

**CITY OF CONCORD
TRAFFIC OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF June 23, 2020**

The Traffic Operations Committee (TOC) met at 9:00 a.m. on June 23, 2020.

Due to the Covid-19/Coronavirus Pandemic and in accordance with Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, the Traffic Operations Committee was authorized to meet electronically. The City of Concord utilized the WebEx platform for this electronic meeting. There was no physical location to observe and listen to the meeting, which was authorized pursuant to Governor Sununu's emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04.

All members of the Committee had the ability to communicate during this meeting through the WebEx platform, and the public had access to listen and participate in this meeting as necessary.

Attendees: Jim Major, Fred Reagan, David Cedarholm, John Thomas, Sam Durfee, Rick Wollert, Karen Hill, Terry Crotty, Ashley Hamilton

Absent: Matt Cashman

Guests: Dick Lemieux

1. Approval of Minutes

The meeting minutes of February 25, 2020 were approved (Motion – Cedarholm; Second – Thomas).

2. Regular Discussion Items

- a. Overview of City-Wide Crash Date from March – May 2020 showed that motor vehicle traffic and overall accidents in the City were significantly reduced due to COVID-19.
- b. City Council Meeting Updates:
 - a. *Karen Hill's title was officially changed from Traffic Engineer to Transportation Engineer in March.*
 - b. *City Council voted to not pursue a sidewalk project along Borough Road to coincide with the paving project.*
- c. There were no Transportation Policy Advisory Committee (TPAC) updates discussed. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday June 25th.
 - a. *Sam Durfee mentioned that the TPAC Bike Ped Sub-Committee did meet and will be working on developing a sidewalk priority list. Rick Wollert requested to have Burns Ave added to the sidewalk priority list to make it safer for residential pedestrian traffic.*

3. Ongoing Discussion and Action Items

- a. Status of intersection improvements for Centre/Washington Street intersection:
 - i. *Engineering laid out the proposed improvements at the intersection for the school bus and fire truck tests. The plans were revised to better accommodate the turning radii. Further action has been tabled due to COVID-19. The next step would be to hold a public meeting.*
 - ii. *Washington Street is being paved (resurfacing only, no grinding) over the next few weeks by General Services. The paving will end at the limit of the proposed intersection*

improvements. The intersection improvements will be completed in the future once CIP approval and funding is available and there is public support.

- iii. It was recommended that this project be placed on the priority list under CIP 520, Intersection Safety Improvements.*
- b. Status of installation of Audible Pedestrian Signals at Pleasant/Green and Pleasant/State intersections regarding safety concerns for blind resident:
 - i. Dave Cedarholm stated that the next steps were to engage Councilor Kenison to see if there was support for pulling CIP funds forward to work on this project otherwise it is tabled for the phased CIP as planned in the future.*
 - ii. Rick Wollert reminded Cedarholm that an Easement was still needed for the cabinet relocation from its current location to the southeast corner. Cedarholm stated that no progress has been made yet, but it was still on the list to complete.*
- c. Status of temporary median island test at CVS/Burger King driveway:
 - i. Karen Hill stated that she has drafted a letter to the CVS & Burger King owners regarding the proposed temporary median island test.*
- d. Referral from City Councilor Werner regarding safety concerns at the intersection of Route 13 and Hooksett Turnpike:
 - i. It was discussed that funding for future alterations would be needed, potentially under CIP 520, Intersection Safety Improvements. The purpose of this project is to modify certain intersections to improve geometry and improve safety. The intersection would need to be placed in the priority list to help determine when funds should be allocated.*

4. New Discussion and Action Items

- a. Referral from City Councilor Pierce regarding dangerous intersection at the corner of Primrose Lane and Borough Road:
 - i. It was discussed that a tree (possibly on private property) was causing some site distance issues. Karen Hill stated that she would follow up with Paul Gendron, the City Surveyor, to review and determine if a letter should be sent resident a letter to put on notice.*
 - ii. John Thomas stated that out of 12 reported accidents in the area only one was at Primrose within the last four years.*
- b. Referral from City Councilor Todd regarding speed and safety concerns at the sharp corner on Borough Road:
 - i. John Thomas said that a speed trailer was previously placed in the area and residents were surprised that vehicles were actually traveling slower than expected.*
 - ii. Dave Cedarholm said that this area would be added to the list for traffic counts and speeds to be collected by Engineering for further review. Thomas stated that he could schedule additional directive patrols to monitor the area, but that it should be after Engineering completes counts to make sure the data is most accurate.*
 - iii. It was also noted that Bog Road was recently closed due to paving activity so Borough Road may have seen increased traffic due to the construction.*
- c. Request from resident for a solar-powered radar feedback sign on Hoit Road:

- i. *TOC members unanimously voted to not install this sign. This type of signage was not endorsed by TOC because some members felt they are not effective, there is an increased maintenance cost associated with these installations, and they did not want to set a city-wide precedence. There is currently an informal policy for these signs in school zones only.*
- d. Requests from residents for stop signs on Curtice Ave and on Fowler Street.
 - i. ***Curtice Ave Stop Sign:*** *It was noted that there is a stop sign on one side of Curtice Ave but not the other, introducing possible confusion at the 4-way intersection.*
 - ii. *John Thomas said his data showed zero accidents within the last four years.*
 - iii. *TOC agreed that no stop sign was needed in this area as there is adequate sight distance, there is no accident history, and only three houses on the street.*
 - iv. ***Fowler Street Stop Sign:*** *It was noted that this is a local road intersecting with a collector/arterial, where stop signs are “generally” located.*
 - v. *John Thomas noted that two accidents were on record at this location within the last four years.*
 - vi. *TOC unanimously agreed that no stop sign was needed at this location either.*
- e. Request from resident for signage improvements regarding one-way violations on Knight Street:
 - i. *James Major agreed to adjust location of existing signs so they are more visible for drivers who are anticipating taking a right turn from Garrison Street.*
- f. Resident concerns on South Street regarding vehicle speeds and pedestrian safety:
 - i. *Karen Hill stated that traffic and pedestrian counts would be collected as a part of the future Mooreland Ave crosswalk study, to be collected when schools are in session.*
 - ii. *John Thomas said there was a history of speeding issues in this area and that the speed trailer has been out there often. South Street is a busy road and is patrolled often.*
- g. Discuss results from speed trailer placed on Little Pond Road around curve just west of Pond Place Lane and near 34 Little Pond Rd to address the resident concerns about speed:
 - i. *John Thomas said that the speed trailer was placed on Little Pond Road for a week, but no feedback was received. Thomas noted that the speed trailer does not record or collect data.*

5. Tabled Items

- a. Discuss traffic counter data for Hoit Rd, and “cross traffic does not stop” signs at the Hoit Rd - Mountain Rd intersection. – *Item tabled to see if new signs improve operations.*
- b. Discuss request for crosswalk at South Street and Mooreland Ave. – *Item tabled until traffic and pedestrian counts can be performed after COVID-19 subsides.*
- c. Request from resident regarding traffic speed concerns on Ridge Road and intersection with Forest Street. – *Item tabled until traffic and pedestrian counts can be performed during the school year.*

6. Additional items:

- a. *Dave Cedarholm reported that the Rauseo's were continuing with their development project at Exit 17. The Whitney Road and Hoit Road intersection was being designed as a two lane roundabout, per HDR's traffic study with the support from NHDOT. The City's Consultant, VHB, is currently working on the 10% design.*