

**TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES
April 17, 2008**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Heidi Perry, Chair
Dave Deming, Vice Chair
John O'Leary
Katie Schwing
Daniel Amoni
Charlie Hileman

STAFF

Adena Messinger

GUESTS

Autumn Thoyre
Lynn Weller
David Weller

BOARD MEMBER ABSENT

Tom High

I. Call to Order

Heidi Perry, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

II. Simpson Street Traffic Calming Request

Staff provided some anecdotal information about the data collection for the traffic calming request, including: the pedestrian and bicycle activity is likely higher than was recorded due to time of year and time of day variations; there are bus stops on Main Street at the end of Simpson that encourage pedestrian activity, though they do not get counted in the criteria sheet (Lynn Weller pointed out that there are bus stops on Hillsborough as well, at the other end of Simpson).

Heidi asked for clarification on what the score of "42" meant. Staff explained that a street with a score of 25 or lower is eligible for stage I traffic calming and a street with a score of 26 or higher is eligible for stage I and II traffic calming. Stage II traffic calming usually involves a physical means of slowing down traffic speeds.

The TAB spent some time discussing the implications of speed tables for emergency vehicle access, as this was raised as an issue at the staff review of the request. Staff clarified that the concern was raised as a response to the increase in requests for speed tables, not necessarily the request for a speed table on Simpson Street. David Weller commented that in his experience with ambulance calls, he did not think the speed tables provide a significant impediment to response time. John O'Leary commented that he is more in favor of better enforcement and doubted the long term effects of speed tables. Charlie Hileman disagreed, and shared his experience with the speed tables on High Street as being effective in slowing down vehicles. Heidi commented that it is unfortunate that Simpson Street is not in the phase I sidewalk bond program.

The discussion of the Simpson Street request prompted some more general discussion of the residential traffic management plan and raised some speculation regarding an increase in requests.

A motion was made by Daniel Amoni to approve the request for two speed tables on Simpson Street, in the approximate locations of the traffic counters.

Seconded by Charlie Hileman

Vote: Ayes – 6; Nays – 0

III. Letter to CHT

Charlie handed out a revised copy of the letter for review. TAB members provided some editorial comments and Charlie agreed to incorporate the changes and send out a final version.

A motion was made by Heidi Perry to accept the letter with the corrections as indicated during the meeting, which will be revised at a later time, and to present the letter to the Board of Aldermen.

Seconded by Dave Deming

Vote: Ayes – 6; Nays – 0

IV. Bike to Work Week

Staff shared that there will be a table at Carrboro Day that will provide information about bike to work week. Dave Deming volunteered to help out at the table and be a resource for interested bicycle commuters.

Heidi shared that the Chapel Hill Town Hall is a new hub for the Blue Urban Bikes program.

V. Approval of minutes from April 3, 2008

Motion by Charlie Hileman to approve the minutes from April 3, 2008.

Seconded by Daniel Amoni.

Vote: Ayes – 6; Nays – 0

VI. Liaison Report

Charlie reported on the bicycle plan public workshop. He shared that it was a good meeting but he is concerned that the Town is not hearing from enough different groups and that we need to find more ways to gather input from people who do not ride as well as those who do.

This led to comments about the lack of participation on the Town listserv and the need for better system to keep citizens informed. Heidi suggested sending out a mailing with instructions on how to join the Town listserv.

Charlie had also commented that Carrboro is still at the bronze level for the Bicycle Friendly Community recognition program.

VII. Pedestrian Friendly Signs

At their April 1st meeting, the Board of Aldermen referred to the TAB a request/idea for signs at the gateways to Carrboro announcing that it is a pedestrian friendly community. Heidi indicated that more direction was needed.

VIII. Other Business

- Heidi reminded members that the advisory board dinner is April 24
- Staff requested input on intersections of concern for the HSRC study
- Heidi will be at the April 22 Board of Aldermen meeting to speak about the bicycle signs in Orange County

IX. Meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 PM.