

Subject: Notes on RTC 9 August 2018 meeting

Attendees

James Craig
Chris Bibbo
Tim Higgins
Ken Bassett
Jane Herlocher
John Vancor
Alex MacLean
Jennifer Burney

Guests

Ali Pinar, Fridolin Hill Road
Charles Anjon, Fridolin Hill Road
Bryan Ernst, Conant Road
Steve Carter, Fire Chief
Jean Burnell, Morningside Lane
Declan Murphy, Morningside Lane
Bob Wolfe, Cycling Safety Committee

1. "No Littering" signs for Old County Road

Mr. Pinar and Mr. Anjon described the constant littering problem that occurs on Old County Road between Trapelo and Route 2. They described the problem as long term and due in part to the remoteness of the area. As neighbors they have endeavored to help clean up the debris but are seeking the installation of signage that will raise awareness of the issue. Chris Bibbo indicated that Public Works attempts to collect debris from the area but that this is a Town wide effort and his staff can only devote limited time to the area.

Relative to the signage request, the Committee looks at each such request with the goal of minimizing sign proliferation in the public r.o.w's. In this case there are Cambridge Watershed signs already in place which could be amended to add the "no littering" message. Chris and Tim will proceed to work with Cambridge Watershed management to implement the proposal.

2. Morningside Circle planting

A preliminary proposal to remove pavement at the Morningside cul-de-sac and replace with a landscaped island was tabled. Neighbors as well as Chief Carter expressed concerns for public safety given the tighter turning conditions that would result.

3. Route 2A and Bedford Road safety review

James Craig summarized the multiple safety issues surrounding the 2A/Bedford Road intersection, including limited sight distances, setback stop line on Bedford Road, and sweeping turning movements. It was noted that the 2A corridor within Lincoln has safety issues in other locations and that a safety review of the entire corridor conducted by Mass DOT would be in order. The Park Service is supportive of such a review.

Based on the discussion of issues, it was agreed that the Selects and Tim Higgins would reach out to Mass DOT regarding a corridor study. Presumably the study would involve affected communities, private groups such as the cycling community and the Park Service.

4. Review of State Response to bike signs on Route 2A

James Craig noted that the bike signs installed on Route 2A differ from those installed by Lincoln given their emphasis on "share the road" versus the Lincoln wording of "may use full lane". From the cycling community's point of view the State wording raises a safety issue. It was noted that the topic could be included in a 2A safety review.

5. Bituminous curb dimensions

Chris described the practical difficulties related to implementing 8" wide cape berms versus 12". After discussion of the pros and cons of 8" versus 12" the RTC endorsed the 12" berm as the standard on future projects with the caveat that roads would not be widened over existing conditions to accommodate the wider berm. The net effect in some situations will be to reduce travel lanes by 4".

6. Update on Spring projects

Spring projects linked to the Complete Streets funding have been completed including bike path repairs, Route 117/Lincoln Road intersection improvements, cheese shop walk, bike path extensions on 117 and Route 126. etc. Funding for Phase 2 Complete Streets is uncertain at this time.

7. Minutes of the April 2018 RTC meeting were approved.