

Public Ways Safety Committee Minutes
Bolton, Massachusetts
March 27, 2024

Members present: Mary Ciummo, Kathleen Andrews, Chris Strus, Shandy Carpenter, and Mike Keller

The meeting was held online via Zoom and called to order at 7:02 p.m.

The March 14, 2024 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved unanimously.

Green Road: Mary reported that she is still drafting a memo in response to the recent accident on Green Rd. The committee discussed an increase in pedestrian accidents in recent news across the state and what recommendations we might provide as it relates to Bolton roads such as Green road. Of particular concern is the use of Green Road by the NRHS sports teams for running, especially during the months of high solar glare during sports hours. The committee reviewed an email from 2023 with the HS athletic director about improving student safety practices and alternatives to Green road. Committee discussed having Chief Nelson or Lt. Hamburger write a note to the High school with tips and recommendations for runners (bright clothing, alternate roads, higher situational awareness, not wearing headphones, etc.).

Town-wide thickly settled district: enforcement policies in other towns Committee members continued to share communications with local Police Departments from Ayer, Sudbury, Littleton, Stow, and Boxborough, towns that have opted into MGL c. 90 section 17C. Most towns surveyed report that enforcement of the 25MPH limit is on all roads without an existing speed posting. They also indicate that their officers are instructed to use their discretion on issuing tickets vs warning especially during the initial roll-out to avoid developing adversarial relationship between officers and local PD. Kathleen reported that Stow did identify thickly settled roads and posed them on their website and local PD knows which roads but again has been instructed to use their discretion on ticket/warning of drivers. The committee is waiting on a response for Acton and will be compiling all the response with their final recommendation.

MPRCT/MART safety action plan The Committee discussed that the safe streets program could potentially provide funding to safety initiatives such as the purchase of the thick settled signs. Further contact with BPW director Randy Heiglin is required after he has time to review the action plan to provide further guidance to the committee's actions related to MPRCT.

Long Hill Rd No further actions is required from the committee at this time based on the prior meeting recommendations.

Meeting with town planner Committee agreed to meet with Town planner during next meeting April 10th at 5:30pm

Master Plan Mary will distribute master plan for review by committee to review the transportation breakdown as it relates to PWSC responsibilities

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m. Minutes submitted Christopher Strus