



STATE TRAFFIC COMMISSION

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, August 17, 2017

In attendance were:

Chief Edward Mello

Corporal William Corson

Ms. Meredith Brady

Mr. Robert Rocchio, PE

Ms. Marcy Coleman

Chief Edward Mello declared that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and, upon a motion duly made and seconded, were unanimously accepted by the State Traffic Commission. It was voted to continue to follow the procedures and policy of the State Traffic Commission as previously established.

Consent Agenda

BARRINGTON ==> COUNTY RD. R.I. 103 / R.I. 114

Creation Date
4/20/2017

Disposition
Continued

Item Number
41626

Request from the Town of Barrington to determine if County Road can be reduced to one lane southbound at the signalized intersection with Rumstick Road.

Comments:

Action Taken:

Motion Made
Ms. Meredith Brady

Motion 2nd
Ms. Marcy Coleman

Voting Results
Unanimous

BARRINGTON ==> MIDDLE HWY.

Creation Date
2/27/2017

Disposition
Continued

Item Number
41614

Request from the Town of Barrington to provide a left turn lane on Middle Highway into the new driveway access to the proposed middle school. These improvements are proposed as part of a Physical Alteration Permit Application (PAPA).

Comments:

Action Taken:

Motion Made
Ms. Meredith Brady

Motion 2nd
Ms. Marcy Coleman

Voting Results
Unanimous



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BARRINGTON ==> MIDDLE HWY.

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
2/27/2017	Continued	41615

Request from the Town of Barrington to relocate the existing midblock crosswalk on Middle Highway to the south to coincide with the new driveway access to the proposed Middle School, as well as to install rapid rectangular flashing beacons (RRFBs) at the crosswalk. The crosswalk relocation is proposed as part of a Physical Alteration Permit Application (PAPA).

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Meredith Brady	Ms. Marcy Coleman	Unanimous

HOPKINTON ==> MAIN ST. R.I. 3

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
7/5/2017	Continued	41642

Request from Representative Kennedy for the installation of a crosswalk on Main Street at Our Lady of Victory Church located at 169 Main Street.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Meredith Brady	Ms. Marcy Coleman	Unanimous

JOHNSTON ==> HARTFORD AVE. U.S. 6 / U.S. 6A

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
12/28/2016	Continued	41599

Request from RIDOT to determine if a protected left turn lane and phase can be implemented on Hartford Avenue westbound at the signalized intersection with Bishop Hill Road in Johnston. The current configuration allows for protected/permitted left turns from a shared through/left lane.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Meredith Brady	Ms. Marcy Coleman	Unanimous



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JOHNSTON ==> KILLINGLY ST. R.I. 128

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
5/16/2017	Continued	41630

Request from Representative Fellela to study pedestrian safety on Killingly Street between Traver Avenue and Greenville Avenue.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Meredith Brady	Ms. Marcy Coleman	Unanimous

NARRAGANSETT ==> BOSTON NECK RD. R.I. 1A

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
5/23/2017	Continued	41638

Request from Police Chief Corrigan for the installation of left turn lanes and phases on both the Bridgetown Road and South Ferry Road approaches to the signalized intersection with Boston Neck Road.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Meredith Brady	Ms. Marcy Coleman	Unanimous

NORTH PROVIDENCE ==> CHARLES ST. R.I. 246

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
4/26/2017	Continued	41629

Request from the North Providence Town Council to install a left turn lane and phase on Charles Street northbound at the signalized intersection with Mineral Spring Avenue.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Meredith Brady	Ms. Marcy Coleman	Unanimous



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NORTH SMITHFIELD ==> SMITHFIELD RD. R.I. 146A

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
5/16/2017	Continued	41633

Request from RIDOT on behalf of a private citizen for a left turn phase on Smithfield Rd southbound at the signalized intersection with Greenville Rd (Route 104). A protected-permissive left turn phase is existing in the northbound direction, however the southbound direction is permissive only.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Meredith Brady	Ms. Marcy Coleman	Unanimous

PORTSMOUTH ==> EAST MAIN RD. R.I. 138

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
7/5/2017	Continued	41641

Request from Police Chief Thomas F. Lee for the installation of a traffic signal on East Main Road at the intersection with Linden Lane.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Meredith Brady	Ms. Marcy Coleman	Unanimous

PROVIDENCE ==> ELMWOOD AVE. U.S. 1

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
11/10/2016	Continued	41582

Request from Representative Slater to study if the installation of a traffic signal, pedestrian hybrid beacon, or flashing traffic control device is appropriate on Elmwood Avenue at Spooner Street in Providence.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Meredith Brady	Ms. Marcy Coleman	Unanimous



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PROVIDENCE ==> ELMWOOD AVE. U.S. 1

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
11/10/2016	Continued	41581

Request from Representative Slater for the installation of a crosswalk on Elmwood Avenue at Hamlin Street in Providence.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Meredith Brady	Ms. Marcy Coleman	Unanimous

RICHMOND ==> SWITCH RD.

