

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 22-2014 WABAN AREA COUNCIL STREET-SIDEWALK WORKING GROUP

Attendees: Andreae Downs - Waban Area Councilor and Chair of WAC's Street & Sidewalk Working Group; Barbara Bower - Waban Area Councilor; Maureen Reilly-Meagher - Waban Area Council V.P.; Joe Corkery - Waban Area Councilor; Sallee Lipshutz – Waban Area Council President. Ward 5 Alderman-at-Large Brian Yates. Neighbors: Robin Neray, Deborah Coppa, Sam Coffin, Judy Kohn, Carole Grossman, Nelson Lipshutz, Carl Norris, Deena David, Robert Cantin, Patricia Cantin, Nancy Mansbach, and Barbara Brustowicz.

In response to neighbors' requests that the Waban Area Council help address speeding and cutting through from Chestnut to Quinobequin on Tamworth-Radcliffe, Andreae Downs made a short presentation on what residents or City engineers could do to calm traffic. She used a Power Point presentation (attached) to illustrate engineering options, including "raised intersections," "curb extensions" at corners and mid-block "chicanes". She also explained which options the City and/or the Fire Department would actively oppose (e.g., speed bumps, as dangerous for patients in emergency vehicles as it interrupts CPR administration). (To learn more about what other mechanisms **might** be workable for this neighborhood problem, see the attached power point presentation.)

Andreae stressed that the City already has a long list of approved traffic calming measures for other streets, which have not yet been funded. Any new traffic calming request would have to be approved, and then would go on that list, awaiting funding.

If the neighborhood has clear consensus on traffic calming measures, it is more likely to get approved (and on the list).

However, City staff are interested in piloting some new storm water cleaning infrastructure that could help it meet a new EPA permit. If the neighborhood is willing to adopt a pilot, it might stand a chance of getting earlier funding.

After showing the PP slides, Andreae answered questions about the mechanisms for traffic calming and pointed out that the pilot program would likely mean that the neighbors would be asked to "adopt" areas near their properties to ensure water cleansing maintainability (clearing out trash/leaves from defined areas).

When asked if anyone objected to any aspect of the pilot program, no one indicated that they did. There was clear consensus that the neighbors saw a request for this pilot program as a win-win situation for the neighborhood and the City.

Alderman Brian Yates suggested that the item be brought back to the entire Waban Area Council for approval and that, if that approval were obtained, he offered to docket an item through the Public Safety Committee to move the idea to be considered by the City.

-Submitted by Sallee Lipshutz and Andreae Downs