Town Of

AMHERST *Massachusetts*

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
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May 19, 2011

To: John Musante, Town Manager

From: Guilford Mooring, Superintendent of Public Works

Subj: Approval of Various Road Projects/Issues

The following three items are submitted for Select Board Approval.

1. **Traffic Calming in the Lincoln Ave., Sunset Ave. and McClellan St. Area**.

After much discussion and experimentation the DPW has concluded that the best way to deal with the traffic speed and volume issues in this neighborhood would be to separate the neighborhood from UMass. This would force drivers using Lincoln Ave to use the major routes through Amherst, (North Pleasant, Triangle, and University Drive) to access UMass. During public presentations of this idea it became evident that this was not an acceptable alternative to the traveling public at this time. The major concerns were that the roadway systems that would replace Lincoln Ave. are not capable of handling the increase in traffic. This is one of the reasons Lincoln Ave. is currently used.

In light of these concerns the DPW is recommending a multi-step process in addressing traffic issues in this area. They are:

a. Upgrades the Big Y and University Drive intersection. This is underway
b. Upgrades the Amity Street and University Drive intersection. This is in design.
c. Upgrade the East Pleasant Street and Triangle Street Intersection.
d. Continue discussions with UMass to upgrade traffic and pedestrian flow on Mass Ave. and the intersection of Mass Ave. and University Drive.
e. Install Traffic Calming measures in the Lincoln Ave., Sunset Ave. and McClellan St. area as the roads are being repaved. The proposed layout of these traffic calming measures are shown on the enclosed drawing.

At this time the DPW is seeking permission to begin implementing step (e) above.

Proposed motion:

That the Select Board moves, to approve the placement of traffic calming measures on Lincoln Ave., Sunset Ave. and McClellan Street as shown on the plan dated May 18, 2011, when these roadways are resurfaced.

2. Improvements to Spring Street Parking Lot.

The DPW is submitting the above project to the Select Board for Final Plan approval. This project is to replace and repair the existing sidewalk and parking lot areas between South Pleasant Street and Boltwood Ave. The project includes:

a. Upgrades to the sanitary sewer system to correct capacity issues on South Pleasant St.
b. Drainage system upgrades
c. Street light upgrades
d. Parking lot upgrades
e. Sidewalk upgrades to meet the Downtown standards

Project plans and information can be found at the following link:

http://www.amherstma.gov/index.aspx?NID=1333

The Public Works Committee, (PWC) held a 30 day comment period and a project hearing April 5th for this project. The PWC meet again on May 3rd to review the comments received and to possibly make a motion concerning this project. No comments were received.

The PWC reviewed these materials collected at their May 3rd meeting and recommends approval of the Street Improvements to the Spring Street parking Lot.

The Department of Public Works also recommends approval.

Proposed Motion:

That the Select Board moves, to approve the Spring Street Parking Lot improvements as Shown on the plan dated Feb 2, 2011.

3. New Crosswalk on South East Street.

The Amherst Regional School Committee has requested that a crosswalk be installed on South East Street at the intersection with Station Road. The DPW has reviewed this request and recommends a crosswalk be installed as shown on the attached drawing.

Proposed Motion:

That the Select Board moves, to approve the Proposed Crosswalk for South East Street to the Common as Shown on the plan dated June 14, 2010.