



Town of Thomaston Traffic Advisory Committee Agenda

March 10, 2026

1. **Call to Order**- Eric Itzel
2. **Approve Previous Minutes**- Eric Itzel & Holly Merrow
3. **Guests introductions & identify Citizen concerns & requests to be added to New Business topics**- Eric Itzel
4. **Active Business:**
 - a. Discussion of Water Street traffic calming study, review of the letter of notice to the residents in the area of interest and delegation of immediate action items- Richard Barnett, Holly Merrow, John Fancy
 - b. Final review of talking points for upcoming interview with Midcoast Villager- Eric Itzel and Richard Barnett
5. **New Business:**
 - a. Discussion of April public meeting and action items for the Water Street traffic calming project.
6. **Open forum** for Citizen concerns, transportation related complaints, and other requests relevant to the TAC. Action items and talking points will be added to the April TAC meeting as “Active Business”.
7. **Adjourn**



[Date]

Dear Thomaston Resident,

The Town of Thomaston is writing to inform you of an upcoming public meeting regarding a Traffic Calming study for Water street. The Police Department has reviewed the traffic situation and has drafted recommendations to improve safety on our streets for all road users.

The purpose of this meeting is to provide an overview of the project, share relevant background information, outline potential next steps, and gather input from residents and stakeholders. Community participation is an important part of the Town's decision-making process, and we encourage you to attend.

Meeting Details:

Date: [Insert Date]

Time: [Insert Time]

Location: [Insert Location]

[Include virtual attendance information if applicable]

At this meeting, Town representatives will:

- Provide an overview of the project or issue;
- Present relevant data, plans, or proposals;
- Discuss potential impacts and considerations;
- Answer questions and receive public comment.

Your feedback will help inform the Town's next steps and any future recommendations to the Select Board or other municipal bodies.

If you are unable to attend but would like to submit comments, please contact:

Richard Barnett
Chair of the Thomaston Traffic Advisory Committee
Town of Thomaston
Email: rmbarnettphoto@gmail.com

Meeting materials may also be posted on the Town website at [Insert Website] for review. We appreciate your time and engagement and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Richard Barnett
Chair of the Thomaston Traffic Advisory Committee
Town of Thomaston, ME



TAC Monthly Minutes

Tuesday February 10th, 2026

Richard Barnett	x	Jonathan Eaton	
Holly Merrow	x	Kathy Derene	
Eric Itzel	x	Barbara Balduman	
Eric Quatrano		Mary Strong	x
Doug Erickson		John Fancy	x
Shirley Barlow		Eric Quatrano	x
Kim Matthews		Other:	
		Other: Paul Speer	x

No Public Comments

Most of the meeting was consumed with talking about how to create, distribute and notify the water st residents of a neighborhood meeting to get their approval on a proposal from chief Quatrano for some traffic calming measures that we would like to implement. We need to create a form letter to distribute to the residents on Water St. and Green St for a meeting on **April 14th** at the town office building. John Fancy also drafted a letter that he will email to the committee. This date should also be added to the town calendar. Chief Quatrano is going to email the committee a copy of the proposal.

Chief Quatrano told us that there have been 145 stops for traffic infractions in and around the following streets in the last 60 days: Knox, Water, Green, Br. Heights, Beechwood, Booker, and Thomaston Streets. It would be good to know in the future the exact time frame and how many of those traffic infractions stops resulted in a ticket. The police dept is down two officers as of the date of this meeting.

Eric Eitzel reported that we need to put together a recap of what TAC has accomplished over the last year for the town report. He had some notes that he will email to the committee members for review.



We talked about the SS4A (Safe Streets For All) grant again. The TAC has been awarded \$18,000 from the overall grant money for some small Traffic Calming tools, etc. We do not expect to see those finds for about a year.

Richard and Eric are going to schedule a meeting with Village Soup for a March article on what the TAC has accomplished and what our mission is. This is part of our 2026 goal to get the word out about the TAC.

Next TAC meeting March 10th in the Lura Libby Room 6:00 pm.

Tuesday January 13th, 2026

Richard Barnett	x	Jonathan Eaton	
Holly Merrow	x	Kathy Derene	
Eric Itzel		Barbara Balduman	x
Eric Quatrano	x	Mary Strong	
Doug Erickson	x	John Fancy	x
Shirley Barlow		Eric Quatrano	x
Kim Matthews	x	Other: Pete Lamert	x
		Other: Paul Speer	x

There were no public comments.

