

CITY OF DOVER

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMISSION - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: City Council chambers, second floor City Hall
Meeting Date: **Monday, December 9, 2019**
Meeting Time: **6:00 pm**

Members present: Mayor Karen Weston (Chair), Maurice Olivier (Vice Chair), Dennis Munson (Clerk), Marn Speidel (Police), Gretchen Young (Community Services), Chris Parker (Planning), Michael Williams (COAST), Elizabeth Goldman, Susan Tremblay, Peter Schmidt (Alternate)

Members Absent: Dustin Gray (Alternate)

1. Roll Call

Weston called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Peter Schmidt arrived late. No audio recorder was available.

2. Old Business

A. Review/approval of minutes from September 23, 2019

Motion: Parker moved, Munson seconded, **to approve** with no amendments.

Vote: Motion passed 9-0

B. Willand Avenue Speed Table

This item was removed from the table by 9-0 motion.

Speidel produced traffic count data collected by the Dover Police Department in November 2019 showing 105 vehicles per day, split 38% eastbound and 62% westbound. Speidel stated count volume is so low that it likely would not meet criteria to install a speed table today.

William Boulanger, Deputy Director of Community Services, addressed the committee.

Boulanger noted he received resident complaint regarding roadway erosion around speed table; water is holding and road is breaking apart on both sides. Boulanger stated he recommends that the speed table be removed, then the City could address the road. Stated it is possible to do some patching in spring, but ultimate goal is to remove and do permanent repair.

Sally Fletcher, 5 Willand Ave, stated her intent was to resolve issues with the road, not to remove the speed table. Asked whether more people would use the road if the speed table were removed. Suggested short term measures.

Peter Strangas, 8 Willand Ave, stated he is in favor of some fix. Stated that speed table afforded good quality of life, and that traffic data provides a good baseline for future reference.

Vicki Chase, 10 Willand Ave, spoke in favor of the speed table remaining, and asks for some improvements to drainage.

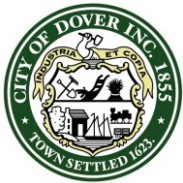
Schmidt spoke in favor of maintaining the speed table. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Olivier moved, Parker seconded, to retain the speed table and urge City to perform only temporary improvements.

Vote: Motion passed 7-2 (Speidel, Young opposed)

C. Correspondence from Community Trail Advisory Committee RE: Washington Street crossing

This item was removed from the table by 9-0 motion.



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Young stated that staff conducted a site review and confirmed that in one approach direction, a painted crosswalk would not be visible to drivers. Young produced a draft schematic showing potential improvements that could be made, including bump-outs and RRFB push-button warning lights, and a draft itemized budget of \$40,075.

Speidel stated that current condition is safer with onus being on the trail user to ensure that safe gap exists for crossing; a traditional crosswalk condition giving trail users the right-of-way should only be considered if significant upgrades are made.

Parker stated that trail upgrades are likely eligible for Community Development Block Grant funding due to improving accessibility and for parks.

Jon Niehof (Community Trail Advisory Committee) spoke in favor of upgrades to the trail crossing.

Motion: Williams moved, Tremblay seconded, to recommend that this crossing be upgraded to a full crosswalk in the spirit of the plan produced by the Engineering Department, subject to available funding through CDBG.

Vote: Motion passed 9-0.

3. New Business

A. Chestnut Street pedestrian crossing at Transportation Center

Speidel read correspondence from Charles Reynolds regarding a request for enhanced pedestrian crossing on Chestnut Street in the area of Second Street. The correspondence outlined reasons for consideration: increased usage of the Transportation Center Lot by residents and downtown employees, increased frequency of pedestrian crossing, unrealistic expectation that pedestrians will relocate to First or Fourth Streets to cross at a marked crosswalk. The correspondence suggested a practical solution involving the installation of enhanced pedestrian push-button warning beacon system as in use at Chestnut/Orchard crosswalk.

Parker suggested that the committee thank Reynolds for the commentary and take no action as the reconfiguration of the Chestnut/Third intersection is under consideration.

Speidel reminded the committee about the Downtown Pedestrian and Vehicular Access Study of March 2015, which made several recommendations pertaining to Chestnut Street and particularly near the Transportation Center.

Motion: Speidel moved, Parker seconded, to re-endorse the Downtown Pedestrian and Vehicular Access Study of 2015, especially as it relates to Chestnut Street improvements, and to be mindful of the need for an enhanced, direct crossing at the Dover Transportation Center as we move forward toward implementation.

Vote: Motion passed 9-0.

B. COAST discussion – new proposed bus stops

Williams gave overview of proposed COAST bus stop locations in the form of a handout with Google maps and photos. Williams gave rationale for selecting these stop locations and asked committee members to provide feedback.



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Schmidt raised concern regarding the Central/Fourth stop and suggested moving it closed to the RR tracks.

Boulanger raised a concern with the Portland/Cochecho outbound stop; City does not maintain this sidewalk on the outbound side. Discussion ensued, consensus was to relocate this to a point closer to downtown

Discussion ensued with inbound stop across from Atlantic Avenue for ADA compliance (no sidewalk tip-down in area).

Motion: Parker moved, Speidel seconded, to endorse the proposed stop locations as amended with today's input from the TAC.

Vote: Motion passed 9-0.

4. Citizens Forum

No citizens spoke.

5. Member Comments

Parker thanked Weston for 12 years on the committee and for her leadership.

Speidel echoed Parker's comments and thanked Weston for her service to the City as Mayor and as Chair of the TAC.

Speidel informed committee members that 2020 parking permits were available and could be picked up after the meeting.

6. Confirm Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for January 27 at 6:00 pm.

7. Adjournment

Motion: Weston moved, Munson seconded, **to adjourn at 7:23 PM.**

Vote: Motion passed 9-0.