



# CITY OF CONCORD

## REPORT TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

**FROM:** Robert J. Mack, PE, PTOE  
Traffic Engineer

**DATE:** July 10, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Report from the Traffic Engineer on behalf of both the Traffic Operations Committee and the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee in response to a referral from City Council regarding resident concerns on stop sign violations, traffic volumes and noise in the vicinity of the Broadway/Rockingham intersection.

### **Recommendation**

Accept this report.

### **Background**

On May 7, 2018, eight residents near the Broadway/Rockingham intersection forwarded to the City Clerk concerns on traffic operation and safety at the intersection. City Council referred this request to both the Traffic Operations Committee (TOC) and the Transportation Policy Advisory Committee (TPAC) on May 14, 2018. TOC considered this referral at its June 19, 2018 meeting, including follow-up by the Concord Police Department (CPD). TPAC also considered this referral at its June 28, 2018 meeting.

### **Discussion**

At issue are resident concerns on traffic operation and safety at the Broadway/Rockingham intersection. The May 7, 2018 communication signed by eight residents near the intersection notes the following concerns: drivers don't stop at the stop signs; excessive intersection noise due to some overly-noisy mufflers; large trucks driving through the intersection when they shouldn't be there; and too much traffic volume for the residential area. Ken March, resident and author of the communication, presented the neighbors' concerns at the June 19, 2016 TOC meeting.

Staff follow-up on the concern began in late May and included CPD outreach and targeted-enforcement efforts. 15 targeted-enforcement sessions were recorded between May 27 and June 15, 2018. Nine of the sessions observed no violations and six of the sessions included 8 vehicle stops with warning or citation given. Through-trucking violations were not observed at the intersection (Broadway is currently posted for no through trucking). CPD

also reached out to Mr. March on June 9, 2018 to discuss his concerns as well as CPD's enforcement efforts. Mr. March expressed appreciation for CPD efforts and also understood that CPD cannot always be present at the intersection. The issue of excessive muffler noise was discussed at TOC's June 19, 2018 meeting. CPD indicated that it does not have appropriate equipment to stop and measure a vehicle's muffler noise. Regarding traffic volume, staff noted that Broadway and Rockingham Street are classified as a major collector street and an urban collector street, respectively. As such, these streets are expected to provide access between neighborhoods as well as access from neighborhoods to the arterial and interstate highway network. A moderate volume of traffic is expected on these streets and has historically increased proportional to land-use growth in the Capital Region. The potential closure of Rockingham Street at S. Main Street, as requested by one resident at the TOC meeting, was felt by TOC to be inappropriate and not in the spirit and intent of the city's Transportation Master Plan which encourages street connectivity within and between neighborhoods.

At its June 28, 2018 meeting TPAC concurred with aforementioned follow-ups by TOC, staff and CPD and felt that the responses to residents' concerns noted above were appropriate. TPAC also did not support the potential closure of streets in the area, particularly collector streets such as Broadway and Rockingham Street.

cc: Traffic Operations Committee; Transportation Policy Advisory Committee; Ken March