

Scarborough Transportation Committee

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order & Attendance
 - a. Members Present: Jen Ladd (Chair), Roger Beeley (Planning Board Liaison), Tuck Barclay, Marvin Gates (Long Range Planning Rep), Nick McGee (Council Liaison), Craig Robinson (joined at 7:05PM)
 - b. Staff Present: Angela Blanchette (Town Engineer) and Autumn Speer (Planning Director)
2. Approval of Meeting Minutes August 22, 2023
 - a. Tabled until next meeting
3. Public Comment:
 - a. Jen Ladd requested to move the Public Comment agenda item to the beginning of the meeting to accommodate the members present in the room.
 - b. Averyl Hill – 14 Maple Avenue, provided the following comments (and then submitted by email on 10/30/2023 for the record):

My name is Averyl Hill and I live on Maple Avenue. Two weeks ago, I formed a group for people concerned about dangerous driving in our neighborhood. Every single person I have spoken with is deeply concerned about and afraid of the increase in traffic violations, particularly running stop signs, speeding and driving in crosswalks while people are in them. Please be clear this is not a new problem but one that has been growing along with the increase of traffic on our town's roads. On my little stretch of Maple Avenue alone there are over a dozen small children and visiting grandchildren who are often outside playing, riding scooters or bikes, walking to and from the school bus stop as well as the many people walking, jogging, pushing strollers and walking their dogs. Cars, construction vehicles and trucks despite a "no thru truck" sign routinely use Maple Avenue as a cut-through street. Drivers speed, ignore stop signs and two weeks ago a car almost ran me over in a crosswalk but I was able to run out of the way. Just yesterday while out walking, both times while crossing Maple Ave in the crosswalk by the school bus stop on Sunset, turning cars from Sunset onto Maple did not stop at the stop sign before turning and drove "around" me while I was in the crosswalk. When I speak with others in the neighborhood I am hearing similar stories. One neighbor shared that there was a collision between a car and a scooter; I do not have a police report regarding that at this time. I have invited my neighbors to submit their concerns to the Town Engineer. I recently met with Police Chief Holmquist to discuss the addition of speed tables and was told that the town does not use them and this has been confirmed by the Town Engineer and Manager. I find this shocking and puzzling. In fact the town was advised of the necessity of speed tables all the way back in 1997 by William J. Bray, a Traffic Consultant hired by the town. I have a copy of the report. We NEED raised

speed tables NOW, especially at crosswalks. While I greatly appreciate the time, our public safety spends on enforcement, they can't be there 24/7 or even a fraction of that time. It's tragic that the most convincing traffic study is sometimes unplanned, which is when someone gets killed. We have been in contact with the town council and per our discussions with them will be reaching out for a meeting with them soon to further press this need for our safety.

- c. Additional comments were made by Seth Fernald (45 Maple Ave) and Stephanie Jackson (61 Maple Ave) regarding speeds on Maple Avenue and motorist not stopping at stop signs.

4. Transportation Open House Debrief

- a. Review of Mobility / Capacity Areas of Concern
 - Participants ranked their top 3 areas in Town where mobility and capacity of our streets were a concern and need attention. The highest ranking were
 - 1) Oak Hill intersection (along with many other locations on the Route 1 corridor)
 - 2) Payne Rd (focused on the section from Exit 42 to Gorham Rd intersection)
 - 3) Gorham Rd (multiple areas specified from the Municipal Campus to County Rd)
 - 4) Other locations were identified and are on the spreadsheet attached.
- b. Review of Strength, Weakness, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT Analysis)
 - General feedback was Access management and other safety concerns at Oak Hill intersection, continuing the work on Gorham Rd near the Nonesuch River crossing, filling in sidewalk and bike lane gaps throughout town (including both sides of Rt 1), along with many other comments that are attached.
- c. Review of Re-envisioning Haigis Parkway SWOT Analysis
 - General feedback was that this was a blank canvas with a wide right-of-way that provides the opportunities to do many things; safer biking and walking. The concern was with speeds on this corridor. The feedback provided has been attached.
- d. Review Bike / Pedestrian Locations of Concern
 - We reviewed the Stressor map that was created by residents providing their 4 locations of greatest concern for walking or biking in Town.
 - The map identified a variety of locations with main focus on the Oak Hill intersection, Payne Road, and Gorham Rd. A map showing the locations is attached to these minutes.
- e. Review General Feedback directly to Staff
 - Staff continues to receive feedback from residents and has provided the information up to when the packet was sent to committee members. Additional feedback includes many neighborhoods requesting traffic calming measures, these include: Maple Avenue, Payne Rd (Heritage Acres area), Higgins Beach (including Spurwink Rd), Pine Point, Winnocks Neck, Prouts Neck, Oak Hill, Sawyer Rd, Downs Rd, and Blue Point.
 - Additional areas of concern from residents is regarding delays at our intersections including: Oak Hill, Gorham Rd (North Scarborough area), Broadturn Rd at Rt 1, Beech Ridge Rd at Holmes Rd, Payne Rd at Holmes Rd, Payne Rd at Mussey Rd, Payne Rd at Gorham Rd, and Payne Rd at Cummings Rd.
 - Angela let the Committee know that the Maple Avenue resident feedback was not on the Stressor map because that information was not provided by the neighborhood until after the committee packet was released, however this will be updated. We continue to request information from this neighborhood as well as others to help inform the overall Transportation Study.

5. Additional Public Comment Taken:

- a. Tim Lambert, 12 Iris Dr clarified his comments related to Haigis Parkway improvements. He believes that the need is greater in other areas of town, specifically Route 1 and Payne Rd. Safe bike facilities are needed along these corridors. He also mentioned the need for sidewalk repair from Blue Point School to the Eastern Trail.

~ Meeting Adjourned ~