

**PORTSMOUTH
TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
8:00 a.m. – Thursday, April 10, 2008
City Hall – Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers**

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Councilor Ken Smith, Chairman called the meeting to order at approximately 8:05 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL: Members Present:

Councilor Ken Smith, Chairman	Ted Gray, Member
Steve Parkinson, P.E. Public Works Director	John Connors, Member
Deputy Police Chief Len DiSesa	Jonathan Bailey, Member
Assist. Fire Chief Achilles	Christina Westfall, Member
Deborah Finnigan, P.E., Traffic Engineer	John Howe, Member
	Brendan Cooney, Member

III. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:

IT WAS VOTED on a Motion made by John Connors to accept the minutes of the March 13, 2008 meeting. Seconded by Ted Gray. Motion passed.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

- (A) **431 Pleasant Street** - Request for Driveway Permit (Application for Permit attached) – Brendan Cooney referred to the on-site and the main concern with the proposed driveway is the space between the two houses is very narrow and a vehicle exiting would have very limited site distance in either direction.

MOTION made by Brendan Cooney to place request on file and not recommend at this time. Seconded by Ted Gray. Motion passed.

Jack Kelley stated he brought this to the Committee's attention is the property's restriction of lack of parking. The owner intends to cut off the end of the deck so as to allow a small (compact) vehicle to enter the back yard, do a 360 and go out head first, feeling this may be an answer to the safety concerns. Mr. Kelley asked for the Committee's reconsideration for a curb cut on a limited basis for a small vehicle, moped, or motorcycles.

- (B) **Library** – Parrott Ave. - Request for Crosswalks (Letter dated March 24, 08 attached) – Jonathan Bailey referred to the on-site stating that the grass across the street to Leary Field seems like a natural obvious place for children to use going back and forth between the field and the Library. There was concern about losing two parking spaces but seems well worth giving those two spaces for the crosswalk.

MOTION made by Jonathan Bailey to accept and have the crosswalk installed. Seconded by John Connors. Motion passed.

- (C) **Portsmouth Toyota** – Greenleaf Ave./Rte.1 Bypass – Increase Parking Lot and Drainage Changes (Site Plans attached) – Attorney Pelech on behalf of Portsmouth Toyota along with Dennis Moulton of MSC Land Surveyors. Mr.

Moulton passed out trip generation information to the Committee showing trips generated for former businesses prior to it being Portsmouth Toyota showing a higher number of trips previously than trips generated now.

Dennis Moulton referred to the proposed site construction plans. Mr. Moulton referred to the three handouts, 1. Former Uses for Facility at 150 Greenleaf Ave., 2. Current Trip Generation Based on Actual Site Visits Recorded by Portsmouth Toyota and 3. Trip Generation Based on ITE 6th Edition.

Ted Gray referred to the change of number of trips because of doubling the area and does not understand how Mr. Moulton states there will be fewer trips generated than in the past. Mr. Gray asked if the prime reason or one of the prime reasons for this dealership expanding parking and to go farther to the Rte. 1 By-pass is because you are adding a new nameplate to this dealership? The rumor seems to be that a 3rd dealership will be added.

Attorney Pelech responded "No, not that I'm aware of".

Assist. Fire Chief Achilles asked currently where are new cars unloaded?

Mr. Moulton responded in the parking lot.

Assist. Fire Chief Achilles referred the handout Actual Site Visits Recorded By Portsmouth Toyota, Customer Pay 28 x 4 is not 111 it is 112, the numbers are wrong although they add up correctly.

John Howe referred to the on-site and the 59 existing spaces and earlier stated 330 unstripped spaces, is this correct?

Mr. Moulton responded 200 stripped spaces, and total on-site is from 200-300.

Mr. Howe asked how many will there be under the proposal?

Mr. Moulton responded he will have to refer to the parking analysis.

Mr. Howe referred to two recent traffic situations at the By-pass and noticed at that entrance/exit is kind of completely blinded of any stripping or signs and asked what the plans are for there.

Mr. Moulton responded we can put signs there.

Steve Parkinson asked if all the spaces shown will be paved and all the spaces going to be stripped in? Mr. Moulton responded "yes".

Mr. Parkinson's concern is the spaces will be designated on the ground so that we're losing isle spaces and circulation throughout the lot.

Mr. Moulton responded "yes" it

Debbie Finnigan stated particularly speaking when you do a traffic study you have back up to your numbers and part of your numbers are a little suspect for a variety of reasons. Ms. Finnigan stated he really needs to back up the numbers and the trip factor as well explaining why you feel it is a valid number. Peak hours are very important. Doing a quick calculation based on the ITE previous Saturday use was 27 and now it is 70 and is not the same as you've been stating. The p.m. is close 159 the previous use and now it's 59, a lot less but based on

that it will be close. In order to feel comfortable these are facts, Ms. Finnigan stated she needs a lot more backup that what you have presented.

Ted Gray referred to the current trip generation on test drives, you show 11, and in order to have a test drive someone needs to drive in to pick up another car, so technically you'd have 22 as four trips would be generated.

Mr. Moulton responded sales visits coming into the site to either look at cars or test drive

MOTION made by Assist. Fire Chief Achilles to approve with stipulations. Seconded by Steve Parkinson.

Assist. Fire Chief Achilles referred to the travel lanes throughout the site and concerned with a car fire, we don't want to have access issues to around the building with extra shipments, and would like to see the parking spaces lined.

Steve Parkinson stated the vest verb age is that all the parking spaces shown on the plans are physically painted on the ground and maintained.

Mr. Howe would like to stipulate there be some type of stripping, signage or stop bar at the entrance/exit that would warn those entering from Greenleaf

Debbie Finnigan suggested the language of putting a stop line and stop bar.

Steve Parkinson asked Debbie Finnigan if she was comfortable with the traffic information you have received to date on this project.

Debbie Finnigan responded "No", the data they have given doesn't have any back up and any traffic study will have back up including ITE trip generation, etc. and while a full blown study is probably not needed, definitely believes it needs more back up.

Deputy Police Chief DiSesa commented it was presented to TAC that the reason for the extra spots would be to lessen how many times a truck would have to come to deliver cars from off site, and if this is the case should we be concerned with turning ratios, getting into the actual driveway for trucks transporting cars.

Attorney Pelech responded when we received a change of use permit in 2004 they were required to alter some of the traffic islands so that a car carrier all the way around and unload in the parking lot and did submit a plan showing the turning radius for those car carriers.

Steve Parkinson stated given the fact the traffic figures were just handed to the Committee today and our Traffic Engineer is not satisfied with the information,

MOTION made by Steve Parkinson to table until next month for appropriate traffic information. Seconded by Ted Gray. Motion passed.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine E. Boucas, Recording Secretary