

Notes  
PSC Meeting #2: October 14, 2010

Attendees:

John Barnes, Dave Eason, Roy Gordon, Sue Hill, Al Lang (Council Representative), Mike Leibovitz, Joel Rubin (chair); missing-Barry Hager, Cliff Sloan

Summary:

1) **Mission Statement of the PSC**

- Discussed and unanimously approved by the committee; note that the mission statement was provided by the Town Council and is identical to previous years' mission statement

2) **Traffic Issues**

- Chevy Chase Elementary School (CCES) Study Discussion
  - i. Dan Lovas of VHB (the traffic engineering consulting firm) presented on the status of the CCES study; note that VHB has a long running contract with Montgomery County for similar purposes; the study is due to be completed by 10/22
  - ii. Initial observations during the study: the traffic circulation patterns near CCES work well – busses aren't going the wrong way; no significant queuing issues in front of the school; rear of the school for pedestrian safety is calm; school children understand the crosswalks and how to cross safely
  - iii. **Next Steps**: Pending the conclusions of the report, the PSC will determine a plan of action on how to handle the conclusions of the CCES study, communicate with the community, and work with the Town Council
- Decisions on Pending Requests

*Analytic framework for reviewing pending requests: all requests will be reviewed per (1) Demand, (2) Safety, and (3) Feasibility*

  - i. Install sidewalks on Oakridge, Lynn, and Tarrytown:
    - Analysis: demand (no), safety (uncertain), feasibility (no)
    - Decision: recommend resident input on the affected streets in writing
    - **Action**: PSC Member will write a short letter to the residents seeking their input; this draft will be provided to the PSC for submission into packet
  - ii. Complete sidewalk on south side of Stanford between East and West:
    - Analysis: demand (yes); safety (yes), feasibility (unknown)

- Decision: Town Staff should be asked the two affected residents for their views of the matter; this information should then be provided to the PSC
  - **Action; PSC will decide at next meeting, pending information provided by Town Staff**
- iii. Remove 2 parking spaces in front of 7009 East Ave:
- Analysis: demand (yes); safety (yes); feasibility (no)
  - Decision: requires more analysis by PSC; the issue needing additional assessment is the current parking situation at the intersection, particularly on how removal of these parking spaces would impact the adjacent houses' residents ability to park
  - **Action: PSC recommends that the Town remove the existing painted crosswalk (entrance to Thornapple Path) in front of 7009 East Avenue, as well as add a sidewalk along the northwest side of the entrance to Thornapple Path up to the STOP sign at Leland Street and add a crosswalk at East and Leland (see justification below)**
- iv. Ridgewood:
- Analysis: demand (yes); safety (yes), feasibility (yes)
  - Decision: Yes

**3) Next Meeting:** Thursday November 4<sup>th</sup>

- Agenda should include: Lighting at the top, traffic, street lights

10/15/2010

**ISSUE REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE: Remove 2 parking spaces in front of 7009 East Ave:**

Issue:

The Town Council has requested the PSC provide a decision on the removal of two parking spaces in front of 7009 East Avenue.

Recommendations from the PSC:

The PSC held an open meeting on Thursday, October 14, 2010 at the Leland Center Conference Room and recommends the following action on the 7009 East Avenue issue:

- Remove the existing painted crosswalk (entrance to Thornapple Path) in front of 7009 East Avenue.

- Add a sidewalk along the northwest side of the entrance to Thornapple Path up to the STOP sign at Leland Street and add a crosswalk at East and Leland.

Justification for the recommendations:

- The existing crosswalk on East Avenue at the entrance to Thornapple Path has created a hardship for the residents of 7009 East Avenue by making it illegal for them to park their vehicles in front of their home as the law prohibits parking 20 feet on either side of a crosswalk. The residents share a narrow driveway with their next-door neighbor so cannot park in the driveway. The space in front of their home (7009 East Ave.) is not a perk but a necessity.
- The crosswalk removal and relocation is a safety issue as the current situation creates a “blind spot” for people exiting the Thornapple Path walkway.
- The relocation of the crosswalk and installation of a sidewalk as recommended will address both the safety issue and the hardship issue. Placing the crosswalk at East and Leland will not result in the loss of any parking spaces because of the pre-existing STOP Sign on Leland Street just prior to East Avenue.