

Town of Belmont, MA  
Traffic Advisory Committee (T.A.C.)

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BELMONT, MA.  
JUN 19 2 07 PM '13

**Minutes of Meeting September 13, 2012**

**Members present:** Larry MacDonald (Vice Chair), Don Mercer, Dana Miller (Clerk), Linda Nickens (Chair), and Matt Sullivan

**Ex-Officio Members present:** Sgt. Benjamin Mailhot, BPD, Selectman Andy Rojas.

**Also present:** Jane Bloomfield, 10 Blanchard Road; Jon Brooks, 37 Taylor Road; Diane Coulopoulos, 28 Glenn Road; Molly Crawford, 60 Blanchard Road; Robert Desrosiers, 87 Taylor Road; Tony Dowers, 85 Fairview Avenue; Lisa Kaloostian, 61 Glenn Road; Alfie Kohn, 415 Belmont Street; Zepour Kougoustian, 8 Blanchard Road; George Kougoustian, 8 Blanchard Road; Henry Ogilby, 88 Taylor Road; Lydia Ogiby, 306 Washington Street; Aram Tomasian 62 Glenn Road; Laura Wenzel, 11 Glenn Road; Jim Williams, 7 Glenn Road.

Linda called the meeting to order at 7:00.

**July Minutes:** The TAC voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the committee's July 2012 meeting.

**Glenn Road:** Residents explained the traffic challenges on this street: to avoid the roundabout, cars turn onto Glenn and then onto Bright; cars move too quickly; on-street van parking at 112 Blanchard (which is at the corner) limits visibility for drivers; there is no sidewalk at the corner; jurisdiction is complicated because the raised intersection is entirely within the boundaries of Cambridge, which has evidently declined requests to patrol the intersection.

The TAC voted unanimously to install no-parking signs at the corner of Glenn and Blanchard Roads. Seargent Mailhot will conduct a traffic study on Glenn Road and will report back to the TAC. Another meeting will be held to discuss the study results. Sergeant Mailhot will explore the possibility of establishing a mutual aid agreement with the Cambridge Police Department to enforce traffic law at this intersection. Selectman Rojas suggested that the new Belmont Town Administrator, who used to work in Cambridge City Government, might be able to facilitate collaboration between Belmont and Cambridge to address this issue. Lydia Ogilby suggested that those parking on the street in front of 112 Glenn Road might make arrangements to park in the lot behind the temple on Concord Avenue instead.

Neighbors were in disagreement about the value of limiting traffic turns onto Glenn: while some Glenn residents requested this and most Glenn residents seemed to be in support of this, residents of nearby streets did not support such a traffic limitation.

# Town of Belmont, MA Traffic Advisory Committee (T.A.C.)

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**Fairview Avenue:** Mr. Dowers, who has two small children, is concerned about speeding on Fairview Avenue and about the Avenue's use as a bypass for Belmont Street. To increase pedestrian safety, the TAC unanimously approved the installation of a cross walk at the intersection. Sergeant Mailhot will request that the police department patrol division do additional enforcement at this intersection. In October the Sergeant will use the radar tow to raise driver awareness of speeding on the Avenue.

**Oakly Village:** Alfie Kohn, who is a resident at Oakly Village, explained that on-street parking limits visibility and safety for those exiting the condo's parking lot. Alfie asked that the TAC approve the removal of one parking space closest to the driveway.

Don Mercer asked that Mr. Kohn submit Condo Association approval of this request before the TAC considers action. Don asserted that a hearing on the topic of the parking space is necessary. Linda recommended that Glenn determine to what extent the condo association needs to be involved in resolving the parking-space issue.

**Wellington Update:** Sergeant Mailhot reported many complaints about parking in front of the school on Orchard Street. He issued tickets to people parking on the left side of the street. Officers have been getting out of their cars to advise parents of the law. Sergeant Mailhot will soon begin issuing tickets to those violating the parking restrictions on the right side of the street as well. The TAC discussed to what extent new signage might be helpful.

