

Attendees  
Margaret Olson  
Chris Bibbo  
John Vancor  
Jonathan Dwyer  
Kevin Kennedy  
Paula Vaughan  
Ginger Reiner  
Bob Wolf  
Deb Howe  
Jane Herlacher

### **1. Approval of Minutes**

Adoption of the minutes of the 17 June 2021 RTC meeting were moved by Jonathan Dwyer and seconded by Chris Bibbo. The RTC members voted to approve.

### **2. Magnolia Path Status**

Chris Bibbo provided an update on the status of the project.

- Construction of the two stone walls will be the first phase of construction. Protection of existing trees will also be part of the first phase.
- Construction is expedited to start in one week.
- Chris is coordinating with the Dohertys on the transplanting of the existing shrub and perennial bed which is affected by the new stone wall.

### **3. Farrar Road Advisory Shoulder Update.**

- Comments were just received from FHWA. Chris, Chief Kennedy, John Vancor, Bob Wolf, and Ginger Reiner will convene to review the comments. Items mentioned based on a brief review included comments on advisory shoulder signage, questions as to how use of the new layout will be monitored, and compliance of other infrastructure elements with FHWA standards. Bob Wolf noted that informational signage proposed for Farrar is similar to other advisory shoulder projects implemented in Maine and other New England cities.
- John Vancor described the current proposal for a Route 126 crosswalk to be located on the south side of the Farrar Road intersection. Discussion focused on various design details, for which there was consensus on the following: 1) asphalt path connecting concrete aprons with embedded warning strips; 2) cobble infill of area between the path and the roadway edge/curb; 3) incorporate flashing pedestrian actuated warning signals.
- Funding for the flashing warning systems was discussed in the context of the Town's Complete Streets program. The current program and related funding is reaching completion and future funding of program components such as crosswalk warning systems would require a new plan. It was agreed that a new five year plan should be developed and that the plan's focus should be on programs rather than specific projects, thus affording more flexibility in how funds are applied.
- Criteria may need to be developed regarding the location of future pedestrian crosswalks and which crosswalks incorporate flashing warning systems. Factors to be considered could include adequate visibility of the crosswalk for approaching motorists, vehicular traffic volume and speed, existing or potential frequency of pedestrian traffic, etc.

- Prompted by comments provided by FHWA, the speed of traffic on Farrar Road was stated to be 35MPH while existing signs post the speed as 30 mph. This item was clarified and the reference to 35MPH was an error.
- Distinctions between statutory versus regulatory speed limits were discussed. Regulatory speed limits are established as being the 85th percentile of prevailing traffic speeds that exist. Changing speed limits to a lower level is a complex process involving field measurements and could in some cases actually result in setting higher speed limits. There was general agreement that this topic could lead to further investigation into the current process for setting speed limits with the goal of conducting a future study of traffic speed limits in Lincoln.

#### 4. MassDOT Route 126 Bridge Construction

- The proposed reconstruction of the Route 126 bridge over the RR tracks as outlined in the consultants letter of 22 June 2021 led to comments on bridge design related to travel lane/pedestrian/cyclist lane widths, historic context, landscape and hardware treatments, etc. Paula's letter to MassDOT dated 26 August incorporates RTC and BPAC comments.
- A specific request was made for the project to include an emitter device that will enable emergency vehicles during the construction phase to override the temporary signal system.

#### 5. Upcoming Road Work

- Chris reviewed upcoming road work currently under contract as well as work on Mill Street that is in the planning stage.
- On a related matter the maintenance of roadside landscape on the approaches to Lees Bridge on Route 117 was questioned. Weed growth has detracted significantly from the appearance of this reconstructed historic bridge.

#### 6. Route 2A

- JD updated the committee on recent interaction with Minuteman National Park staff regarding Lincoln's and neighboring Town's design recommendations for the 2A corridor repaving project. Park representatives discussed their preparations for what is anticipated to be a large volume of visitors related to the 250th celebration.
- While the Park is focused on the event planning for visitors, it was noted that the Park and the communities it resides in need to integrate their respective goals and together obtain positive changes to the function and appearance of a revitalized roadway corridor.