

Town of Chelmsford Select Board Listening Session Minutes
Center Elementary School, 84 Billerica Rd.
Chelmsford, MA 01824

October 13, 2021

Attending:

Virginia Crocker Timmins, Chair
Kenneth Lefebvre, Vice Chair
Mark Carota, Clerk
Patricia Wojtas, Board Member

Paul Cohen, Town Manager
Gary Persichetti, DPW Director
James Spinney, Police Chief
Gary Ryan, Fire Chief

Not Present: George Dixon, Board Member

This Select Board Listening Session was held in person, with no remote option for participation. The meeting was recorded and made available for later viewing at www.chelmsfordtv.org.

6:30 PM CALL TO ORDER PUBLIC INPUT REGARDING CHELMSFORD TRAFFIC

Select Board Chair Timmins provided guidelines for how to provide public input, and introduced the Board and other members of the Traffic Safety Committee.

Tamar Delaconception, 245 Mill Rd., sent an e-mail explaining that she and her three children use their bicycles to get to school, at the South Row School. They cross by the Russell Mill Pond, by Murphy Soccer Field to get to the sidewalk, and the visibility is not good. She suggested adding a sign or a painted crosswalk in this area to alert drivers to pedestrians and bicycle riders.

Brian Latina, Precinct 4 Town Meeting Representative, 15 Jessie Rd., recommended that stop signs be added to some intersections, and adjusting the sequencing at several traffic lights as a way to control traffic as opposed to adding more traffic lights in general. He cited several lights along Rt. 110 by Stop & Shop and Kohl's that cause traffic backups because the lights are not synced to each other. He also would like to have the State change the double left turn on Rt. 129 at Mill Rd. to a single left turn, and to trim some of the brush, grass and trees to increase visibility in this area, on both sides of the road. If the State will not do this, perhaps the Town should do this. The trees are supposed to be 30 feet away from the road. Mr. Latina recommended re-painting the yellow and white lines in several areas along Rt. 129, as well as in multiple areas by Rt. 495 on Rt. 110. Storm drains need cleaning in all of these areas also. Lines need to be re-painted on the highway as well, and other traffic issues were described because of the ambiguity of the existing painted lines. There are potholes on Ansie Road and Kensington Rd. that need to be repaired and filled. He requested that the "don't block the intersection" signs on Rt. 129 by Turnpike Rd. be replaced, as he has sent the police chief videos of traffic issues caused by people running red lights and blocking the intersections. The walk signal at 104 Turnpike Rd., near the crosswalk blocks the handicap ramp, and should be moved behind the sidewalk. He agreed with the prior email request as well.

Travis Sullivan, 261 Riverneck Rd., sent an e-mail that was read into the record. He described issues crossing Golden Cove Rd at Billerica Rd., where drivers cannot see pedestrians, especially when taking a right turn on the red light.

The Board and the Traffic Committee will summarize the input collected at both Listening Sessions to be discussed at the Board Meeting to be held on October 25, 2021.

ADJOURN

Motion: by Board Member Lefebvre to adjourn the meeting at 6:48PM. Seconded by Board Member Carota. Motion carries, unanimous, 4-0.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE: October 19, 2021

Respectfully submitted,
Vivian W. Merrill
Recording Secretary

Supporting Documents:
-9/24/2021 Email from Tamar de la Concepción
-9/23/2021 Email from Travis Sullivan