**New Business:** Selectman Rojas reported that a constituent on Van Ness Road was concerned about people turning onto Van Ness Road. This resident would like the town to install a "Go Slow, Children" sign on the Road. A speed study demonstrates no need for additional signage or other traffic interventions on Van Ness Road.

Next meeting, Oct 11.

At 8:49pm, the TAC voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Dana Miller, Clerk

## **Fairview Avenue Crosswalk Request**

On Jul 19, 2012, at 10:11 PM, Tony Dowers <[flash@mag-neto.com](mailto:flash@mag-neto.com)> wrote:

Hello everyone,

I found your email addresses on the Belmont town website listed under Traffic Advisory Committee. I hope I've found the right people for my question.

We live on the corner of Fairview Ave. and Dalton in the old firestation. We're very concerned about the constant reckless speeding down Fairview Ave. We have 2 small children, as do many of our neighbors. The kids like to play outside especially during the summer and we often need to cross the street to visit their friends. Our 3-year-old has actually begun to yell "Hey slow down!" to the speeding drivers, which is quite funny and entertaining, but really drives home the concern about a possible accident.

I'm wondering how to go about opening up a discussion to possibly add a speed bump or stop sign and crosswalk near the corner of Fairview and Dalton.

When this end of Fairview Ave. was re-paved last year, new crosswalk lines were painted running parallel but none were added for crossing over Fairview.

Is this even a possibility? Should I come to a town board meeting to discuss? Please let me know what you think. Thanks for your time!

Tony Dowers  
85 Fairview Ave.

phone 617-461-0448

TO: Board of Selectmen, Town of Belmont Massachusetts

Ralph T. Jones (RJones@cadmusgroup.com)  
Mark A. Paolillo, Chair (mpaolillo@belmont-ma.gov)  
Andrew T. Rojas, Vice Chair (andy@rojasdesigninc.com)

RE: Traffic on Glenn Road

FROM: Concerned residents of Glenn Road

Date: August 6, 2012

Dear Sirs,

Several of us would like to meet with you immediately to discuss our pressing concerns regarding the traffic on Glenn Road.

A number of people residing on Glenn Road are very concerned by the current traffic pattern on our small residential street. The corner of Glenn and Blanchard has become very hazardous since the changes were made to Blanchard Road. Drivers do not always slow down at the bump and many take either a right hand turn onto Glenn road to avoid the roundabout further up on Blanchard Road. When the traffic is heavy, drivers take a left onto Glenn to avoid the light on the corner of Blanchard and Concord Ave.

This pattern of turning onto Glenn is dangerous for a number of reasons. One of the reasons is that drivers take the turn and tend to speed narrowly making the turn. Cars are parked near the corner of Glenn and Blanchard making for very poor visibility and creating a situation that will result in serious and unfortunate outcomes. We have had many near misses.

It should be pointed out that there is a group home for disabled adults on the left hand side of Glenn Road at the corner of Glenn and Blanchard Roads. Unfortunately, cars belonging to staff and visitors as well as commercial vehicles and visitors of Blanchard Road residents, are parked on both sides of the street causing a great hazard as they block visibility to cars trying to either take a left onto Blanchard or a right onto Glenn Road from Blanchard Road.

It is apparent that drivers of cars and trucks are using Glenn Road as a short cut to avoid the heavy traffic on Blanchard Road. Impatient drivers frequently drive against the traffic on Blanchard in order to use Glenn. There are no sidewalks on the right side for residents' safety. Children walking to school from Mannix Circle and Blanchard Road, as well as people walking their dogs or taking their daily constitution or jog, on what was a pleasant and serene street, are now in danger. Cars trying to back out of their driveways on lower Glenn face an unknown hazardous situation. Today Glenn Road has become a noisy, congested and unsafe street.

We believe that there are possible steps that can be taken to ameliorate this unacceptable situation and look forward to an opportunity to discuss his matter with you immediately to find a desirable solution.

Thank you,

Diane Coulopoulos  
28 Glenn Road