South End NRZ Zoom Meeting Minutes May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022



Present: 17 Participants

The meeting was opened at 6:30 pm

Frank Petise-Stamford Department of Transportation gave updates on the lower Atlantic Street project. Frank mentioned there was nothing new with the plans as they are still working on the design. Frank emphasized they are committed to minimizing the impact on property owners although the design was submitted by the previous administration, things can be done with the turn lanes and the median that will minimize the impact on property owners. The funds from DOT were received at the end of February beginning of March. As they get into the design there will be more public meetings and they will meet with the individual property owners that abut the project.

**Question:** If the project does not go as presented or is rejected by the owners and the NRZ, would it be possible to just repave and place bike lanes in the same lanes as it is done in other parts of the city, since not too many bicycles are being used in the South End?

<u>Answer:</u> The proposal is for complete street philosophy that includes bike lanes but Frank stated he would like to get to a place where we have something we can agree upon. As the design moves forward Frank stated they can look at options with bike infrastructure and come up with a better option.

**Question:** What is going on with Garden Street?

<u>Answer:</u> Garden Street is moving forward but currently there are no available plans. Garden Street will be a complete street design to include bike lanes. Ted Ferrarone of BLT interjected and confirmed all widening will be on the left side of the street on BLT property.

Frank mentioned an ordinance has been passed to ban 12,000 lbs. trucks on residential streets. All complaints should go through parking enforcement or fix it Stamford.

**Question:** Will the parking ordinance affect food trucks? **Answer:** It depends on the height and limit of the trucks

Half tons, most 1 tons and pick-up trucks can still park on the residential streets. Extended trailers with more than 4 wheels will be in violation. Food trucks that are parked for more than 120 hours even when they are closed should be in violation. Frank will look into the ordinance on this and get back. It was mentioned that working on trucks on the street should be a violation. This issue will be referred to parking enforcement so they can look into this.

**Question:** Is there a time limit when big trucks can start & back up? People going through illnesses are being awaken during early hours.

**Answer:** Contact the Health Department as they set the noise level and the police will enforce it.

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**Question:** How long will it be before the Atlantic Street Project design is implemented? **Answer:** Have to update the survey information since it was done so long ago. Estimate 1 year to get the preliminary design and to get everyone's input.

**Question:** Is there an evacuation route for the South End since it has only 3 ways in and out? **Answer:** Frank will check to see if something has been established

It is estimated to take a year to do the whole design which have to be approved by DOT. The survey is done to get the preliminary property lines and then get back to the community to get their input as well as meet with the individual property owners.

<u>Question:</u> Atlantic Street was previously done why is there a need to redo it?

<u>Answer:</u> Some of Atlantic Street will get redone and some will stay the same so that it all can tie in.

Holy Name and BLT set the date of May 18<sup>th</sup> @10:00am to meet at Holy Name Athletic Club to discuss the issues they are having with flooding

**Question**: Is Eminent Domain still on the table?

**Answer:** Frank stated he wants to get something that works for everyone.

**Question:** What is going on with the Henry Street & Garden Street Houses?

<u>Answer:</u> Ted Mentioned it will probably be 30 days or longer for the Henry Street & Garden Street houses to be completed. The houses will be used for affordable housing and Charter Oak will do all the applications and BLT will manage the buildings.

There was an inquiry about the demolition of the Blick Building. Ted Ferrarone mentioned that they are trying to be real careful to make sure the total building will not be torn down.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.