

**Public Ways Safety Committee Minutes**  
**Bolton, Massachusetts**  
**May 11, 2022**

**Members present:** Mary Ciummo, Shandy Carpenter, and Steve McKeown.

The meeting was held online via Zoom and called to order at 7:22 p.m., because of confusion over two zoom links, Mike Keller was unable to log into the meeting.

The April 27, 2022 minutes were reviewed and approved.

**Traffic sign request process:** Chief Nelson and Randy Heglin have approved the process. As the next step, the Committee approved sending a memo of the process to Don Lowe for his input.

**Update Traffic Rules and Order:** Mary has compiled a list with items that need to be added, but needs to check on the specific locations and directions of the signs. The completed list will be ready for the next meeting.

**Stop Sign Inventory:** Steve has completed the conditions list and will send to Randy. Included will be a question as to adding reflective strips on the poles.

**Resident Concern for Safety on Green Road:** A resident contacted town hall with a concern about cars driving at unsafe speeds along Green Road and the possibility for accidents, especially involving the high school track team that runs on Green Road. She would like to have the 35mph sign removed or some signage installed on Green Road. Mary will contact the resident for specific information. The Committee briefly discussed that regulatory speed signs cannot be removed, and if removed, the speed limit still remains the same. It was suggested to contact the track coach about the runners possible wearing safety vests. Safety issues have been on the Committee's radar for a number of years, and is hopeful that with recent infrastructure transportation funding the town will have more grant options available. One such grant is the federal SS4A grant for the development of a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan that could address the 117 corridor, and all the cut-through roads. A concern was raised about school busses idling on Green Road near the HS driveway entrance before elementary student pick-up in the morning; and the need for crosswalks or other line markings in the student parking lot due to an incident where a student was hit. It was recommended that the school liaison officer be contacted for information.

**Safe Streets for All and Vision Zero:** Mary attended the webinar for the SS4A grant and reported back to the Committee. Notes from the webinar are included at the end of these minutes.

**Lancaster development "The Landing"**– Article was pulled from Lancaster town meeting; the town needs more time to investigate the proposal. The Committee will continue to follow the progress of this development and its potential impact on Bolton roads.

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

### **Notes from Safe Streets and Roads For All (SS4A) Program Webinar (prepared by Mary Ciummo)**

Presenters: Emily Schweninger (Office of the Sec. U.S. Dept. of Trans.), Becky Crowe ( Fed. Hwy. Admin. – U.S. Dept. of Trans.), and Robin Hutcheson (Fed. Motor Carrier Safety Admin. – U.S. Dept. of Trans.)

Presentation was in two parts, followed by questions and answers.

Part I gave an introduction to roadway safety:

- Roadway Safety Overview: National Roadway Safety Strategy (info can be found at: [www.transportation.gov/NRSS](http://www.transportation.gov/NRSS)). Ultimate goal: vision zero.
- Proven roadway safety strategies: infrastructure (info can be found at <https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/provencountermeasures/>)
- Referred to NHTSA's report: Countermeasures That Work ([https://www.nhtsa.gov/sites/nhtsa.gov/files/2021-09/Countermeasures-10th\\_080621\\_v5\\_tag.pdf](https://www.nhtsa.gov/sites/nhtsa.gov/files/2021-09/Countermeasures-10th_080621_v5_tag.pdf))

Part 2 was about the SS4A grants ([www.transportation.gov/SS4A](http://www.transportation.gov/SS4A)):

- One billion annual funding over five years (FY22-26) to support local institutions to prevent death and serious injury on roads and streets – Vision Zero.
- 80% funded by federal govt., 20% locally funded. Not more than 15% of funds can be awarded to projects in a single state in a given year.
- There are two grants:
  1. To create a Comprehensive Safety Action Plan
  2. Implementation (must have an action plan): to update or enhance an existing action plan or to carry out projects and strategies identified in action plan.
- In order to apply need to obtain a Unique Entity Identifier through GSA (U.S. General Services Admin.). Process will take approx.. a month. For more resources for applying for grant go to [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).
- Release of Notice of Funding Opportunity for round one funding comes out May 2022 with deadline of Aug/Set. Subscribe to [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov) and [www.transportation.gov/SS4A](http://www.transportation.gov/SS4A) for up to date info.

More info:

They encourage joint applicants: several agencies working together to apply. An MPO can create a single action plan for all members, which can be good for smaller towns. They support regional approaches to highway safety. Sometimes multi-jurisdictional plans, although on a bigger scale, can have a lower cost.

Strategy should be broader than a corridor area. Project prioritization can start on a particular problem area and how it affects other areas.