

**CITY OF CONCORD
TRAFFIC OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF September 24, 2019**

The Traffic Operations Committee (TOC) met at 9:00 a.m., on September 24, 2019, in the Second Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 41 Green Street.

Attendees: Jim Major, Terry Crotty, Matt Cashman, John Thomas, Rick Wollert, Sam Durfee

Absent: David Cedarholm, Fred Reagan

Guests: Todd Welch, Ashley Hamilton

1. Approval of Minutes

The meeting minutes of August 27, 2019 were approved (Motion – Thomas; Second – Durfee).

2. Regular Discussion Items

- a. Overview of City-Wide Crash Data showed 124 accidents occurred in August 2019, which is less than August 2018. 1 fatality was reported. Four incidents involved a collision with a pedestrian and one involved a bicyclist.

3. Ongoing Discussion and Action Items

- a. Referral from City Council on illegal vehicle left turns from East Side Drive into the CVS driveway:
Several options are still being considered and further review with Councilor Bouchard is pending.
- b. Final results of the new pick-up configuration that resulted from the referral from Councilor Kretovic regarding constituent concerns about PM parent pick-up of students and the on-street parking along Sewalls Falls Road near Beaver Meadow School that interferes with Sewalls Falls Road through-travel.
 - i. *Terry Crotty reported overall positive feedback, but noted that the first week of school did cause some traffic back up on Fisherville Road due to increased drop-off volumes. He indicated that there are two crossing guards assisting with traffic flow and the school staff has been helpful in reducing wait times.*
 - ii. *An onsite TOC traffic evaluation was requested in addition to increasing police presence for several enforcement issues identified. It was noted that children are jaywalking in dangerous areas, cars are not stopping at crosswalks or at intersections, and increased speeds have been reported.*
 - i. *John Thomas agreed to meet with Crotty and Cashman at 2pm on Friday afternoon to evaluate the release process.*
- c. Concern about an increase in the traffic accidents at the intersection of Green, South, and Pleasant Streets.
 - i. *John Thomas provided detailed intersection crash data detailing the times, directions, causes and collision types.*
 - i. *TOC members requested additional time to review the details more thoroughly for next meeting to determine possible light patterns and potential fixes.*

- ii. *Todd Welch measured existing lane dimensions for possibly adding left turn lanes and identified that 10-20 parking spaces would be lost. Traffic turn counts reported a high volume of vehicles driving straight or turning right, not left; however, it only takes 1 left turning vehicle to cause a backup.*
 - i. *The Committee debated the need and/or benefit of adding designated left turn lanes.*
 - ii. *Sam Durfee asked to also have a roundabout design considered and fitted for review as an alternative.*
- d. Follow-up on excessive vehicle speeds from vehicles exiting the Penacook roundabout traveling northbound on Village Street.

John Thomas will request added watch directive patrol to monitor speeds.
- e. Follow-up discussion on the possible options to address the confusing traffic light/lane configuration at the North Main Street/I-393 intersection in response to Paul Halvorsen's concerns.
 - i. *Additional signage was installed by General Service's on the left and right sides of the northbound lane of the North Main Street and all lane paint was redone.*
 - ii. *Cost estimates to move the overhead signal head to a post mounted one and sign installation on the mast arm were discussed. Rick Wollert suggested that installing the overhead sign alone could alleviate the need to move the signal head and reduce overall costs.*
 - iii. *The Committee unanimously agreed that it would be beneficial to monitor the progress of the current new paint and signage at the intersection for a month and discuss if any further action is needed at the next meeting. Consideration of striping the lanes through the North Main Street/I-393 intersection with dashed lines has been tabled.*
- f. Review of traffic/speed counts on Little Pond around curve just west of Pond Place Lane and near 34 Little Pond Rd to address the resident concerns.
 - i. *Recent traffic and speed counts show an average speed of 38/39 MPH in this the speed limit in this area is 35 MPH. The Committee found this speed to be reasonable, but John Thomas offered to have the speed trailer set up once repaired.*
- g. Request to install a "Local Traffic Only" sign or a No Thru Traffic" sign at the entrance to the lane that runs parallel to N. State Street just north of the Franklin Street roundabout.
 - i. *TOC members discussed and agreed that this road is a public street and is open to the public. No sign appears to be warranted at this time, but a vote will be held at the next meeting.*
- h. Referral from the City Clerk with a request for a stop sign on Country Club Lane at Oakmont Drive.
 - i. *TOC reviewed and agreed that no stop sign is warranted in this area.*

4. New Discussion and Action Items

- a. Council referral from Councilor Champlin regarding resident concerns with the intersection of Hoit Road and Mountain Road.

- i. TOC reviewed and agreed that all reported issues and concerns with Mountain Road should be directed to the NHDOT as it is in their jurisdiction, including the request to remove the passing lane and make the intersection a 4-way stop.*
- ii. Jim Major agreed to reset the stop ahead street signs on Hoit Road to make them more visible.*
- iii. John Thomas asked to have Engineering add a traffic/speed counter on Hoit Road for speed concerns reported.*
 - a. Todd Welch agreed to assist once the address/location was provided.*
- iv.*
- b. Request from resident for a stop sign at the intersection of Fowler Street and Washington Street in Penacook.*
 - ii. TOC reviewed and agreed that no stop sign is warranted in this area.*
- c. Matt Cashman reported issues with vehicles not stopping on Portsmouth Street at the S. Curtisville Road.*
 - i. John Thomas agreed to request an added watch detail during the morning and afternoon school commutes.*