidel stated that the Police Department recommends that a stop sign be installed at the southerly approach of the corner of Morningside.*

Page 2:

- M.Speidel noted *MUTC* should be MUTCD.
- M.Speidel noted under Item #3 A –Old Business it should read: *The motion was made to accept the minutes of September 21, 2009 as amended.*

Page 3:

- M.Speidel noted that under Old Business 3 C- It should read *B.Clark noted that he recommends restrict parking the entire side from the bridge to Grove.*
- M.Speidel noted that under New Businesses it should read: *It was noted that the Police Department did perform a traffic count this summer on Lexington Street as a means to evaluate the effectiveness of speed tables installed at another location in the City and another traffic count will be scheduled this spring on Lexington Street.*
- M.Speidel noted that under New Business he would like to have the motion read as follows: *M.Speidel made the motion that traffic calming measures to include speed tables be supported by the TAC and other traffic counting measures be actively investigated by the Engineering Department and that the City of Dover work in partnership with DHA toward the implementation.*

Page 5:

- D.Munson under Member Comments *paining* should read painting.

D.Munson made motion to accept minutes with amendments. B.Woodruff seconded. **Vote:** Unanimous.



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### 4. OLD BUSINESS

#### Discussion to Transportation-related Land Use Regulations

B. Woodruff noted that the Planning Department has requested suggested changes to the Land Use Regulations. He noted that he submitted materials to the Committee in November to review for proposed changes to the Subdivision and Site Plan Regulations which are transportation related. He recommended that the Transportation Demand Management go into the Site Regulations. He noted that the second document involved the requirement for the developers to construct and implement transit amenities. J.Scruton suggested adding traffic calming into the plan for new development to make it uncomfortable for drivers to drive over 25 MPH. B.Woodruff added that the third item was to include a level of service standards and the threshold for when you make a developer do a traffic impact study or a memorandum report. He added that his should go into the Site Plan and Subdivision Regulations. There was a general discussion regarding sidewalks and stormwater runoff.

B.Woodruff made the motion to recommend the drafts and J.Scruton's idea to the Planning Department. J.Scruton seconded. **Vote:** Unanimous.

### 5. NEW BUSINESS

#### Pedestrian phase timing concern – Central @ Washington; Chestnut @ Washington intersections.

B. Woodruff informed members that complaints were received and he checked out both signalized intersections and suggested that we need to make the time longer for the pedestrians to cross the road. He noted that older pedestrians need more time, especially near elderly complexes.

E. Wentworth would like to relocate the “no turn on red” sign in front of Foster's located on the pole on the right hand side so it can be made more visible. B. Clark noted that he would relay the information to Facility and Grounds.

B.Woodruff made the motion to recommend that the traffic consultants for Central Ave Signal Timing/Synchronization work conduct a study on the pedestrian phases as well as optimizing the vehicle flow. It was noted that they should take into account the elderly. E. Wentworth seconded. **Vote:** A majority was in favor. J.Scruton abstained from voting, since he would like



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to know how often the lights are checked for timing. He added that he would like to eliminate all traffic lights in Dover.

### **6. MEMBER COMMENTS**

J.Scruton stated that there was too much noise from trucks. He suggested adding traffic calming into driver education schools. E. Wentworth noted that the new area at the train stations was now open and heated.

### **7. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting was scheduled for January 25, 2010 at 6:PM. **Vote:** Unanimous

### **8. ADJOURN**

D. Munson motion to adjourn meeting at 9PM. E.Wentworth seconded. **Vote:** Unanimous.