

## Minutes of the Traffic Committee (TC) Meeting, August 23, 2023

Attending: Robin Barr (council member), Elizabeth Hurwit (chair), Sherry Khanna (member), David Leibovitch (member), Kumar Vaswani (chair, Public Safety Committee), Anne Yap (member)

### COMMENCED: 7:05 pm

1. Approved **minutes** of 7/13/23 meeting.
2. Recommended moving the **lighted stop signs** from Falstone/Warwick to Dorset/Surrey intersection (on Dorset, visible when heading west) and Dorset/Devon (on Dorset, visible when heading west) after pool closed for season. No clear information from manufacturer on other possible settings for lights, and no consensus on what a better setting might be, so we will not make that change.  
→Elizabeth to write Matt re Town crew moving signs after September 11
3. Discussed next steps in advocating for **photo enforcement of stop signs**. Although Delegate Sara Love, a member of the Maryland House Environment & Transportation Committee, originally opposed deployment of stop sign cameras, Delegate Marc Korman is that committee's new chair and may be open to the idea. (See also attached email from Kumar to Elizabeth, dated 1/12/22, re original automated traffic enforcement bill.)  
→Robin to contact Marc Korman and maybe Sara Love to see about introducing a more narrowly scoped bill for automated enforcement  
→TC/Town Council to solicit views of Chief of Police of Montgomery County at his annual meeting with Town to see if he can support such a bill
4. Apparently, Town Council has not taken second vote (after receiving additional information from TC) on whether the **inventory of parking-related signs** can be contracted out. Agreed these signs need to be inventoried not only for inconsistencies with Town code but also for logic and desirability. Would be better to have a consultant review.  
→Robin to ask Matt about status
5. Followed up on **various concerns** residents have brought to TC:
  - a. **Greystone/River intersection**: has Matt heard back from State Highway Administration? and from Delegate Korman/Councilmember Andrew Friedson (who have been working together to improve safety along the MD-190 corridor)?  
→Robin to ask Matt about status
  - b. **Obscured stop signs** (three needing immediate maintenance in the Fehr and Peers late 2022 study [#47 on Warwick, #68 on Cumberland, #108 on Surrey]): have these been taken care of? The one at **Cumberland/Surrey** was not cleared until 8/23 by new Town residents across the street!  
→Robin to ask Matt about status of Fehr and Peers sign maintenance recommendations  
→Anne to meet new residents and inform them Town to maintain

- c. **Pylon on Dorset at Little Falls/related issue of walk lights for crossing LFP:** has Matt heard back from MNCPPC regarding pylon?  
→Robin to ask Matt about pylon status  
→Anne to write Marc Korman's office (again) to register concerns and ask for further Maryland Dept. of Transportation assistance
  
6. Discussed confusion over **policing program** and TC current view that police presence is not increasing stop sign compliance, which was main goal when Ad Hoc TC recommended Council double police hours/budget in 2019. Funds for program do not seem well spent. Other committees may want to consider working with Matt to develop and implement a policing policy for other public safety needs. But the TC is looking into alternative methods for increasing traffic safety.  
→Elizabeth to draft TC memo to Town Council recommending that policing program not be used for our purposes  
→TC to vote on recommendation at next meeting
  
7. In **other business** confirmed the **Dewberry Road Plan** is not an overall master plan but a review of sidewalk and street conditions for resurfacing and repair purposes and for ADA compliance. Traffic calming infrastructure would be separate future undertaking, which TC will want to pursue. How speed bumps will be handled when resurfacing occurs is a current concern. Speed bump at 4824 Dorset, for example, diminished to the point of ineffectiveness after recent repaving.  
→Elizabeth to write Matt re speed bumps
  
8. Next meeting: Wednesday September 20, 7:00pm.

**ADJOURNED: 8:30 pm**