Public Ways Safety Committee Minutes Bolton, Massachusetts September 28, 2022

Members present: Mary Ciummo, Michael Keller, Shandy Carpenter, and Steve McKeown. **Invited guest:** Stan Smith and Margaret Campbell.

The meeting was held online via Zoom and called to order at 7:15 p.m. The September 14, 2022, meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

Resident traffic concerns at S. Bolton/Spectacle Hill Roads: Stan Smith attended our meeting to discuss his concerns for safety at this intersection. He shared a power point presentation that included two videos of traffic movement at the intersection. He proposed the following:

- A 3-way stop
- Move existing stop sign closer to intersection approximately 20' for visibility
- Apply MGL Chapter 90, Sec. 17C from S. Bolton to Century Mill and all of Spectacle Hill

In our discussion, we agreed that this area has seen an increase in traffic due to the Century Mill development and Highland Commons on Route 62, and, as shown in his presentation, the greatest use by all roadway users was on South Bolton Road from Century Mill to Central St. in Hudson and back. The second busiest use was on S. Bolton Road from Century Mill up Spectacle Hill and back. In reviewing MassDOT accident data there were a few collisions on South Bolton Road, but none at that intersection. Although there were two at Mill Pond/Spectacle Hill Road. The video in his presentation showed many vehicles either doing a "rolling stop," or stopping and then slowly proceeding through the intersection. We did agree with moving the existing stop sign closer to the intersection citing MUTCD Section 2B.10 Stop sign or yield sign placement: "02 The STOP or Yield sign shall be located as close as practical to the intersection it regulates, while optimizing its visibility to the road user it is intended to regulate," and will consult DPW. Brush clearing at that intersection would also improve sight lines. Also mentioned was the possibility of redesigning the intersection to a "T," and traffic calming techniques such as narrowing the intersection similar to the S. Bolton/Century Mill Roads intersection. Concerning the area as thickly settled, the Committee did not feel that it met the requirements.

We did not make a recommendation on the request for a 3-way stop but encouraged Stan to review guidance on the use of stop signs in MUTCD and if he still wanted to pursue it, to fill out the online sign request form. We also recommended that he gain the support of other residents in the area.

Request for 3-way stop at Berlin/S. Bolton Roads: PWSC voted against the request for a 3-way stop at the Berlin/S. Bolton Road intersections. Citing the absence of accidents at that intersection and a 30mph speed limit. PWSC has already implemented mitigation strategies at

this intersection, as well as at the Berlin/Fry Roads intersection. It was suggested that the left turn warning sign on Berlin Road could be moved closer to the intersection. We will consult with DPW.

Proposed Hudson distribution center: The Committee was made aware of a proposed 1.28 million square foot distribution center at the former Intel site on Technology Drive in Hudson. Mary stated that a Woobly Road resident had attended, and spoke at, a Hudson Planning Board meeting about her concerns for an increase in truck traffic on Woobly. Steve will contact Don Lowe to see if this is on the town's radar.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. Minutes submitted Mary Ciummo