

TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN – BOARD OF SELECTMEN

ANNUAL TRAFFIC HEARING – MARCH 14, 2000

JUDGE WELSH HEARING ROOM

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Chairman, Betty Steele-Jeffers opened the meeting at 7 PM, noting the following attendees:

Board of Selectmen members: Elizabeth Steele-Jeffers, Cheryl Andrews, Mary-Jo Avellar, David Atkinson, Richard Prowell and Vernon Porter, Secretary to the Board of Selectmen. Other attendees: Robert Anthony - Chief of Police, Donald Richards, David Guertin, Director – DPW, Sandra Turner, Operations Director – DPW.

The following are minutes in brief:

1 ANNUAL TRAFFIC HEARING

Item 1

Implement Conwell Street Corridor Study: *Short Term Steps* (1) Crosswalks, stop lines and centerlines, (2) Route 6 Pedestrian button sign, (3) Pedestrian/bicycle pathway with attendant directional and traffic calming signs, (4) Traffic calming techniques; *Long Term Steps* (1) Sidewalks and/or bicycle accommodations on Conwell St. North, (2) Harry Kemp Way/Duarte Parking Lot, (3) access management. [Submitted by Transportation Team]

Recommendations follow the format of the Transportation Team memo dated September 9, 1999. The addition of Sandy Turner to the Team as DPW Director of Operations has helped the Team to focus on the steps to implementation. The Team expects a delay in the construction of the sidewalk on the West Side of Conwell Street from Route 6 to Cemetery Road due to an unanticipated cut back in Chapter 90 funding.

Short Term Recommendations

- 1) **Crosswalks/Stop Lines and Center Lines.** The crosswalk at Bradford Street and Conwell Street will be installed by DPW. The first stop line will be installed on Harry Kemp Way at the Conwell Street intersection. A second stop line will be painted on Cemetery Road at the Conwell Street intersection. In addition, there will be a 20 foot center line added on Cemetery Road to channel traffic and define Cemetery Road as a two-way street. State DPW approval will be obtained for the State portion of Conwell Street.

MOTION: Move that the Board of Selectmen approve Short Term Recommendation number one as submitted by the Transportation Team.

Motion by: David Atkinson **Seconded by:** Mary-Jo Avellar Yea 5 Nay 0

- 2) **Route 6 Pedestrian Button Sign.** DPW will install the sign with the approval of State DPW.

MOTION: Move that the Board of Selectmen approve Short Term Recommendation number two as submitted by the Transportation Team.

Motion by: David Atkinson **Seconded by:** Cheryl Andrews Yea 5 Nay 0

- 3) **Pedestrian/bicycle pathway with appropriate directional and traffic calming techniques.** Further

action pending a Cape Cod Commission peak season traffic study to be conducted this summer. This will test the feasibility of a pedestrian/bike route down Cemetery Road, through the cemetery pathway to Standish Avenue to Standish Street.

MOTION: Move that the Board of Selectmen approve Short Term Recommendation number three as submitted by the Transportation Team.

Motion by: David Atkinson Seconded by: Richard Prowell Yea 5 Nay 0

- 4) **Traffic Calming techniques.** DPW Highway will review the Cape Cod Commission traffic calming recommendations and adapt them to best suit the intersection at Harry Kemp St. and Conwell St.; DPW Highway will review the traffic calming recommendations for the State owned portion of Conwell with State DPW officials before making final recommendations.

MOTION: Move that the Board of Selectmen approve Short Term Recommendation number four as submitted by the Transportation Team.

Motion by: David Atkinson Seconded by: Mary-Jo Avellar Yea 5 Nay 0

Long Term Recommendations

- 1) **Sidewalks and/or bicycle accommodations on Conwell St. North.** As with short term recommendation # 3, further action pending the Cape Cod Commission peak season traffic study on locating the pedestrian/bicycle path along Cemetery Rd. For the raised sidewalk, DPW will investigate the permitting through the State DPW and obtain a construction price. DPW will further determine if enough funding is available with the reduced Chapter 90 allocations.

MOTION: Move that the Board of Selectmen approve Long Term Recommendation number one as submitted by the Transportation Team.

Motion by: David Atkinson Seconded by: Mary-Jo Avellar Yea 5 Nay 0

- 2) **Harry Kemp Way/Duarte Parking Lot.** Creation of an easement through the Duarte Parking Lot for a pedestrian way is beyond the scope of the Team. The Team recommends obtaining an opinion from Town Council on the liability implications to the Town of creating a public pedestrian way over private land.

MOTION: Move that the Board of Selectmen DO NOT approve the Long Term Recommendation number two as submitted by the Transportation Team. Further, that this item be place as a regular item on the Board of Selectmen Agenda and that the Duarte's be contacted in person and that a letter be sent inviting them to attend this meeting.

