

DRAFT Meeting Minutes
Bedford Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)
Wednesday, October 10, 2018, 7:30 PM, Bedford Town Hall, Lower Level
Conference Room

Attendees: Cindy Barbehenn, Margot Fleishman, Scot Shaw (Meeting Chair), Soraya Stevens

Guests: Dawn LaFrance-Linden, Peter Manning, Sandra Hackman, Kevin Lach, Kathy Johnson,

Meeting called to order: 7:33

Reviewed Minutes from 9/12/2018 – minutes approved

Old Billerica Road Intersection

Kevin Lach speaking on behalf of neighbors/friends who live in that area and need to exit onto 62 via Old Billerica Road

- The right turn onto Old Billerica Road is greater than 90 degrees, requires a wider turning radius. Original design had more room
- New design moves the garden to the curb (removed the island), now there's only room for one car to turn left off Old Billerica Road
 - o It creates a bottleneck
 - o The garden area took away the right turning lane
 - o New design made the entrance to Old Billerica Road narrower – the sharp right turn doesn't allow for larger vehicles (landscaping trucks etc) to turn
 - o Through traffic is moving faster which makes it more difficult for residents to turn left onto 62
- The DPW response:
 - o The striping was done accurately but the gap needs to be filled in with dotted lines to make the trajectory more intuitive
- The design assumes drivers driving speed limit and encourages drivers to slow down. The design makes the intersection safer when drivers adhere to the speed limits
- The sidewalk is wider at the intersection
 - o This allows cyclists to get off the street to navigate that intersection
- Can we remove the garden and add a right turn lane?
 - o Is there enough width even if the garden were removed?
 - o Removing the garden/buffer makes using the sidewalk less appealing and less safe for pedestrians
 - o Short term:
 - Ask DPW if a right turning lane could be added back?

- Can an easement with Carleton Willard be negotiated that would allow a right lane to be added?
 - Need to collect traffic counts at peak hours at Old Billerica Road, Rt 62, Page Rd in both directions
 - Long Term:
 - What is the plan for the roundabout at Page Rd?
- The Selectmen may not be aware of the unintended consequences of this intersection modification, residents can let them know

Bus Shelters

- Heidi Porter from Board of Health and Mary Seymour, Committee member
- Costs for bus shelters, locations of bus stops
- BOH is looking at it from a wellness and a health and wellness perspective
- The town own the curb cuts, the shelters, the infrastructure
- The complete streets grants do apply to bus stops so that is a possible funding source
- Where is there enough space for a shelter and a bicycle rack – check with DPW
- Need to consider look of shelter in historic districts
- Layout & site plan
- Cost range – \$3000-9000
- To fund through Capital expenditures
 - Flesh out details, pricing, etc for specific designs
 - Request for the DPW to make some layouts with bike racks, trash cans, recycling bin and note what portion of it is not public property
 - Advocate for it
 - Approach businesses/economic development for financial support
 - The target would be to get request on Spring town meeting warrant

Transportation for Massachusetts (T4MA)

- Josh Osteroff came to Middlesex Three meeting – they are always looking for more partners
- Partnership is free, municipality signs on to amplify the voice, make us eligible for grants
- Chief Executive – Town Manager would sign up as the representative
- What's the interaction between T4MA and MAPC – MAPC is part of this coalition
- Move to recommend that the town become members of the T4MA coalition
 - Seconded, passed unanimously

Review of action items

- Need to check in with Officer Devine about the status of the radar equipment
- Letter to the Revolutionary Ridge neighborhood is on hold until some data collection can be done

- Soraya to circulate the cut-through streets map

Selectmen's Update

Planning Board Update

- Page Place has come before Planning Board to request to sell off open space for garages.
- Motion to send a letter to Planning Board urging the planning board to condition the Special Permit on getting the easement from the School to the Old Billerica Road

Adjourn - 9:46pm