

DATE: January 14, 2021, 5:00pm

LOCATION: Virtual meeting pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law

PARTICIPANTS:

BPAC members present: Bob Wolf, Ginger Reiner, Doug Carson, Margaret Olson, Ian Spencer, Megan Kate Nelson

Non-committee members present: Jane Herlacher, David Loutzenheiser

Notes taken by: Megan Kate Nelson

Meeting Agenda

I. Welcome

II. Discussion

- **Advisory Shoulders pilot: Farrar Rd, Old Sudbury Rd (Ginger, Bob)**
 - December 2020 - Ginger and Bob previously had a meeting about Farrar Road with police Chief Kennedy, Chris Bibbo, John Vancor, and Ian Spencer regarding Farrar and they liked the idea, saw no problems with that road in terms of engineering; need more work on grade and measurements
 - January 12, 2021- Neighborhood meeting with Farrar Road residents and connecting streets regarding implementation of advisory shoulders - were about 20 people on the call - the majority were supportive - got one pedestrian's feedback against it, in that she does not feel unsafe and worries about how it will work, thinks cyclists are the problem. Concern that bike lanes would attract more cyclists, and also rural character location. Were happy to hear that advisory shoulders would be traffic calming.
 - Discussion of next steps:
 - Committee discusses taking this before the Planning Board sooner or later. We do not yet have an engineering drawing, and it might be good to go to them with it. Don't get too close to town meeting or will not get on the agenda.
 - Will get on the PB's agenda in the next few months.
 - January 20, 2021 - Margaret has meeting scheduled for discussion with Old Sudbury Road residents; she has emailed everyone on the neighborhood list
- **Master Plan: public meeting scheduling, next steps (Committee)**
 - January 7, 2021 - meeting last week with BPAC and interested community members; David L. presented a draft of a plan for organizing master plan projects and scheduling a public meeting in the future.
 - Bob emphasizes that this is a process, and that David's work on the infrastructure plan will then shift to BPAC's work with outreach.
 - Discussion:
 - Committee discusses how to proceed with education, enforcement, etc. sooner rather than later; after the Plan is completed, we will think on what we have time for.

- Public meeting: Ginger notes that town meeting has been pushed back (Margaret confirms - May) - David suggests that we should aim for March, before the town meeting. The public meeting will introduce all of the concepts and projects from the Master Plan - but it is an opportunity for people to weigh in all this; the Plan is not fully baked. Committee agrees to determine a date at the next meeting in February.
- **SeeClickFix (Doug)**
 - Doug had a meeting with people at this company, and talked a Sudbury [town official] who has been using it for 3 years. You have the app on your phone and if you see a problem, you take a picture and it goes off to Town Hall and DPW. It is customizable and limit the list of items people can call in. User receives notice that it has been received, and is informed when DPW goes out to fix it and completes the project.
 - Town departments can use it on the back end for budget purposes, can tie in to software they are currently using.
 - If there is an emergency alert re: conditions, the town can send out alerts directly to users.
 - The help line is very responsive.
 - Is a user/license based model; \$5000 a year is the base package for up to five town office users, and the rates increase as users increase. Additional fees for setup.
 - Many Massachusetts towns (many in MetroWest) are currently using it.
 - Discussion:
 - Committee discusses the cost, that it is compelling that so many other towns are using it, as is the fact that you can download the app for any town (so can report across town lines if you have downloaded it).
 - Some members of the Committee will try it out and begin informal conversations. Should we try to set up a meeting with Chris Bibbo and the Selectmen to recommend. Ian will talk to the Chief about it. If town officials take it and run with it, no further action needed. If not, we may need to write up a recommendation proposal.
- **Accident/near miss database (Megan)**
 - Megan reports on research into near-miss databases, which collect data on road user interactions that do not result in collisions [see separate, more detailed report in GoogleDocs file]
 - Investigated 3 sites, all of which have a slightly different focus and range of data collection
 - All require registration and log-in to report near-misses and (presumably) to see data for our locations
 - The data would be accessible to us, but we would not own it
 - Discussion:
 - there are issues with it - particularly the issue of recruiting other cyclists to register with the site / app to create a comprehensive enough database
 - how much access do we have to data if we don't register
 - Ian wonders if vetting the data is important to consider for bias or imbalance in reporting - if it is open-source, how do you know that it is legitimate; Margaret notes that the data collection may include location markers for the cell phones reporting, which could legitimate it
 - what are the incentives to report near-misses, and could these lead to more or fewer reports; apps themselves can drive engagement

- o the difficulty in doing outreach for this and ClickFix - might confuse a lot of people - possibility of integrating a near-miss report on ClickFix (not sure if this would data crunch for us with variables, though)
- o Bob reminds us of Stow's use of WikiMaps to create heat maps of road conditions and near misses
- Committee decides to come back to this in February; Doug and Margaret will investigate ClickFix custom button options so we know about that, and BPAC members will log on to the Near Miss sites to see what they have to offer.
- **Lincoln Landline map (David)**
 - The Landline is our regional trail and path network; Nashoba group had come up with this - David showed the committee the map they created
 - The map shows shared use paths, gaps, on-road low traffic roads, and high stress roads - to show us where we have work to do connecting up to the network, and to focus on the widest range of users as possible
 - The map can help us find existing paths in Lincoln that we can improve and connect up to other routes
 - Discussion:
 - o Committee discusses additions and elements of the map and potential upgrades, and what will work on a regional basis with the improvements we envision as part of the Master Plan, including Draper and Lincoln Road (dirt section).

III. Updates

- **Baker Bridge** (Ginger, Bob)
 - There are no updates. Will table discussion until next month.
- **Bike To School** (Ginger)
 - Ginger had good conversation with another school parent and he will help with future Bike to School events; he has ideas about recruiting more cyclists to help out through events and partnerships.
 - o Are thinking about concentrating events in just one week - if bike all 5 days you get a prize at the end, etc. - rather than once a month.
 - o Planning to have 1-2 days in the spring, with a broader group of parents organizing it, with help in promotion and planning from the police department
 - Ginger is planning a meeting for parents in 4-6 weeks to plan it.
- **Codman Farm Complete Streets path project** (Ginger)
 - The project is in progress; RTC is reviewing engineering drawings at a (near) future meeting. There have been community objections to the route and tree-cutting, but it is moving forward.
 - No other updates.
- **Additional item:** Ian reports bike crash on December 30, 2020, 11:30 a.m. - bike crash at the Five Way involving a car, box truck, and teen cyclist. The cyclist managed to avoid the collision by jumping off the bike, but he was injured.
 - o Committee agrees that we need to keep talking about how to deal with that intersection, which is dangerous for *all* users.
 - o Here is where near-miss data could be very useful for proposing fixes

IV. Action Items

- Approve minutes: Jan 7, Jan 12
 - The committee approved the minutes for January 7 meeting
 - The committee approves posting of Jan. 12 meeting notes with note that did not have a quorum, so not necessary to have the notes
- Next Meeting: Thursday February 11, 7:30pm