Motion by: David Atkinson Seconded by: Richard Prowell Yea 5 Nay 0

- 3) **Access Management.** Procedure for the raised sidewalk from Route 6 to Cemetery Rd. has been discussed above; For the short term, calming effects will be through painting; in the future we will investigate the feasibility of raised islands or expanding the size of the present Island at Harry Kemp Way and Conwell St.

MOTION: Move that the Board of Selectmen approve Long Term Recommendation number three as submitted by the Transportation Team.

Motion by: David Atkinson Seconded by: Mary-Jo Avellar Yea 5 Nay 0

Item 2

Improve pedestrian crosswalks at intersection of Bradford Street and Standish Street. *[Submitted by Michael Fernandes]*

Team Recommendation: The Team recommends placing a barrel weighted with sand with a crosswalk sign in the middle of the crosswalk running from the Cumberland Farms to the West corner of Standish St. The Team feels that this along with the existing crosswalks will solve the problem.

MOTION: *Move that the Board of Selectmen to approve Item 2 as recommended by the Transportation Team.*

Motion by: David Atkinson Seconded by: Mary-Jo Avellar Yea 5 Nay 0

Item 3

Change Nickerson Street to two-way from Commercial to Bradford. Nickerson Street is presently one-way south-bound from Bradford to Commercial. *[Submitted by Anita Berman]*

Team Recommendation: The Team recommends no. There are tight intersections at both Commercial St. and Tremont St. plus restricted visibility at the Tremont and Nickerson intersection. Cars can turn at each of the next two blocks, Soppier St. and West Vine St.

MOTION: *Move that the Board of Selectmen vote to deny Item 3 as recommended by the Transportation Team.*

Motion by: David Atkinson Seconded by: Mary-Jo Avellar Yea 5 Nay 0

Item 4

To remove new compact car parking space in Ryder Street Parking Lot, because it blocks driveway at 284A Commercial Street. *[Submitted by Carol Pugliese]*

Team Recommendation: After taking on-site measurements, the Team recommends removal of the space. This space does block access to the driveway at 284A Commercial St. We measured the space up to the area marked off for the driveway. A compact car space should be 7.5 ft. by 15.5 ft. The existing space is only 7 ft. by 11 ft. The Parking Department Metro hangs out more than 2 ft. into the driveway. Recommend replacing the sign with a No Parking Tow Zone sign.

MOTION: *Move that the Board of Selectmen approve Item 4 as recommended by the Transportation Team.*

Motion by: Mary-Jo Avellar Seconded by: Richard Prowell Yea 5 Nay 0

Item 5

Whorfs Court Traffic Issues: have "Dead End" sign face both directions and a "No Outlet" warning be added. *[Submissions by Cilla Lyon, William Vukowich, Jeane Barry, Robert Weatherbee, Michael Valvo, and Giannalda Fontana]*

Team Recommendation: Recommend replacing the single East facing Dead End sign, with two signs under the Whorfs Court Street sign. Signs would face both directions. Signs to read: DEAD END NO PEDESTRIAN THROUGHWAY. The Team does want to point out that Whorfs Court is a public way and we cannot stop cars bicycles or pedestrians from using it.

MOTION: *Move that the Board of Selectmen not approve the as recommended by the Transportation Team on Item 5 but instead place a back-to-back "Dead End" sign only.*

Motion by: Mary-Jo Avellar Seconded by: Betty Steele-Jeffers Yea 5 Nay 0

Item 6

Traffic issues at the intersection of Standish Street and Cemetery Road. Change Standish Street "one-way traffic" direction from north to south, and designate Standish Street as a Resident Parking zone.
[Submitted by Mindy Baransky]

Team Recommendation: The Team has previously expressed reservations about changing the direction of Standish St. but agreed to withhold our final recommendation until the Cape Cod Commission completes a peak season traffic study of Standish St. and the surrounding streets this summer.

MOTION: *Move that the Board of Selectmen to deny the request to change Standish Street "one-way traffic" direction from north to south.*

Motion by: Mary-Jo Avellar Seconded by: David Atkinson Yea 4 Nay 0
(Cheryl Andrews left the room at 7:50 PM)

The Team would agree to make Standish St. a Resident Parking Zone as per the guidelines set up for Alden St. and Priscilla Alden Rd. Approximately 13 Resident spaces could be created.

