

Town of Chevy Chase Public Services Committee (PSC)
February 21, 2023

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was conducted in person and was called to order by the chair at 7:15pm.

In Attendance

H. Berkof, Chair
I. Lane, Town Council Liaison
B. Barnett, Member
G. Prakash, Member
K. Rubin Member
M. Coplan, Member

The minutes of the December 13, 2022 meeting were approved.

Telecom Working Group (5G) Report: No applications in TOCC to date.

Slow Down and Stop Campaign

- Memo presented to Town Council, who reacted positively. In addition, Town Council approved purchase of 4 additional LED stop signs.
- The Town Council also modified the procedure for town residents to request speed bumps so that the residents could request LED stop signs or radar speed board. Residents can specify which solution they prefer.
- Discussion about the radar speed board placed on West St near the Oneness School. Speed board was installed first without displaying speed and then with displaying speed. Statistics showed that displaying speed did result in vehicles slowing down. PSC action to draft a response memorandum to the residents of Ridge, Stanford, and West informing of what actions are being taken to address resident complaints.
- Discussion about how to roll out the campaign, how to motivate residents, and how to communicate with non-residents driving through Town. Starting in April, the committee will have a column in the Forecast about the Slow Down and Stop Campaign. Gautam will write the first two columns. To foster engagement and input from the Town, the committee will provide a form on the Town website for residents to share incidents, ideas, and feedback. Beth will draft the form.

Purple Line Construction Update

- Report on the Community Advisory Team (CAT) meeting with the Purple Line project leaders and the State of Maryland officials. Questions the Town submitted prior to the meeting and during the meeting were not answered. One exception was the request about noise during construction, specifically the backup beeping of trucks on the right of way. SHA said that this was a safety requirement.
- Related issue is the low water level of Coquelin Run which appears to have been hampered by the construction. Irene to gather information about Coquelin Run.

East-West Highway Crosswalk updates

- Town continues to request, without success, better solutions than the crosswalk to make it safe to cross East-West Highway. Town officials have asked State delegation to escalate the issue.

Bicycle Topics

- Discussed the plans for the bike lane on 47th Street. The bike lane will be in place years before the completion of the Purple Line. Bicyclists going east will likely proceed from 47th Street onto Elm Street, which is one way going west.

Recent Resident concerns

- Committee apprised of resident reports/complaints to Town about traffic concerns on all sides of the Town. Concerns related to “Do Not Enter” signs, traffic back-ups, and pedestrian safety.
- Committee cited difficulty to recommend changes to Town signage and traffic flow without conducting more of a study and understanding second and third order consequences.
- Committee is open to working with a traffic engineer to conduct a feasibility analysis and re-visit the 2019-20 Town traffic study and recommendations.

The next meeting of the PSC will take place via Zoom at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 21, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned approximately 9:30 p.m.