Eric Quatrano the Police chief reviewed the fact finding results from the Request submitted by Mary Strong for a TAC review and proposal for the water street and Green Street intersection. He said that in one month, there were 23,000 cars that went by the speed sign on Water st. near the 90 degree turn onto Knox and that the average speed was 21 mph. He also placed some officers in the area for an undetermined amount of time to patrol. Holly Merrow asked for specific information on how many times and for how long each time. How many stops and how many tickets were given. This information was not in the report. Also the placement of the speed sign seems curious and was also questioned by Holly Merrow. He does feel there is a problem with people running the stop signs and made suggestions for



new signs with flashing lights and painted streets with “STOP AHEAD”. Plus continuing to put officers on patrol in the area. The TAC approved this plan and the next steps are to get the residents to hold a public meeting for approval of the plan and

present this to the Select board. Question about paying for this - Is there money from a grant? I thought we had received a small grant for some traffic calming measures.

Suggestion: In the future we need to see reports that are several pages long ahead of the meeting to be expected to vote on proposals for Traffic Calming proposals from the town.

John Fancy outlined the proposal for the SS4A grant. It is essentially 4 parts that includes a Traffic Study for 5 towns to create a Comprehensive Safety Plan for each town. The town will adopt the plan and get demonstration equipment to try out through renting or leasing for a time period to see if the plan will work. Thomaston will hire a consultant to implement our traffic safety plan. This is long term and will probably not happen until sometime in 2028.

Goals for this year for the TAC: Get the word out to the town’s people about the the TAC our policy and the request for evaluation form through monthly social media posts and an rticle about what we are doing in Village Soup.

October 14, 2025

Richard Barnett		Jonathan Eaton	
Holly Merrow	x	Kathy Derene	
Eric Itzel	x	Barbara Balduman	x
		Mary Strong	x
Doug Erickson	x	John Fancy	x
Shirley Barlow	x	Eric Quatrano	x
Kim Matthews	x	Other: Cathay Harn	x
		Other:	



First order of business to approve the minutes from the August meeting as there was not a meeting in September. Minutes approved.

We welcomed new police chief Eric Quatrano to the group.

We had a visitor - Cathy Harn from the corner of Thatcher and Knox st.

Old Business:

We nominated and elected Eric Itzell as the vice chairperson.

Mary Strong updated us on her traffic study request - as of right now with the new police chief, there has not been anything done. She was contacted to let her know that the form had been received.

We reviewed suggestions for promoting Traffic Calming Requests

- Continue to promote on Social Media - Last post by police dept was Sept. 4, could also consider the Thomaston Talk on FB or going to Next Door App.
- We need a fillable form online
- Monthly Article in the town newsletter - includes link to the form and policy
- Article in the Midcoast Villager with interviews from new police chief, TAC committee members, townspeople

New Business:

John Fancy - Update on RFPS for Town of Thomaston Comprehensive Traffic Study - Selectboard turned down request for John to ask for RFPs - Not time for this right now according to them - cost?

Eric briefed us on the town traffic signal improvements by DOT. The light at rte 131 south will be outfitted with new sensors technology that gives access to video and incident management data.

Eric Quatrano briefed us on his "new" schedule for officers on patrol. There are supposed to be a minimum of 2 officers on duty at all times. More officers on the streets when it matters.

Shirley Barlow gave us an informal traffic study report for Green and Water streets stop sign. She conducted this study for 3 days in August from 6:00am - 6:00pm. There were almost 2000 cars that



came through the stop sign with 614 coming to a complete stop, 618 rolling stop and 744 driving straight through. The new police chief says he is putting more patrols in that area.

Doug Erickson suggested that we charge Walmart per call after _____ many calls in a day. We are struggling to keep the officers in our downtown area with the number of calls to Walmart.

MCOG Grant - Where do we stand? - No info. Maybe can get info for the next meeting.

Cathy Harn - Lives on the corner of Knox and Thatcher - People do not stop at the stop sign there. Biggest offenders are the workers from Lyman Morse getting off duty.

Via email after the meeting, Kathy Derene has resigned from the TAC. Thank you for your help Kathy.

Next meeting is supposed to be November 11th - Holiday - Would like to move it out a week or push to the next month.

