The March 2013 meeting of the Traffic Safety Board was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on March 6, 2013. Chairman Larry Hunter opened the meeting with a review of the February 2013 minutes. A motion was made by Joseph Sexton, seconded by Russell Stoll, to approve the February 6, 2013 minutes. Approved 7-0.

Larry Hunter chaired the meeting. Present were Vice Chairman Joseph Sexton, Duncan Black, Gary Palumbo, Andrew Lanphear, Lisa Fontana Tierney and Russell Stoll. Also present were Joseph Frese of the Building Department, Dan Howard (substituting for Scott Marshall) of the Planning Department, Captain Patrick McKenna of the Police Department, and Deputy Supervisor Guy Marlette of the Town Board and Christopher Schregel, Traffic Safety Coordinator/Engineering Liaison. Guest list is on record in the Engineering Department.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. Transit Middle School Traffic Signal – Northbound left turning vehicles blocking southbound Transit Road traffic. Nicole Burroughs, 106 Beachridge Drive addressed the Amherst Traffic Safety Board during the public comment period. Ms. Burroughs stated that the northbound Transit Road traffic turning left into school driveway after protected left turn phase has turned dark is interfering with southbound Transit Road traffic. Further explaining that this is occurring every morning from 8:44 a.m. to 8:53 a.m. and her concern is to have this corrected before an accident occurs. L. Hunter closes the public portion of the public meeting. D. Black states this is being created by the school so the school should go back and re-look at their policy on school drop-off timing. A. Lanphear agrees with D. Black and suggests sending a recommendation to the NYSDOT to look at this intersection since Transit Road is under the jurisdiction of New York State. C. Schregel reported that he previously contacted the NYSDOT on this issue and the NYSDOT did not think left timing adjustment would solve the problem. G. Palumbo suggests that either NYSDOT or Amherst Traffic Safety Board discuss the matter with the school. G. Palumbo questions if the internal circulation can be improved upon. L. Hunter asks C. Schregel if he spoke to the NYSDOT about the green arrow at the end of the cycle. C. Schregel responded no. C. Schregel provided details of a telephone conversation he had with the principal, as follows:
   - Depending on the weather the number of parent / vehicle pickups and drop-offs decrease in the nicer weather when children are walking and biking to school.
   - Parents are provided instructions on how to pickup and drop-off their children.
   - The school did petition the NYSDOT to extend green time but the state reviewed it and they would only add unnecessary delay on Transit Road and an increase in accidents. NYSDOT took it under advisement, no action taken.
   - The school has developed a parking lot reconfiguration and expansion plan that potentially might avoid some of the congestion at this intersection.
- When asked for extension of time earlier than 8:45 a.m. for children to enter the building, the school said they cannot provide that supervision.
- The school would like to hear suggestions from Amherst Traffic Safety Board and work with the Amherst Police.

After discussion, a motion was made by D. Black, seconded by L. Fontana Tierney, recommending the NYSDOT change the left turn cycle so it is at the end of the cycle (lag) in the northbound direction, have left turn red (exclusively/protected), and to send a letter to the school informing them of the Amherst Traffic Safety Board action with concern of an internal circulation. Approved 7-0.

2. Millersport Highway & Hopkins Road Intersection – Request for traffic signal. Tom Helm, 147 Londonderry Lane addressed the Amherst Traffic Safety Board during the public comment period. Mr. Helm has noticed an increase of traffic and growth in that area (Apex Building) and requests a traffic signal be added sooner rather than later. L. Hunter informed the resident and the Amherst Traffic Safety Board that this intersection did not meet the warrants for a traffic signal when a study was conducted by the NYSDOT in June of 2012. C. Schregel reported that advanced warning signs are on Millersport Highway showing an intersection at an angle of 90°. L. Hunter questions the use of this sign as the intersection is skewed and further suggests that a letter be sent to NYSDOT requesting them to post a warning sign that better depicts the actual geometry of the intersection. J. Sexton agrees that the NYSDOT should post a special sign. L. Hunter suggests a sign more like MUTCD Sign W2-1, but with side road legs on both sides of the main road on a slant. G. Palumbo asked on the status of the build out at Crosspoint and whether or not it is time to have another study or wait for additional development. D. Howard, Planning Department, answered that he is not sure where we are in the overall development, but there were provisions in the approval to look at traffic periodically as development progressed. G. Marlette recalls that the Apex petitioner must include a follow-up traffic study as it was a condition to the rezoning approval. Item held until additional information can be gathered.

3. New Road – Request for edge of pavement striping north of Millersport Highway. A motion was made by G. Palumbo, seconded by R. Stoll, to recommend Erie County repaint edgelines on both sides of New Road north of Millersport Highway. Approved 7-0.

4. South Ellicott Creek Road – Request for additional guide rails. Jenifer Grasha, 164 Amberwood Drive addressed the Amherst Traffic Safety Board during the public comment period. Ms. Grasha requests to have additional guide rails erected along South Ellicott Creek Road. She narrated a PowerPoint presentation along Ellicott Creek indicating areas where the edge of roadway is near the creek. Further informing the Amherst Traffic Safety Board of a fatal accident that happened on the Tonawanda side. Presentation is on file at the Engineering Department. L. Hunter closes the public portion of the public meeting. L. Hunter referred to the guide rail study, Town of Amherst Guide Rail – South Ellicott Creek Road. L. Hunter observed within the report that accidents were mostly at intersections and driver’s failure to obey a traffic control device. In his review of the accident information, L. Hunter did not necessarily see where the non-existence of guard rails was responsible for any accident. Continuing to add that it appeared to be a thorough study and that corrections were made where needed and not much has changed since the report. L. Fontana Tierney and R. Stoll were in agreement with the guidelines and regulation of the study. Amherst Traffic Safety Board asked C. Schregel to verify if the guide rails were
installed where recommended in the study and to check to see if the AASHTO guidelines have changed since the study was conducted. Item held.

