

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Winchester Spring Town Meeting 2021 - Report
April 26, 2021

The Traffic and Transportation Advisory Committee (TTAC) advises the Select Board (SB) and the Town Manager in the conduct of the interdepartmental Traffic and Transportation Program, which the Select Board directed the Town Manager to create and supervise late in 2017. TTAC itself got rolling in 2018. The structure and purposes of the Program was reaffirmed by the Select Board in early 2020. Our committee's primary areas of advocacy include:

- Traffic calming and resident safety
- Promoting multi-modal transportation
- Connecting neighborhoods and providing access to 'green and blue spaces'
- Supporting local businesses by encouraging improved access for all, including improved parking arrangements and foot traffic

While the Program has yet to create a multi-year "Transportation and Public Way Plan," it has recently achieved:

1. Traffic calming redesigns
 - a. Implemented – McCall area improvements including Washington and Main, Mystic Valley and Waterfield, Mystic Valley and Main; in addition to Main and Highland.
 - b. Active work - Waterfield and Church re-design (subject to additional appropriation in this town meeting) and Wildwood and Woodlawn (in design).
 - c. Tests planned – Temporary traffic calming devices will be used downtown on Main St. and on Highland, some materials already procured.
2. Bridge repair support at Waterfield with Swanton Street and Lake Street bridges in progress.
3. Studies – Completed corridor studies of Cross and Highland to support long-term planning
4. Sidewalk and crossing improvements – Muraco school, Tri-community Greenway including crosses at Waterfield and Mt. Vernon.
5. Support for increasing DPW and Engineering budgets for Traffic and Transport-related efforts and ensuring funds are spent efficiently and effectively.

In the coming fiscal year TTAC will be focused on:

1. Working with Capital, FinCom, Planning and the SB and Town Staff to help create an easily updateable, 3-5 year "Transportation and Public Way Plan" to be the guiding document of the Traffic and Transportation Program.
2. Working with the SB and Town Staff to help implement the policies adopted by the SB at the recommendation of TTAC, including the Road Striping Policy and the Sidewalk Policy, and to create new bylaws governing sidewalks for new construction and major renovation.
3. Working with the SB and Town Staff to streamline and fully implement the Traffic and Transportation Program.

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Our committee is interested in all citizen input and welcomes attendance of our monthly open meetings (typically held on the third Monday of every month). The committee does have an opening and welcomes candidates to apply through the town clerk's office. Volunteer help in conducting surveys, researching other towns practices, and ensuring broad representation from a diverse set of neighborhoods, skills, and backgrounds are welcome.

The committee would like to thank the citizens of Winchester for their support of our committee and priorities, including supporting an increase in funding for well-planned and impactful transportation-related efforts. We will continue to work with the SB and Town Staff to communicate a well-thought out and pragmatic future for Winchester transportation, wherever possible. We will also continue to advocate for every user of our town's public ways, including those who want to park conveniently and access amenities across all forms of transportation.

Winchester Traffic and Transportation Committee (TTAC)

Report to Town Meeting – Spring 2021

TTAC's focus: *Positively impact how the town plans, builds, and maintains public spaces and public ways to better support the movement of all residents, in all modes of transportation.*



Primary areas of advocacy:

- 1. Traffic calming and resident safety; promoting multi-modal transportation*
- 2. Connecting neighborhoods and providing access to 'green and blue spaces'*
- 3. Supporting local businesses by encouraging improved access for all including improved parking arrangements and foot traffic*

Recent Achievements

■ Traffic calming redesigns

Recently completed

- McCall – front + back
- Main + Highland

In progress, upcoming:

- Wildwood + Woodside
- Waterfield + Church
(pending appropriation)

- Waterfield bridge repair and improvement, with Swanton Street bridge and Lake Street bridge upcoming
- Corridor studies – Cross St., Highland Ave.
- Secured approvals for calming device tests – Main St. (downtown) and Highland Ave.
- Pursuing a more “complete” bike path
- Support for DPW’s “busiest summer” ever

Looking at the
coming fiscal year

- 1. Working with Capital, Fincom, Planning, Select Board and Town Staff on rolling 3-5 year “Transportation and Public Way Plan”**
- 2. Driving implementation of “Complete Streets” policies**
- 3. Streamlining, implementing the Traffic and Transportation Plan**