September 10, 2025 - No meeting

Richard Barnett		Jonathan Eaton	
Holly Merrow		Kathy Derene	
Shirley Barlow		Barbara Balduman	
Eric Itzel		Mary Strong	
Doug Erickson		John Fancy	
Chris Hansen		Chris Hansen	
Kim Matthews		Other:	
		Other:	



August 13th, 2025

Richard Barnett	X	Jonathan Eaton	
Holly Merrow	X	Kathy Derene	
Shirley Barlow	X	Barbara Balduman	X
Eric Itzel	X	Mary Strong	
Doug Erickson	X	John Fancy	X
		Chris Hansen	X
Kim Matthews			
		Other:	

Introductions did not happen but we have a new member Shirley Barlow from Green St.

John Fancy presented a piece of the Comprehensive Plan from the town. He said there are 240 items that need to be checked off over time and the most important at the moment is traffic flow. He asked the TAC to endorse an RFP for a long term traffic planning study. We could include the other towns around us to have more power and get a more comprehensive plan on handling the ever increasing traffic as we build more apartment complexes and get more tourists in all of the towns around us.

PPI - Part of DOT and will pay for about 80% of cost

It was mentioned that air quality and emissions grants will help pay for the study

The TAC voted to endorse RFPs for this kind of study and this endorsement was sent to the Selectboard.



Eric Itzel thinks we should have a town survey asking if people have heard about the TAC and the new policy.

Chris said he would put a FB post on the PD page about the TAC

Portable speed tables and signage were presented to the selectboard to be added to the grant request of \$19,000

Next Meeting September 10th 6:00pm

July 21st meeting: Cancelled

Richard Barnett		Jonathan Eaton	
Will Eustis		Kathy Derene	
Holly Merrow		Barbara Balduman	
Eric Itzel		Mary Strong	
Doug Erickson		John Fancy	
Alan Blake		Chris Hansen	
Kim Matthews		Peter Lammert	
		Other:	

June 17th, 2025

Thomaston Traffic Advisory Committee

Tuesday, June 17, 2025 – 6:00 PM

Members in attendance: Richard Barnett, Douglas Erickson, Chris Hansen, Eric Itzel,



Kim Matthews, Mary Strong.

Public in Attendance: Nancy Baker, Shirley Barlow, Cindy Lang

1. Introductions of guests were made.
2. Acting Chief Chris Hansen reviewed the analysis of the first street survey with the Black Cat. The numbers were surprisingly low, with one glaring exception. Copy of findings is attached.
3. Richard BarneU presented a proposal for Thomaston's portion of the application for the SS4A Grant by the combined Midcoast towns through the office of Adi Philson. The committee voted to move ahead with submitting the proposal for approval by the Select Board. Richard BarneU will make a presentation at the June 23 Select Board meeting.
4. The Traffic Calming Evaluation Request Form has been completed with changes discussed at previous meetings, and is now available at the Town Office.
5. The committee discussed that we need to recruit additional members to fill spaces recently vacated.
6. With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting: Tuesday, July 8, 2025, 6:00 PM.

Richard Barnett	x	Jonathan Eaton	
Will Eustis		Kathy Derene	
Holly Merrow		Barbara Balduman	
Eric Itzel	x	Mary Strong	X
Doug Erickson	x	John Fancy	
Alan Blake		Chris Hansen	x
Kim Matthews	X	Peter Lammert	



		Other:	
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Traffic Committee Meeting May 13 th

Present: Kathy Derene, Will Eustis, Doug Erickson,
Richard Barnett, Alan Blake, Chris Hansen
Adi Philson, Mary Strong, Barbara Bulduman.

Meeting minutes recorded by Alan Blake

Chris Hansen gave update on Black Cat testing. It's going well and the department is close to being proficient in its use.

Chris mentioned crosswalk signs being used in Rockland would be suitable for us. Mary Strong may be able to research them.

Adi mentioned that DOT grant may help with purchase of such signs.

It was agreed to make minor amendments to aid clarity of Complaint Form.

It was noted that the town gets no income from citations/tickets despite the costs involved in their issue.

People wondered if we can lobby Augusta about this.

Adi presented DOT traffic volume data which we may wish to use as part of grant applications. She also recommended we apply for A COMMUNITY RESILIENCE GRANT to obtain funding for our needed Traffic Calming Study. Submission for this is due by July so we



URGENTLY need to discuss with Kara George and with John Fancy as this may compete with Waterfront grant applications.

(I'm not sure if the award of a \$75,000 Grant mentioned by John Fancy at this morning's May 20 th Working Waterfront Committee meeting affects a new application being made.)(Alan)

Adi will get quotes from relevant sources to get ballpark figures for likely Traffic Study costs. (Current info suggests a range from \$10,000 - \$50,000)

Adi also mentioned a Federal Grant called 'SAFE STREETS FOR ALL' which could cover consultancy fees for a Comprehensive Safety Plan and for certain equipment purchases. This grant requires a 20 per cent match from the town and the application is due by June 26 th !! So again we need to meet Kara to discuss town's appetite to go for this.

