

# Traffic Roadway Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

October 3, 2018

Committee Members Present: DPW Director Ray Tattersall, Police Chief Dan Hanavan, and Fire Chief John Schilling

Absent: James Rogers

Attendee: Mike Mauro (MVC), Bill Veno (MVC), and Greg Monka (IEH)

Meeting Called to Order by Ray Tattersall at 3:00pm

## **Island Elderly Housing Concerns at Hillside Village:**

Greg Monka: The residents at Hillside have voiced concerns over where the VTA pull off is, there is a crosswalk over Edgartown/Vineyard Haven Road. There is a concentration of elderly folks, some have limited mobility and we are looking to improve their safety of getting across. Either by improving the crosswalk painting, doing some type of keyboard pattern. Other thoughts were lights, LED . . . I know that's a bit extreme but looking for some way to slow down the traffic – it's 35 can we knock it down to 30?

Ray Tattersall: As I told you in the email, we decided to adopt a 25MPH speed limit that covers business district and thickly settled neighborhoods.

Greg Monka: Anything that can help the residents feel a little more at ease when trying to walk across to catch the bus going into town.

Ray Tattersall: I put one of the crosswalk signs in the road , and people said it made a huge difference.

John Schilling: You are looking for some heightened awareness to the crossing. What are the limitations to painting something?

Ray Tattersall: We can do anything we could paint it green like we're doing around the school, if that's what the selectmen want to do. You can't make the stuff in the middle reflective only the white lines can be. I don't know how much more can be done with paint that's gonna be picked up by the vehicle traffic

Greg Monka: If anything reflective with the street light right there may illuminate that better?

Ray Tattersall: We need to come up with what are we going to do because we can't have 2 or 3 different styles of crosswalks—thermo paint isn't cheap and it needs to be reflective. If we do that one (crosswalk style) we have to do them all, it wouldn't look right to do just one. We would probably do the standard ladder so the wheel marks don't affect the lines in the middle and you are not painting them as frequently. I will just have to ask for more money for painting.

John Schilling: What can we do in the short term?

Ray Tattersall: I don't see anything.

Dan Hanavan: We still have that sign in the middle . . .

Ray Tattersall: Yes, but to me I don't think we are gonna to fix it without the flashing of lights.

Greg Monka: The cone sign in the middle is a temporary fix . .

Ray Tattersall: I like the lights because you're never going to notice, even if I put more crosswalk painting, it's never going to change.

John Schilling: How about we put this before the BOS – they've come before us with a legitimate concern and their residents are as ambulatory as the general public and they rely upon the general transportation system. We need to take some measures to afford better safety. What we would recommend is something that is more radical than the town's willing to accept – we need to have that conversation.

Ray Tattersall: Maybe that's the place we can get away with (cross walk flashing lights) it because it's not the in Town Center. Greg, maybe you need to get a petition.

John Schilling: Last time you all showed up at a meeting it carried some weight.

Ray Tattersall: I think it's the only way to go – it's too wide of a road, it's too fast of a road, it's a long stretch and maybe that's what it will take to get people start thinking about it.

Greg Monka: If you could use us as a test space . . . .

Dan Hanavan: Motion for the committee to recommend we do some kind of traffic signal light at the cross walk.

Ray Tattersall: Solar powered crossing beacon . . .we will recommend and ask for the money.

John Schilling: 2nds motion . . . .Approved by all.

Greg Monka: The second point was to this is to fix the VTA stop surface . .

Ray Tattersall: It was put on hold by the BOS at early spring until they got further info

John Schilling: Motion to TRSC endorse the VTA to improve the surface treatment of stop across from Hillside Village.

Greg Monka: How about some ADA grade approved surface . . . .

Ray Tattersall: I guess we should just put it before them again.

Dan Hanavan: 2nds . . Approved by all

**Bike Crossing Sign – on Edgartown/Vineyard Haven Road (near bank):**

Bill Veno: There should be a sign at end of bike lane and provide them with a straight across crosswalk so ideally they get off the bike – some advance sign for the traffic. Visibility looks fine.

Ray Tattersall: You mentioned the route going from the other side . .

Bill Veno: You have a 6 foot shoulder at that point, people use the shoulder unless there's cars parked there and the same going inbound. You could expand in the future by taking a parking lane.

John Schilling: This is from signs money?

Ray Tattersall: Can we put the crosswalk wherever we want? Mid-block crossing . . .you need MASSDOT permission.

Mike Mauro: I can call and ask the District about it.

Ray Tattersall: I'll wait for Mike's response, but do we have a motion to accept the way Bill is proposing it based on the answer that Mike gets on the crosswalk?

John Schilling: If we have to get State approval can we move forward?

Ray Tattersall: We could do it without a crosswalk

John Schilling: Motion to endorse the recommendation as it is written here. For a crosswalk at Sanborn Way at the termination of the SUP and the bike crossing signs.

Dan Hanavan – 2nds . . . . Approved by All

**Continued discussion regarding Renear St:**

John Schilling: One of the first questions we had was distance from the stop sign that people can't park at the bottom of the hill.

Bill Veno: 20 feet . . .is the standard. The problem is the parking is not allowing people to get by.

John Schilling: Is there a standard width to a road that allows 2 lanes of travel plus parking

Ray Tattersall: I heard 28ft – 20 for emergency access and 8 for parking – online MWHRA

Bill Veno: You can go less than that – different segments, usually for longer streets.

Ray Tattersall: It's about 22 down by Skiff and it narrows maybe up to 18 at the top before the right on Cromwell.

Bill Veno: You have to figure out what you are comfortable with for emergency vehicles.

John Schilling: The National Code is 20 ft . . .but my truck isn't any wider than the trash truck. But when it becomes an issue is with the parking. We are looking for a standard to lay a foundation for parking rules. So if we put a stop sign at the bottom of the street there's no parking within 20 feet of the sign.

Ray Tattersall: Recommend to put up stop sign and no parking within 20 feet/here to corner and let the gentlemen know he will have to move his vehicles to a different location.

Dan Hanavan and John Schilling both agreed the DPW should just move ahead and place the proper signage.

**No Parking – 2 spots before 125 Skiff Avenue:**

Dan Hanavan: Opposite the Causeway Apartments, right on the corner.

Ray Tattersall: I could paint it on the ground or move the sign

John Schilling: From the driveway of 133 Skiff

Ray Tattersall: All set – No Parking

**Old Fire Station Lot Parking Renewals:**

Ray Tattersall: Jay wants to know if we want to continue on the path we are now – allowing the businesses to rent spaces or do we want to move into developing into municipal lot. Do you think we should extend it till next October?

Dan Hanavan: It should be supporting the businesses . . . .

Ray Tattersall: People are paying but we could get so much more if it were a municipal lot.

Dan Hanavan: Who's gonna ticket it?

Ray Tattersall: You don't have to . . . we could use the same equipment as the Park & Ride . . . I'll 2<sup>nd</sup> your recommendation to extend another year. . . . All in favor

Dan Hanavan: Yes

John Schilling: No

Ray Tattersall: Passes 2-1 . . . . I don't think we are ready for it yet – technology . . . 24 spaces . .

Dan Hanavan: I understand but someone has to ticket it twice a day

John Schilling: The amount of commuters coming here on a daily basis would pay . .

**Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 19, 2018:**

Dan Hanavan: Motion to accept minutes. John Schilling: 2nds. Approved by all.

Ray Tattersall makes motion to adjourn @3:45pm. Chief Schilling 2nds, approved by all

**Next Meeting: October 24 @ 3:00PM – DPW Conference Room**