5. Sheridan Drive & Hopkins Road Intersection – Southbound left turn bay. L. Hunter added this item to new business requesting support from the Amherst Traffic Safety Board to ask the NYSDOT for a review. L. Hunter questioned the length of the southbound left turn bay and its disruptions in the flow of traffic as it appears insufficient in length. A motion was made by J. Sexton, seconded by G. Palumbo, to recommend that the NYSDOT investigate if it would be beneficial to extend the southbound left turn lane to provide additional stacking. Approved 7-0.

6. North Forest Road Pavement Condition – G. Palumbo added this item to new business concerning maintenance issues on North Forest Road west of John James Audubon Parkway on the northwest corner. Amherst Traffic Safety Board directed C. Schregel to send a letter to the Erie County recommending that the County’s maintenance forces review the current conditions along this corridor and make necessary repairs as needed. Specifically, the Traffic Safety Coordinator is to make Erie County aware of a portion of North Forest Road along J John James Audubon Parkway where an inadequate shoulder width may pose a danger to both motorist and pavement longevity.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Fetto Park, 4731 Harlem Road – Crosswalk on Harlem. Jane Cox, 4584 Harlem Road addressed the Amherst Traffic Safety Board during the public comment period. Ms. Cox was present to get an update. L. Hunter informs Ms. Cox that the Amherst Traffic Safety Board is waiting for the pedestrian count which cannot be completed until the weather is suitable. Item Held.

B. Williamsville East High School Subcommittee. Item Held.

C. Crossing Guard Subcommittee. C. Schregel informed the Traffic Board that the subcommittee will provide a report in April. Item Held.

D. Ridge Court North / Bellingham Drive / Amherston Drive - Sign update. All signs have been installed. Receive and File.

L. Hunter asked the Amherst Traffic Safety Board for their approval to change the meeting date in June. A motion was made by D. Black, seconded by G. Palumbo, to change the meeting date from June 19, 2013 to June 12, 2013. Approved 7-0.
SITEM PLANS / REZONING

SUBJECT: Major Site Plan Review, SP-1989-34F
Proposed Building Addition and Parking Expansion
Job #1989.080
ADDRESS: 40 John Glenn Drive
PETITIONER: 40 John Glenn Drive Associates, LLC

X MAJOR SITE PLAN IS
X APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS

1. Pursue a parking lot connection with the adjacent parcel at 495 North French Road near the northwest corner of 40 John Glenn Drive. Attempt to secure a cross access agreement.
2. Provide revised signal timings for the future traffic signal at North French Road and John Glenn Drive six months after the signal is turned over to the Town of Amherst.

__________________________________________________________________________________

SUBJECT: Major Site Plan Review, SP-2013-03
Proposed “The Grove at Buffalo” Student Housing
TOA Job #2012.040
ADDRESS: 2091 Sweet Home Road
PETITIONER: Campus Crest Development, LLC

X MAJOR SITE PLAN IS
X NOT REVIEWABLE

1. Provide a Traffic Impact Study. Show how site generated trips were determined and consider using like-developments for site traffic generation. Traffic Impact Study should include a full review of the intersection of Herron Drive and its proximity to adjacent driveways and the I-990 ramp.
2. Consider an alternate pedestrian route to Skinnersville Road other than using Sweet Home Road.

__________________________________________________________________________________

SUBJECT: Major Site Plan Review, SP-2002-28B
Proposed Hyatt Place Hotel and Unified Development
TOA Job #2013.006
ADDRESS: 5000-5010 Main Street
PETITIONER: Iskalo Development Corp.

X MAJOR SITE PLAN IS
X APPROVED WITH CONDITIONS
1. Install a sidewalk along the Lakewood Parkway frontage. Maintain and clear snow on this sidewalk according to Town Code Chapters 83 and 151.

2. Identify the location of NFTA bus stop on the south side of Main Street on the plans. Review pedestrian routing options to and from this NFTA bus stop to determine if it can be improved upon.

3. Provide a bench at the NFTA bus stop on the north side of Main Street. Subject to NYSDOT approval.

4. Install a sidewalk connection from the NFTA bus stop along the north side of the property to the sidewalk along the front of the Lord Amherst Hotel.

5. Consider other pedestrian routing from the covered drive-thru to the proposed hotel.

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SUBJECT: Major Site Plan Review, SP-2013-04
Proposed “The Glen” Luxury Apartments
TOA Job #2013.016

ADDRESS: 6275, 6301 Sheridan Drive, 7610 Transit Road,
325 & 331 Tennyson Terrace

PETITIONER: Uniland Development Company

X MAJOR SITE PLAN IS
X NOT REVIEWABLE

1. Submitted Traffic Impact Study, as revised in February 2013, does not accurately represent the proposed plan. Revise the Traffic Impact Study with analysis of the new curb cut on Sheridan Drive, the removal of a Tennyson Road connection, and all other changes that have occurred since the rezoning.

2. Install internal pedestrian sidewalks and connect them to the existing sidewalk network on Sheridan Drive and Transit Road.

3. Install a fence or other barrier between the Tennyson Terrace dead-end and the proposed development. As designed, vehicles have the ability to drive over the narrow grass strip to access Tennyson Terrace.

4. Install a pedestrian opening within the fence or barrier described in above item 3 to accommodate walkers, cyclists, and schoolchildren.

5. Show additional adjacent curb cuts along and across Transit Road and Sheridan Drive in the areas of the proposed driveways.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for April 3, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Board Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher P. Schregel
Traffic Safety Coordinator

CPS/jm