

**CITY OF CONCORD
TRAFFIC OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF JUNE 15, 2021**

The Traffic Operations Committee (TOC) met at 9:05 am on June 15, 2021 in the Second Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 41 Green Street.

Attendees: David Cedarholm, Sam Durfee (until 10:55am), Jim Major, Todd Welch (until 10:45am), Rick Wollert

Absent: Matt Cashman, Terry Crotty, Karen Hill, Fred Reagan, John Thomas

Guests: Dick Lemieux

1. Introductions

2. Regular Discussion Items

a. *Approval of Minutes – May 18, 2021*

The meeting minutes of May 18, 2021 were approved. *Motion:* Wollert. *Second:* Major. *Unanimous.*

b. *Overview of City-Wide Crash Data*

The reports were not presented as Thomas was not present. Wollert requested that the directed patrols at Pembroke and Canterbury be discussed at the next TOC meeting.

c. *City Council Meeting Update*

Cedarholm reported that the PanAm rail line project passed at Council on June 14, 2021. Lemieux reported that he anticipates 400 guests per day on the new rail trail, and that the local farmers have concerns about the general public being near their fields. The City had submitted a \$1 million construction grant request, as well as a Congressional request for \$1.5 million, and a third request for construction behind the post office; he discussed the challenges and costs of removing and disposing of the rail ties.

d. *Transportation Policy Advisory Committee (TPAC) Update*

TPAC has not met since the last TOC meeting.

3. Ongoing Discussion and Action Items

a. *Request from resident regarding traffic speed concerns on Ridge Road and sharp corner at #21. Discuss speed and volume data collected.*

Cedarholm reported a resident's concerns while reviewing a map of the area of concern at Ridge Road headed south, as well as the results of the speed counts that were conducted. Welch presented Hill's recommendation for a turn advisory sign with a 10 mph speed limit. Wollert suggested that a stop sign be considered. Cedarholm discussed the options of striping with a double yellow line; and that the issued be tabled to the next meeting when the Hill will be present. Wollert requested that the speed counters be placed again and new data be collected. Lemieux requested that the historical data of this intersection be retrieved and presented at the next meeting. Cedarholm suggested that Mr. Mertz be invited to attend the next TOC meeting.

- b.** *Discuss resident concerns for speeding and pedestrian safety along Columbus Avenue. Discuss speed and volume data collected.*

Cedarholm presented a resident's concern regarding speeding on Columbus Avenue. The Committee reviewed the school crossing signs at the two crosswalks, as well as the speed counter data. Cedarholm moved to ask John Thomas to do a Directed Patrol in the area. Seconded by Durfee. Unanimous.

4. New Discussion and Action Items

- a.** *Discuss Bennett Funeral Home request for additional signage at Bouton / 393 / North Main.*

Cedarholm presented a request from Bennett Funeral Home, requesting a 'safety traffic sign' be added to the intersection near their business; maps of the intersection were reviewed, as well as existing signs, pavement markings and the State sign indicating Signal Ahead with a blinking light. Lemieux suggested that the traffic accident data be reviewed on a timeline in light of when the State signal that was added, with the assistance of John Thomas. Wollert will determine when the State signals were set in place.

- b.** *Discuss Crosswalk Policy Criteria.*

Cedarholm reported that Hill's draft is not ready for presentation yet.

Discuss resident request through SeeClickFix for crosswalk to be installed on Mountain Road at Shaker Road.

Cedarholm presented the crosswalk request from the resident. Welch reported the 2017 traffic data in the area and noted that it would be unsafe to put a crosswalk in the area due to the high speeds. Alternate routes were reviewed that would provide a longer but safer path for the resident. The committee agreed that the request does not fit the crosswalk criteria that is being developed. Wollert moved to deny the request for the crosswalk due to the traffic speeds, and that the police department put a directed patrol in the area to monitor traffic speeds. Major seconded. Unanimous. Welch left the meeting.

- c. *Referral from Parking Committee in regards to traffic speed concerns in the vicinity of # 210 Hoit Road.*

The committee reviewed a map of the area, the current striping and the chevron signs. Hill will be asked to contact Matt Walsh to get more details regarding the speeding problems, and then address the concern at the next meeting.

- d. Cedarholm suggested that future TOC meetings be held in person with a virtual option; the suggested was supported by the Committee members present. Major noted that he will not be present at the July 20th TOC meeting.

- e. New Item

Cedarholm presented a concern submitted by Gary Ford. The committee reviewed a map of Franklin Street between State and Main streets. Hill had performed a turning radius analysis of the right turn from North Main street to Franklin street, as well as a potential striping change to narrow a lane to deter drivers from making an illegal left turn from Franklin street to North Main street. Major agreed to take measurements and report back. Durfee left the meeting.

- f. *Adjourn*

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.