



CITY OF CONCORD

REPORT TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Karen Hill, P.E., Transportation Engineer, staff representative for the Traffic Operations Committee.

DATE: November 20, 2023

SUBJECT: Response to City Council Referral: Stickney Hill Speeds

Recommendation

Accept this report from the Transportation Engineer on behalf of the Traffic Operations Committee in response to a referral from City Council regarding a communication from Councilor Brown, on behalf of Stickney Hill Road residents, expressing concern about the speed of vehicles traveling on the newly repaired roadway to and from the ramp for I-89.

Background

On October 10, 2023, City Council forwarded to the Traffic Operations Committee (TOC) a referral from City Council regarding a communication from Councilor Brown, on behalf of Stickney Hill Road residents, expressing concern about the speed of vehicles traveling on the newly repaired roadway to and from the ramp for I-89.

Discussion

Peter Wilson, a resident of 77 Stickney Hill Road, attended the October 17, 2023 Traffic Operations Committee meeting to express a concern about speeding vehicles on Stickney Hill Road, which he believes have intensified since the road was resurfaced last summer. He indicated that there is a heavy amount of bicycle, pedestrian and other recreation activity in the area due to connections to other bike trails and the private school in the area. The road is posted at 35 mph. Mr. Wilson does not believe that reducing the speed limit will make a meaningful impact, but is requesting increased police presence as well as identifying this area as a bike route. He invited the Police Department to use his driveway to conduct patrols.

The Police Department performed approximately 14 directed patrols on Stickney Hill Road for an estimated total of 6.5 hours between October 19th and November 1, 2023. The patrols resulted in only one stop for a vehicle traveling at 45 mph. The driver was issued a warning.

The Engineering Division of the Community Development Department also received speed data from the State of New Hampshire, summarized below:

June (Pre-paving)	Average (mph)	85 th percentile* (mph)
Eastbound	31	36
Westbound	30	35

October (Post-paving)	Average (mph)	85 th percentile* (mph)
Eastbound	34	39
Westbound	34	39

**85th percentile speed is the speed at or below which 85 percent of the drivers travel on a road segment.*

mph = miles per hour.

Although speeds did increase by 3 to 4 mph post-paving, average speeds were still noted to be below the posted speed limit of 35 mph. TOC and the Police Department concurred that significant speeding does not appear to be an overall problem on this street. However, inappropriate speed could certainly be attributable to a few inconsiderate drivers, and continued enforcement would be appropriate as circumstances warrant and resources allow.

cc: Traffic Operations Committee