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
7/5/2017	Continued	41645

Request from Senator Morgan for the installation of a crosswalk on Switch Road at Paddle Point Road (480 Switch Road). There is a new housing development at this location therefore a crosswalk is being requested to allow residents to cross Switch Road.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Meredith Brady	Ms. Marcy Coleman	Unanimous

WARREN ==> MAIN ST. R.I. 103 / R.I. 114

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
2/23/2017	Continued	41610

Request from RIDOT to review the speed limit on Main Street in Warren between the Bristol Town Line and the Barrington Town Line. The current posted speed limits are inconsistent with the STC records.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Meredith Brady	Ms. Marcy Coleman	Unanimous

Old Business



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COVENTRY ==> MAIN ST. (WASHINGTON) R.I. 33 / R.I.117

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
3/29/2017	Continued	41621

Request from Representative Nardolillo for the installation of a crosswalk(s) on Main Street in the vicinity of the Coventry Community center located at 1277 Main Street in Coventry.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Marcy Coleman	Ms. Meredith Brady	Unanimous

COVENTRY ==> WOOD ST.

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
3/17/2017	Continued	41617

Request from the Coventry Police Chief to determine if an all way stop can be implemented on Wood Street at Rathbun Street in conjunction with geometric improvements at the intersection.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Marcy Coleman	Ms. Meredith Brady	Unanimous

EXETER ==> TEN ROD RD. R.I. 102 / R.I. 165

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
1/29/2016	Continued	41520

Request from Representative Roberts and Representative Price to study traffic calming on Ten Rod Road (Rt. 165) in Exeter between Nooseneck Hill Road (Rt. 3) and the State Line.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Meredith Brady	Ms. Marcy Coleman	Unanimous



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HOPKINTON ==> NOOSENECK HILL RD. R.I. 3

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
2/23/2017	Continued	41605

Request from the Hopkinton Police Chief for the installation of a flashing signal on Nooseneck Hill Road/Main Street at the intersections with Ashaway Road and High Street (RI 216) in Hopkinton.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Marcy Coleman	Ms. Meredith Brady	Unanimous

SMITHFIELD ==> CEDAR SWAMP RD. R.I. 5

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
4/20/2017	Continued	41625

Request from Representative Winfield to review the existing crosswalk on Cedar Swamp Road in the vicinity of address #25 Cedar Swamp Road and consider the installation of a pedestrian signal or pedestrian hybrid beacon.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Marcy Coleman	Ms. Meredith Brady	Unanimous

New Business

BRISTOL ==> METACOM AVE. R.I. 136

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
8/3/2017	Study	41657

Request from the Bristol Town Council to install a center turn lane on Metacom Avenue from Bayview Avenue to Chestnut Street as part of a pilot program to determine if this configuration improves traffic flow along the Metacom Avenue corridor.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Marcy Coleman	Ms. Meredith Brady	Unanimous



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CRANSTON ==> ATWOOD AVE. R.I. 5

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
8/2/2017	Study	41656

Request from Representative Ucci for the installation of a pedestrian traffic signal at the existing mid-block crosswalk located at 848 Atwood Avenue.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Marcy Coleman	Ms. Meredith Brady	Unanimous

PORTSMOUTH ==> EAST MAIN RD. R.I. 138

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
7/25/2017	Study	41650

Request from Police Chief Thomas F. Lee and the Portsmouth Town Council on behalf of concerned citizens for safety improvements on East Main Road at the intersection with Braman's Lane including consideration for the installation of a traffic signal or road diet.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Marcy Coleman	Ms. Meredith Brady	Unanimous

SOUTH KINGSTOWN ==> KINGSTOWN RD. R.I. 108 / R.I. 138

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
7/26/2017	Study	41651

Request from the South Kingstown Police Department for the installation of a crosswalk on Kingstown Road at the intersection with Liberty Lane.

