



Town of Hudson

Internal Traffic Committee

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Minutes of Meeting 5-22-2020

A meeting of the Town of Hudson's Internal Traffic Committee (ITC) was held on Friday, 5-2-20, 2020 at 10:00 AM via Zoom consistent with Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of the "COVID-19 Virus." Jeffrey Wood, Chair convened the meeting at 10:10 AM.

The following ITC voting members were in attendance:

Jeffrey Wood, Building Commissioner, Chair
Richard DiPersio, Police Chief
Bryan Johannes Fire Chief
Eric Ryder, Director of Public Works

The following non-voting ITC members were in attendance:

Jack Hunter, Director of Planning and Community Development
Kristina Johnson, AICP, Assistant Director of Planning and Community Development

Discussion on Establishing Truck Exclusion

Planning Department Staff noted that they have received numerous emails from residents over the past months expressing concerns about the amount of truck traffic on local roadways. In particular, Marlborough Street has been noted by residents who believe that there has been a proliferation of truck traffic, and wanted more information about how and/or if the Town could exclude certain types of traffic.

Board members along with Planning Department staff explained to the residents who joined the Zoom call that the Town does not have the budgetary capacity to complete the required engineering and required planning studies for the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) to consider truck exclusion. All truck exclusions in Massachusetts require the approval of MassDOT, as there cannot be significant impediments put in place restricting the movement of commerce. MassDOT has to review whether there are adequate alternative routes available that could accommodate truck traffic in a safe and efficient manner.

Residents on the Zoom call continued to express their concerns about how truck traffic traveling on their roadways are having a negative effect on their quality life with increased traffic and speeding. Board members expressed their understanding for what they residents are experiencing, but without any budgetary capacity, there is no mechanism to petition MassDOT to establish a truck exclusion.

No formal action on this item was taken. Kristina Johnson agreed to obtain an estimate on how much it would cost to prepare an engineering/planning study to petition MassDOT, and provide that information at the next meeting.

Follow-up Items from the January 24, 2020 Meeting

There were no follow up items raised by Board members or Planning Staff.

Other Business

Chief Johannes raised concerns about the construction activity associated with the Downtown Rotary project, and its impact on the parking and businesses within the downtown. Jack Hunter and Kristina Johnson explained that the Department works closely with the Downtown Business Improvement District and the Hudson Business Association provide regular and timely construction updates. For those businesses abutting the rotary, Jack and Kristina emphasized that they are in constant contact conveying updates from the construction team.

Adjournment

Jeff Wood moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 AM. Seconded by Chief Johannes 3-0-0. Unanimous.