

From: rrcexec <rrcexec@regulatoryresearch.com>
Subject: FW: FW: Waban Area Council Meeting March 13, 2014 Agenda
Date: March 20, 2014 9:26:11 AM EDT
To: 'Kathryn Winters' <winters41@me.com>

From: William Paille [mailto:paillew1019@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 10:14 PM
To: rrcexec@regulatoryresearch.com
Subject: Fwd: FW: Waban Area Council Meeting March 13, 2014 Agenda

Sallee,

I apologize but I will not be able to make the meeting on Thursday. My youngest daughter plays basketball for the 6th grade Medway Travel Basketball Team and they are playing in the semi-finals Thursday night. I will do everything possible to be at the next meeting. Until then, I submit the following:

1. Add-a-Lane Construction Timeline: All I know is the project was advertised last fall which does not mean they are ready to break ground. I will ask Larry Cash from MassDOT and let you know before the meeting on Thursday.
2. The traffic counts performed last fall: Relative to the Route 9/I-95 corridor, automatic Turning Movement counts were performed using tubes laid across the roadway along Quinobequin Road at two locations, north of East Quinobequin Road toward the Rte 16 end and just north of the intersection with the Route 9 Access Ramp. In addition, ATR counts were performed on the Rte 9 access ramp, east of Chestnut Street. Manual Turning Movement counts were performed by technicians at the intersection of Quinobequin Road and Radcliff Road to better understand turning movements there.

I recall you questioned why counts were not performed on Chestnut Street. With the primary focus of these counts to serve as a baseline of traffic coming off the ramp to avoid Route 9 traffic and diverting onto Quinobequin Road and not Chestnut Street which is already a primary connection from Rte 9 to Commonwealth Avenue, I did not see the need to know the volume of traffic on Chestnut. Now, you know as well as I, that once construction of the interchange begins, traffic coming down that ramp is likely to increase and the City will have to work with MassDOT to address. However, should there still be a substantial increase in traffic down the ramp after construction is complete, then we will take a closer look.

3. Improvements along Beacon Street near the Angier School: The project includes funding for off-site improvements to improve roadway geometry, replace traffic signals, new sidewalks, new utilities, street lighting, etc along Beacon Street from west of the school site to Woodland and along Collins Road from Beacon Street to Waban Road. Also, improvements may include a new pedestrian activated signal (i.e. HAWK) at the T crosswalk on Beacon and new traffic signals at the Beacon/Woodland intersection. We are also looking at improving the sidewalks/parking along the section of Beacon Street from the bridge to Woodland. The city still needs to complete ground survey and finalize the design which is going to take all summer. When we have a preliminary design we will present to the community.

4. Implementing a temporary fix along the section of Beacon Street from the bridge to Woodland has been a challenge. It may be possible to install a temporary pedestrian activated signal at the T crosswalk...I started to investigate this last fall and ran out of time as winter set in. I will at a minimum repaint the crosswalks at the upper and lower end...the signage is already there...I am also trying to improve the lighting there as well and this summer all of the overhead lights will be upgraded to LED's.

5. Someone also asked about the Waban Library parking lot but I am not involved in that

and do not know the plan or funding. I thought public buildings was involved in that and will ask the Director Josh Morse about it and push as much as I can.

Again, I apologize for not being able to attend. I know these issues are very important to you and so many others. Not sure if you know but my Transportation Engineer, Patrick Baxter, left the city in January so not only have I been working double-duty but also trying to fill the position. The good thing is we found someone and he starts on Monday. His name is Zach Bosch and he is going to be a tremendous help to me and the Transportation Division to address some of these concerns.

Regards,

Bill

----- Forwarded message -----

From: William Paille <wpaille@newtonma.gov>

Date: Tue, Mar 11, 2014 at 8:50 AM

Subject: FW: Waban Area Council Meeting March 13, 2014 Agenda

To: paillew1019@gmail.com

From: rrcexec [mailto:rrcexec@regulatoryresearch.com]

Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 6:50 PM

To: wpaille@newtonma.gov

Subject: Waban Area Council Meeting March 13, 2014 Agenda

Hi Bill:

I have attached a copy of the Agenda for the March 13 meeting of the Waban Area Council to take place at 7:30pm in Room 209 of City Hall. We will likely begin our Add-A-Lane discussion at approximately 7:55. As you can see from the Agenda, we would like to have you speak to 1)the current timeline for commencing the Add-A-Lane construction; 2) the traffic counts and the selection of the sites where counts were done; 3) your developing plan for Beacon Street through Newton (presumably with Angier mitigation funds) and 4) the possibility that there could be put in place a temporary "fix" for a visually impaired resident who is having tremendous difficulty negotiating the crossing between the Upper and Lower Squares of Waban on Beacon Street in the business district.

Thank you very much for agreeing to speak to these important Waban issues. We are looking forward to seeing you this Thursday.

Sallee Lipshutz

President, Waban Area Council

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617-965-1379

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