

Walk Friendly Newtown Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2022; 12-1 pm

In attendance via Zoom: Don Hayden, Courtney Lang, Amy Lustig

Comprehensive discussion about the “Quick Win” ideas Don presented at the Council Work Session on May 4, 2022. See “Walk Friendly: ‘Quick Win’ Ideas” file for list.

- “Slow Down for Newtown”: all 23 signs have been placed. Move locations in a couple of weeks?
- Community Education Initiative: police enforcement initiative going well per Chief Sabath. Pedestrian and motorist information cards being distributed when officers interact with those who are in violation.
- “Slow Your Roll” Car Magnets: Council approved at the 5/10/2022 Council Meeting the purchase of 500 magnets not to exceed \$560 in cost. Discussed how to distribute the magnets (Set up a table at Borough events? Set up a table near Starbucks on a weekend? Go door-to-door and give to residents? Also discussed: should they be free, or should we charge for them? This question opened another set of questions, including: Can WFN accept donations? If so, how does one donate? Do we need to set up a 501c3? Can we create a donation wish board? Amy will ask Sue to find out donation answers from Borough Solicitor.
- Improve Sign Visibility and Corner Sight Lines: Need to identify locations of need/change as well as recommendations and create a working list. Courtney is creating a Google Sheet for committee members to gather and place this information from their corresponding Borough sections (1-6 per Don’s map).
- Move Playground Sign on North Congress: Amy will ask Sue to request that Scott move sign further south on N. Congress (to where the 25 mph sign currently is)
- Proper Placement of Speed Monitoring Sign at East End of Washington Avenue: Make it a freestanding sign? Amy will ask Sue to request that Scott move the sign to a more visible location (is currently under an obscuring shade tree) and replace the batteries. Amy also called the Region 6 PennDOT Traffic unit to inquire about installing speed signs in permanent locations and learned that would require a permit from the state.
- Sentinels at Borough Entry Crosswalks: Don has offered to donate sentinels (Amy is inquiring via Sue; also on call to Region 6 PennDOT Traffic Unit inquired about any state programs that provide sentinels to municipalities. While that program used to exist, municipalities now need to purchase and place their own sentinels (now called **Channelizing Devices**”)
- Red Flashing Lights on Stop Signs: Amy asked the Region 6 PennDOT Traffic Unit representative about these lights; he said that they are not meant to be a permanent installation and are only permitted for 60 days to call attention to a new sign. That said, there are signs available (for purchase) that have LED lights around the perimeter of the stop sign. As those would be permanent electronic installations, they would also require a permit from the state.
- Speed Monitoring Signs at Borough Entries: See above (“Proper Placement . . . ”)

Other items discussed:

- When will magnets be available?
- Onboarding of resident Matt Newman to the committee, with a focus on funding sources. Don will contact Matt to assess interest.
- Courtney brought up the idea of a 6-way pedestrian crossing at traffic light-controlled intersections (allows for pedestrians only crossing for 30 seconds in all directions). Don suggested that we ask if the idea can be tested at the new signals to be installed at Washington and Lincoln. Amy will ask Sue to inquire with the Borough Engineer about the feasibility of this happening, first at Washington and Lincoln and ultimately at the State Street lights.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Minutes submitted by Amy Lustig, 5/11/2022