Comments:

Action Taken:

<i>Motion Made</i>	<i>Motion 2nd</i>	<i>Voting Results</i>
Ms. Marcy Coleman	Ms. Meredith Brady	Unanimous



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STATEWIDE

<i>Creation Date</i>	<i>Disposition</i>	<i>Item Number</i>
8/11/2017	Continued	41652

Request from RIDOT to restrict through tractor trailers on the following roads:

1. Route 3 from I-95 Exit 1 on/off ramps in Hopkinton to Route 2 on the Warwick/West Warwick Line
2. Route 102 from Route 4 in North Kingstown to Route 146A in North Smithfield
3. US Route 1 from Route 4 in North Kingstown to I-95 in Providence
4. Route 1A from US Route 1 (Elmwood Ave) in Warwick to Eddy Street in Providence
5. Route 1A from I-195 West on-ramp in East Providence to the Massachusetts State Line
6. Route 2 from Route 102 in North Kingstown to I-295 in Warwick
7. Route 5 from Route 117 in Warwick (Apponaug) to Route 104 (Farnum Pike) in North Smithfield
8. Route 116 from Route 117 in Coventry to US Route 44 in Smithfield
9. Route 104 from US Route 44 in North Providence to Route 146 on/off ramps in North Smithfield
10. Route 146A from Route 146/Route 146A split in North Smithfield to Route 102 (Victory Hwy) in North Smithfield
11. Route 114 from Dexter Street in Cumberland to I-295 on/off ramps in Cumberland
12. Route 122 from I-95 in Pawtucket to I-295 in Cumberland
13. Route 116 from Route 122 in Cumberland to Route 114 in Cumberland
14. Route 138 from Route 3 in Richmond to US Route 1 in South Kingstown

Comments: Steve Pristawa said that prohibiting thru tractor trailers on these roads will encourage them to stay on the freeways. This is being proposed for 3 reasons, Quality of Life for local residents, safety, and preservation of the infrastructure. The quality of life is for people who live along these roads and the villages that they run through. It is affected by truck noise from going over bumps and the use of compression brakes as well as congestion along these routes. He went on to say that the injury rates for arterials such as these are 2-3 times higher than those on freeways. It is also safer for tractor trailers to remain on the freeways as they will not have to interact with pedestrians, bicyclists, or traffic turning into and out of side streets or driveways. He continued with the preservation of roadway assets. The freeways were constructed with a thicker pavement to accommodate a higher amount of tractor trailer traffic. He also noted that 7 of the proposed routes have a posted bridge (weight restriction).

Rep Chippendale spoke against the proposed request. His first concern was that letters to the elected officials and communities were received too close to the meeting date. He then mentioned that some local



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businesses in Chepachet had contacted him with concerns that the prohibition on Route 102 would result in a loss of time and money due to having to go down Route 44 to access I-295 to get to 146 instead of using Route 102 through Glocester, Burrillville and North Smithfield. He also said that City/Town officials and police chiefs need to be present. Following Rep Chippendale’s comments Steve Pristawa did reiterate that the prohibition is only for thru tractor trailers. Trips originating in Chepachet would not be affected. The intent is not to change the routes of local businesses, but to prohibit tractor trailers from using exit 5 on I-95 and taking Route 102 in West Greenwich to Route 146 in North Smithfield. Kevin Cleary, Town Engineer in Smithfield spoke since some roads are in Smithfield. He expressed concerns on how the notification and signage of the restriction would be done and who would be responsible for enforcement.

Marcy Coleman questioned about police enforcement and what their roles are in this proposal. Chief Mello had concerns for lack of definitions of thru tractor trailers and shares the concerns of the short notice given for this meeting. He said a clear policy is needed and all concerns should be addressed before voting on this item. Bob Rocchio asked Steve Pristawa if the STC has done this already and his answer was yes, in Bristol on Hope Street thru trucks were prohibited and directed to use Metacom Avenue. Bob Rocchio made a motion to approve the request with the stipulation that it would not affect local companies and it is strictly for thru tractor trailers. Meredith Brady seconded the motion. Bob Rocchio and Meredith Brady voted for and Chief Mello, Corporal Corson and Marcy Coleman voted against. The motion failed.

Corporal Corson suggested speaking to Legal Counsel and questions if special legislation is needed for this proposal. He went on to request more outreach to get local leaders opinions. Chief Mello said the concept has good intent, but needs to have good legal standing. Marcy Coleman made a motion to continue the issue until these matters can be addressed. Chief Mello added to the motion to request RIDOT Legal Counsel attend the next meeting to answer any legal questions. The motion also stipulated that a 45 day notice of the next meeting be given to the Cities/Towns and elected officials. This motion was seconded by Corporal Corson and unanimously approved.

Action Taken:

Motion Made
Ms. Marcy Coleman

Motion 2nd
Corporal William Corson

Voting Results
Unanimous



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The next meeting of the State Traffic Commission will be on Wednesday, September 06, 2017 at 10:00 am in Room 203 of the State House. This meeting was adjourned at 10:10am.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Steven Pristawa, PE
Secretary

Approved: _____

Chief Edward Mello
Chairperson

Corporal William Corson
Vice Chairperson