

CITY OF DOVER

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: City Council chambers, second floor City Hall
Meeting Date: **Monday, February 29, 2016**
Meeting Time: **6:00 pm**

1. Roll Call

Weston called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Members present: Mayor Karen Weston (Chair), Marn Speidel (Police), Gretchen Young (Community Services), Chris Parker (Planning), Brian DeGuzis (COAST), Maurice Olivier, Dennis Munson, Susan Tremblay. Dustin Gray and Peter Schmidt (Alternate) arrived at 6:10 PM.

Members absent: None

Others present: Karen Taylor (Dover School Department), Anthony McManus

2. Old Business

A. Review/approval of minutes from November 30, 2015

Motion: Munson moved, Parker seconded, to approve.

Vote: Motion passed 8-0 (Gray absent).

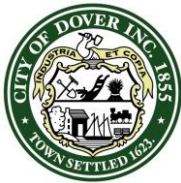
B. Safety Concern – Intersection of Central Avenue and Exit 7 SB ramp

Sgt. Speidel confirmed that the Facilities and Grounds Division has installed several "Turning Traffic Must Yield to Pedestrians" signs at key approaches to the Exit 7 and Back River Road intersection. Speidel stated that staff has obtained a quote for lighted "No Turn on Red" signs that could be integrated into the pedestrian phase. Staff does not recommend a school crossing guard at this location because it is not the age group that is traditionally address with this position. It was noted that Sebago Technics, the city's traffic light consultant, has recently made equipment upgrades at this intersection and is currently evaluating the suitability of programming changes. Parker stated that Sebago Technics has also been awarded the contract for the Durham Road corridor study, and suggested that further changes to increase pedestrian safety at this intersection be integrated into the study. Discussion ensued, and consensus from the committee was that further adjustments would be deferred to the study.

C. Silver Street reconstruction project

a. Crosswalk proposal at Silver/Belknap intersection

Speidel referred to a citizen's correspondence and to the city's crosswalk policy and gave an overview of pros and cons of adding a new, uncontrolled crosswalk at this location. Speidel said he would works with Woodman Park School administrators to solicit feedback from parents who may be affected. The timeline for the spring construction work was discussed. Speidel stated that if a crosswalk is added here, the police department would likely relocate the school crossing guard from the Silver/Arch intersection. Karen Taylor, school department representative, also addressed the committee. Schmidt expressed concern about children crossing Rutland Street as a result of new walking patterns. Discussion ensued about Rutland Street traffic. It was noted that new crosswalks would be installed across the mouth of each intersecting street along Silver, as called for under the Safe Routes to School grant. Parker noted that DHS and DMS kids would also use this crossing.



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b. Parking restrictions for bus stop pull-offs

Speidel noted that the Silver Street reconstruction plan had narrowed Silver Street for much of its entire length, and with the inclusion of bike lanes, on street parking was no longer an option on Silver Street. After preliminary construction was completed, vehicles have begun appearing in the bus stop pull-off lanes. Speidel recommended that the committee endorse a formal revision to Chapter 166 to provide posting and enforcement authority of parking restrictions in the bus pull-off lanes and anywhere else on Silver Street where parking becomes problematic.

Motion: Parker moved, Munson seconded, to approve an amendment to Chapter 166 to restrict parking on Silver Street.

Vote: Motion passed 9-0.

3. New Business

A. Route 108 South corridor study – staff update

Parker gave an overview of the bid results and stated that Sebago Technics was selected for this project. Discussion ensued regarding Dover middle School traffic. Schmidt expressed concern with Dover Fire Department response from the South End fire station. Speidel informed the committee about emergency vehicle pre-emption for police and fire fleet vehicles.

B. Review of correspondence from Councilor McManus

Mr. McManus addressed the committee to follow up his letter regarding crosswalks proposed, and regarding the city's crosswalk policy in general.

C. Proposed stop intersections:

a. Merry Street at Central Avenue

Speidel described a recent collision here, investigated by the police department, and noted that state statute had no provision for the at fault driver (failing to yield from Merry Street) to be cited due to the absence of a stop sign. While the police department is not a proponent of adding stop signs to every intersection in the City, the potential for future collisions here suggests that the lack of a stop sign should be addressed.

Motion: Parker moved, Olivier seconded, to endorse adding a stop sign here as a revision to Chapter 166.

Vote: Motion passed 9-0.

b. Crestview Drive at Glenwood Avenue

Olivier gave an overview of a recent parking concern at this intersection, where there is activity in the mornings due to a school bus stop. The lack of a traffic control device was noted as a potential safety concern.

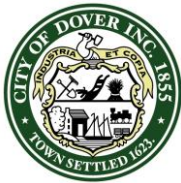
Motion: Olivier moved, Parker seconded, to endorse adding a stop sign here as a revision to Chapter 166.

Vote: Motion passed 9-0.

D. Election of Chairperson

Parker nominated Weston as Chair. No other nominations were made.

Vote: Motion passed 9-0.



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E. Appointment of Vice Chair and Clerk

Weston appointed Olivier as Vice Chair, and Munson as Clerk.

4. Citizens Forum

Karen Taylor thanked the committee for the invitation and stated she intended to continue attending meetings as often as possible. Taylor stated that the district's priorities included student transportation, particularly with respect to students riding buses and looking at the proportion of buses versus the geography and attempting to limit the amount of time students spent riding buses.

5. Member Comments

Parker gave an update on the work of the Transportation Master Plan Steering Committee and the progress made by VHB to date.

Young informed the committee about an upcoming neighborhood meeting for the Keating/Birchwood/Renaud Reconstruction project, on March 15 at 6 PM at the Community Services facility.

Olivier asked what had happened to the COAST bus shelter in front of WDH. DeGuzis informed the TAC about a recent collision that had damaged the shelter and stated that COAST is working on an estimate to replace the shelter.

Speidel asked to facilitate oath of office paperwork for Gray and Munson on behalf of the City Clerk's office, provided some background materials to new member Tremblay, and offered City Hall parking permits for several members.

6. Confirm Next Meeting Date

The next meeting was scheduled for March 28, 2016 at 6:00 pm.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.