

July 11, 2022 Route 139 Action Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting call to order at 12:00 noon by Committee Chair David Sawin

Meeting members present were:

- David Sawin, Chair
- Rob Stevens, Vice Chair (Zoom)
- Viola Ryerson, Secretary
- Joanna Doherty
- Craig Ingram
- David Setterland

Also present were Town Manager Joseph Colangelo, Hanover Police Department Safety Officer Derek Richards, Stephen Ryerson (Zoom) and residents Alex Howard (Zoom) and Rob Leary.

The committee approved the June 14, 2022 meeting minutes.

Derek Richards was introduced as the new HPD Public Safety Officer.

The following were topics of discussion:

Mandated changes in Grove Street intersection traffic patterns concerns from residents and committee members were shared. Circuit Street intersection and Plain Street intersection deficiencies and present speed limits along the Route 139 corridor were noted along with current “F” state gradings on Hanover Route 139 intersections.

A public engagement survey was planned for the Fall once preliminary plans for Route 139 improvements are available from the MA DOT.

DPW crosswalk painting in the town center was noted as completed with solar powered pedestrian crosswalk signage presently on order for five crosswalks in the center of town. Corner brush clearing on street intersections around town was further endorsed by the committee as the Hanover DPW responds to committee and residents’ concerns regarding traffic visibility. Broad discussion ensued regarding travel speeds, pedestrian safety and traffic monitoring. The committee committed to further support the Hanover Selectboard, HPD, DPW, and MA DOT regarding necessary improvements in these areas.

Route 139 project funding sources were discussed. Vice Chair Rob Stevens explained the MA DOT coordination of the “Rails for Trails” funding grant with Route 139 funding mechanisms and planning at a concept stage.

Residents were encouraged by Chair David Sawin to attend meetings and express opinions.

The committee re-affirmed its intent to monitor traffic safety mitigations on Route 139, as supervised by the HPD, and the initial placement of right turn only signage in response to recent traffic accident history. It was acknowledged that these traffic directional changes may be temporary and will be observed over a five-month trial period. The committee agreed that it's prior vote to re-address the right turn only changes in traffic patterns on Grove Street, on January 2, 2023, stands.

David Setterland and Craig Ingram were appointed by the committee to form a subcommittee to study speed limits on Route 139 and to provide recommendations, working alongside the HPD and MA DOT to that end.

Joanna Doherty, David Setterland, and Viola Ryerson were appointed by the committee to form a subcommittee to research area crosswalk designs and colors.

Rob Stevens and Viola Ryerson were appointed by the committee to work with Town Manager Joe Colangelo in creating RFPs and /or RFQs for future Route 139 committee related, corridor projects.

The committee's next meeting was scheduled for August 23, 2022, 12. Noon.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM.