

Borough of Hightstown
Complete Streets Committee

9/22/2021 – Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

6:30 pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81559201609?pwd=bklxK1d4Mkx2MEIzL2FJYWdFNhFhOdz09>

Meeting ID: 815 5920 1609

Passcode: 7DCH0n

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CALL TO ORDER

STATEMENT: Adequate notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231. Said notice was provided to the *Trenton Times* and the *Windsor-Hights Herald* and is posted in the Borough Clerk's office.

• **Roll Call**

Member	Attended	Absent
Council Member Joe Cicalese, Chair	X	
Council Member Steve Misiura, Vice-Chair	X	
Beverly Asselstine, Secretary, Planning Board representative	X	
Dave Zaiser, Environmental Commission representative	X	
Brian Clissold	X	
Tim Troxler	X (late)	

- Approval of Agenda **Approved with changes**
- Approval of Minutes **Approved**

DISCUSSION

- Review discussion with HPD from August **Steve reported that he had met with the Police Chief and Sargent, along with Councilwoman Bluth and the Borough Administrator to discuss ongoing concerns about traffic and trucks. Prior to the meeting the Police had completed an additional traffic study. Key points: there are a large number of vehicles traveling on North Main Street (66,277 during the study period of Aug 10 to Aug 17). A very small percentage are large trucks (.2% or 143). The average speed is 27 MPH. 7% are enforceable violations (speeding by more than 8 MPH). Compared to other communities in Mercer County, Hightstown issues more tickets per capita. The placement of the speed monitor does slow traffic. Previous speed data collected by Greater Mercer TMA shows volumes that are too low (likely due to location of equipment, interference, etc.) Enforcement recommendations: rotating target locations throughout the Borough, add stop signs wherever we can (3/4 way on local roads, such as Cranbury Station and Wyckoff Mills Road, Summit and Prospect). Discussion and recommendations from the Committee: Create a signage plan so that new signs can be purchased at once for all locations in the Borough where we want enhancements. Request that the Police continue to collect additional speed data and do it a way that is methodical with consistent reporting so that we can monitor over time. Bev will send the Greater Mercer TMA report to the Borough Administrator to be shared with Council for their information. The group will continue to meet on a regular basis going forward on these important issues and Steve will report back to the Committee.**
- Current traffic issues reported by the public
Members of the public joined to continue the discussion about traffic: Barbara Klapsogorge, Jeff Epstein, Michelle Demak Epstein, Howard Levine.
The residents of North Main Street participated in the discussion about the speed data and discussion with the Police. They reported having productive discussions with County representatives who were working on improvements on North Main. They continue to be concerned about trucks and unsafe driving. They are concerned about no turn signs for trucks heading south on North Main through East Windsor, leaving no options other than to drive into Hightstown.
- County project update **Bev reported on progress made since the last meeting. The Borough Attorney drafted a letter with a commitment to**

enforce speeding violations on Stockton and Monmouth Street, which was sent to the County at their request in order to satisfy their safety concerns with Shared Road Bicycle markings if vehicles speed. With this letter and the completion of the paving work, the painting contractors were engaged to complete the projects: Sharrows have been completed on Stockton, crosswalks have been painted and signs added on North Main, the incorrect crosswalk was erased on North Main, Bicycle markings were painted in the bike lanes south of Sunset. Additional work remains on Monmouth and South Main.

- Review letter from NJDOT to store owner (Handmade Art Store) **Joe reviewed the letter and concerns about traffic on Ward Street at Mercer.**
- Review draft report to state on Mobility Plan Implementation progress **The Committee reviewed the list of projects to include in the report. Bev will draft.**
- **Added: Redevelopment Area Circulation Plan** Bev reported that the Planning Board endorsed the plan concept and sent to Council for feedback based on the expectation that the Planning Board will adopt as part of the Borough Master Plan.
- **Added: NJDOT outreach on Mobility Plan and Hightstown traffic** The Committee discussed the outreach to the state and agreed that it's time to start the scheduling process now that the Redevelopment Area Circulation Plan is nearing completion. Bev will work with the Borough Administrator.

Throughout the discussion, the Committee developed some additional action points:

- **Joe will discuss a crosswalk repainting plan with Public Works. Do they have an existing schedule? The Committee will develop a list of recommendations for high priority action.**
- **Steve will continue opportunistic discussions with our state legislators about traffic and truck regulations.**
- **Bev will investigate pending state legislation through the Borough Planner.**

ADJOURNMENT