

Public Ways and Safety Committee
June 23, 2021 meeting 6:02 pm
Steve McKeown, Shandy Carpenter, Mary Ciummo, Holly Lauer, Mike Keller
Guest: Valerie Oorthuys, Town Planner

The meeting minutes from May 26th and June 9th will be reviewed and approved at next meeting.

Introductions were made all around with the new Town Planner. She likes the concept of our committee. She has spent time in Stow as Town Planner and is familiar with complete streets policy, including spending 1 year on their prioritization plan. She was heavily involved with Howard Stein Hudson, which is the group our committee is familiar with when dealing with our complete streets policies and work. She worked with the Stow police department for accident and speed sign locations. We had some discussion on where we stand with our complete streets work. We also discussed the shared streets and spaces concerning horse traffic outlook for Bolton. The Landline Project is a plan to create trail connections both pedestrian and bicycle trails from Bolton east towards Boston. The Nashoba Natural Greenway has a route that goes through Bolton using existing roads. The mobility report could be used as a resource. Discussion was made on the advisory lanes on Green rd. that did not happen. We talked about residents concerns that our committee gets funneled to us from the town or police chief.

A project on Rt 111 through Boxborough to West Acton is a sidewalk project from the school to the Acton line is a Mass Works project. Extending already sidewalks that exist in segments. We need something like this on Rt. 117 to connect sidewalks that exist now. The town would have to be creative to install sidewalks due to obstacles, ex. Telephone poles and space going into the woods, proves to be issues. The Mass Works project by the high school the town is going to do the engineering with chapter 90 money.

We are still waiting on answers for the horse signs from DPW.

The police department looked at traffic and speed on Woobly Rd and speed was determined within limits.

We are going to keep committee meetings via Zoom.

Master plan update is to use the cafeteria at Sawyer school for a presentation in the future. Transportation needs input doing a mapping section. One map shows existing sidewalks and trails in town connections on conservation lands. The question would be to residents give the area a rating on traffic safety, stress level, infrastructure and safety and where do you want to connect to. Comfort level walking cycling Map 2 would show different types of roads and ones that have posted speed limits and unposted speed limits. Asking what roads you travel and what would you like to see improve to these roads. Commuting options do you want to see. Shuttles? Senior shuttle routes, shuttle to train routes.

Sidewalk reports need new developments added to survey. Sidewalk that goes up Wattaquodock road to be included on the survey.

Check intersections for brush overgrowth.

Summer meetings will be once a month during July and August. Which is July 28th and August 25th.

Submitted by: Mike Keller