Chris mentioned that we should possibly purchase some mobile speed bumps for use over 4 th July weekend.

NEXT MEETING JUNE 17TH

Attendees:

April 8th, 2025

Richard Barnett	X	Jonathan Eaton	
Will Eustis		Kathy Derene	X
Holly Merrow	X	Barbara Balduman	



Eric Itzel		Mary Strong	
Doug Erickson	X	John Fancy	
Alan Blake	X	Chris Hansen	X
Kim Matthews	X	Peter Lammert	
		Other: Adi Philson	X

1. We reviewed the Agenda and Holly asked that we make room on the Agenda for public comment at the beginning and end of the meeting.
2. A motion was proposed that we have a zoom option for the TAC meetings. It was voted on and approved by the committee. Richard is going to look into setting this up.
3. Black Cat is here.
 - Chris Hanson has said he will get it up on a trial basis by the next TAC meeting.
 - Lots of possibilities were mentioned as to where to test it out (Valley St., and entrance to Walmart)
 - Adi mentioned that a good way to test its accuracy is to put it up next to one of the Maine DOT traffic count areas and compare data.
4. TAC is still waiting for an email address for the chairperson. We would like traffic@thomaston.gov Chris said he has emailed Don fowls (sp?) twice but as of the meeting he had not heard back.
5. The TAC reviewed the committee rules.
 - We agreed to remove item number 1. There are many people on the voluntary committee that travel in the winter or for their jobs.
 - We decided to combine numbers 2 & 3 and take out the word discussion
 - The rest of the rules were agreed upon
6. There was a discussion that the DOT has promised a flashing light at the crosswalk in front of Thomaston Grocer. One possibility for the hold up is that the company that they were going to buy from has had some manufacturing problems.



7. News from ADI

- MCOG is working on a project that identifies pinch point areas
- She suggested that we should ask for an amount from the capital reserves account or TIFF be allocated to fund projects for the TAC, perhaps \$5,000
- She mentioned that we should look into applying for the community action grant - No match grant \$75,000. Next steps would be to apply and then put in a request to evaluate the town. The next round deadline is most likely June. We would need to scope out some costs for the evaluation.

8. Alan brought up that a group in Augusta is supporting cameras in Maine that give tickets. Bill LD1457 - We agreed that we would like to advise the selectboard to support this bill in writing to our local legislator.

Attendees:

March 11, 2025

Richard Barnett	x	Jonathan Eaton	
Will Eustis	x	Kathy Derene	
Holly Merrow	x	Barbara Balduman	
Eric Itzel	x	Mary Strong	
Doug Erickson	x	John Fancy	x
Alan Blake	x	Chris Hansen	x
Kim Matthews	x	Peter Lammert	
		Other: John Nelson	x

1. The committee selected a chairperson, vice chairperson and Secretary

- Chairperson: Richard Barnett



- Vice Chairperson: Will Eustis
- Secretary: Holly Merrow

2. The committee with direction from John Fancy outlined some of chairperson's duties:

- Set dates for regular meetings
- Set Agenda for meetings
- Attend regular meetings
- Notify the town 1-2 weeks in advance of the meetings and provide them with agenda and run the meeting

3. The committee reviewed the the Traffic Calming Request Form:

- We decided to remove the word "form" from the title
- On the second page last sentence add: Signers must be "confirmed" property owners...
- On the second page last sentence add to the end: ...or business owners "of Thomaston, ME
- Eventually get it on the website as a fillable PDF
- For now paper copies for pick up or could be mailed by request in the town office

4. The Committee is requesting a .gov email for the Chairperson. Chris Hanson offered to talk to Sally in the town office or even Don Fowls, the IT person for Thomaston.

- We would like it to be traffic@thomaston.gov if possible

5. We talked with 2 members of the community that were at the meeting. John Nelson, concerned about the crosswalk in front of the library on rte 1. He cannot cross as cars will not stop even with the neon signs. Wondered if we could add a flashing light. TAC talked about it being rte 1 and a state road. Not sure what can be done with that.

6. For Agenda going forward:

- Public comments at the beginning and at the end of the meeting and timed.
- Meetings recorded and held in the selectboard room when available

Next meeting April 8th 6:00pm