MOTION: *Move that the Board of Selectmen approve the request to designate Standish Street as a Resident Parking zone.*

Motion by: Mary-Jo Avellar Seconded by: David Atkinson Yea 4 Nay 0

Item 7

Cheryl Andrews returned at 7:54 PM

Make Fritz's Way, (the new extension of Conant St.) one-way north from Conant Street to Brown Street, to create a one-way street northbound from Bradford to Brown Street.
[Submitted by Richard Faust]

Team Recommendation: The Team recommends approval. Fritz's Way and the new extension of Conant St. are narrow and this maintains the one-way flow on Conant St. from Bradford St. to Brown St.

MOTION: *Move that the Board of Selectmen approve Item 7 as recommended by the Transportation Team.*

Motion by: Mary-Jo Avellar Seconded by: David Atkinson
Yea 4 Nay 0 Abstain 1 (Richard Prowell)

Item 8

Increase driveway restriction on West side of driveway at 67 Bradford Street by 10 feet and eliminate single space between driveway's east side and corner of Carver Street. This driveway services a 15-car parking lot for the Brass Key Guesthouse.
[Submitted by Michael MacIntyre/ Brass Key Guesthouse]

Team Recommendation: The Team recommends no. The Board policy has been to preserve all on street parking spaces wherever feasible. This proposal would cause the elimination of two spaces on Bradford St. The driveway restrictions at this location have already been extended once in both directions. Cars extending over the line are an enforcement issue. The single space at the corner of Bradford and Carver is already set back both at the driveway exit and the corner. Pulling out of the driveway, we judged there to be an adequate view of westbound traffic.

MOTION: *Move that the Board of Selectmen concur with the recommendation by the Transportation Team and deny this request. Further that the current space East on Bradford Street possible be changed to a compact space; to be determined by the Chief of Police.*

Motion by: Mary-Jo Avellar Seconded by: David Atkinson
Yea 4 Nay 0 Abstain 1 (Richard Prowell)

Item 9

Businesses basing their operations on Town owned property should be paying fair market value for their spaces i.e.: dune tours, trolleys, carriages, taxis, etc. All vehicles transporting passengers should be leaving and arriving at the transportation center near the MPL. [Submitted by David Atkinson]

Team Recommendation: The Team would like policy guidance from the Board of Selectmen before recommending increases to Permit fees, which have not been increased since 1990. Each meter on Standish Street brings in approximately \$700 per season and those on Ryder Street approximately \$650 per season. However, at the 1998 Traffic Hearing the Selectmen voted against a Parking Department recommendation to increase permits by 10% and voted to eliminate the \$100 Taxi permit fee. The Team does not recommend having dune tours, trolleys and carriages use the transportation center because it is already being used close to capacity by buses. Even though the variable message signs have eased some of the congestion, Lope Square is still extremely congested and restrictive to large vehicles. We now get up to 25 buses per day and VSB promotions should bring more. The proposed shuttle system will add 4 buses per hour. There are many times during the summer when we run out of spaces to load and unload buses. Adding these new categories could exacerbate the problem.

Item withdrawn by David Atkinson.

2 PUBLIC HEARING – DUNE TOUR: Share Use of Existing Taxi Spaces on Standish St.

Although there were no objections to the Silva's having a business in Provincetown, the following people spoke in favor of Art's Dune Tours continuing the use of the current allotted spaces and not to have to share them with the Silva's. Additional letters of support for Art's Dune Tours were read. (Attached)

Sharon Baker, Michael Glasfeld, Chris Cooper, Yvonne Cabral, Carrie Medina, Robert Coane, Pat Costa, Bobby Cabral, Beta Cook, Roger Chauvette, Colin Brown, Martha Henrique, Stephan Nofield, Pauline Richmond, Rob Costa, Ray Sparks, Lisa Casselano, Custodio Silva

Rob Costa presented the Board with a list of approximately 700 signatures from Provincetown citizens asking that the Board of Selectmen to give the new dune tour company their own space in another location and to let Art's Dune Tours stay where they are.

A concern of both the Costa's and Silva's was that they both be able to run a business in Provincetown. The Silva's wanted to make it clear that they were not requesting to use the same spaces currently used by Art's Dune Tours but that in fact it was told to them by the Chief of Police and Don Richards, Parking Administrator that they had to share the spaces as other business have done in the past.

The general consensus of the Board of Selectmen is to look into other alternatives and to specifically look into the spaces indicated for loading and unloading on Ryder Street extension.

MOTION: Move that the Board of Selectmen table this item until Monday, March 20,2000 and further that Chief Anthony and Don Richards look into the possibility of other alternatives and come back to the Board with recommendations that will accommodate both parties.

Motion by: David Atkinson Seconded by: Mary-Jo Avellar Yea 5 Nay 0

Motion to adjourn by David Atkinson at 9:40 PM.

Minutes transcribed by: Vernon Porter, Secretary
March 17, 2000

