

Dedham Street Corridor Site visit meeting
April 25, 2012
10am

Present: BOS: Carol Lisbon, Jim Dawley, Joe Melican
Town: Chief McGowan, Craig Hughes, David Ramsay
Residents: Kim Chase, Ted Mosher (both abutters)

Meeting began just after 10am at the parking lot across from the first raised crosswalk, in front of Ms. Chase's residence.

Raised crosswalk #1 @ Oakley

Traffic was observed and discussion was held about the crosswalk. The noise and vibration caused by trucks going over it are the biggest concerns for residents. Lights, flashing signs, removal, and effectiveness were all debated. Mr. Hughes suggested tapering the apron and reducing the angle /grade to smooth out the harshness of the bump. This will be investigated further, and both abutters feel it should be a gradual approach to fixing the problem as opposed to ripping them out and throwing up lights or additional signage.

Ms. Chase also pointed out the area at the edge of the crosswalk where it meets the mouth of the parking lot driveway. She says that the vehicular traffic in and out has forced pedestrians to create a path approx. 10 feet away from the driveway to avoid cars. Mr. Dawley suggested that the Highway Dept. could clean up the area of the dirt/sand runoff, so that the walking area would be differentiated, and maybe address the makeshift path.

Chickering Fields Parking lot issues/ Crosswalk #2

Signage was discussed as to the placement of the crosswalk signs that impede pedestrian's views of oncoming traffic. Mr. Hughes to adjust.

Discussion about raising the pathway from the tennis court lot/field to the 2nd crosswalk. Ms. Chase says that it is difficult to push a carriage uphill and try to see oncoming traffic without being in the roadway. Mrs. Lisbon suggested widening the mouth of the path and regrading it into the fields. Mr. Dawley suggested trimming of a couple of low pine branches to increase visibility.

The parking lot to Chickering Fields has several areas where pedestrians can approach Dedham Street to cross. Signs were discussed, and replacement of a fence to discourage access other than at the crosswalk will be taken under advisement.

Willow Street intersection

No issues that warrant immediate attention.

Cross at Centre

Brief discussion of stop sign at this intersection, and the way that Centre St traffic ‘cuts’ the corner. Discussion of a bumpout similar to the one at Haven/Dedham discussed. Would it interfere with school traffic and driveway of homeowner at corner?

Haven at Dedham

Discussed an additional crosswalk sign. Discussed moving stop sign closer to stop line. Mr. Hughes talked about relocation of a tree to address sightline issue complaint by resident.

Haven at Centre

Discussed location of stop sign, and placement of “no Left Turn” sign. Discussed recommendation of “dangerous Intersection” signs. Police presence at intersection discussed. Previous thought of making Haven one way was brought up, and how residents disapproved.

Centre at Dedham

Discussed signage, crosswalks, “use directional” signs, roundabout, crosswalk advisories near monument, visibility vs. too many signs (sign farms). Recently added sidewalk was complemented.

All discussed topics were taken under advisement, and awaiting BOS direction.

Meeting closed at approx. 11:35am.