



# CITY OF CONCORD

## REPORT TO THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

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

**DATE:** November 19, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Report from the Traffic Engineer on behalf of the Traffic Operations Committee in response to a referral from City Council regarding a resident concern with excessive traffic speed along Rumford Street between Centre and Washington Streets.

### **Recommendation**

Accept this report.

### **Background**

On July 9, 2018, City Council forwarded to the Traffic Operations Committee (TOC) a referral from Councilor Champlin regarding a constituent concern with excessive traffic speed along Rumford Street between Centre and Washington Streets. Engineering and Police followed up with speed measurement and enforcement efforts. This referral was reviewed by TOC on August 21 and September 18, 2018 and by TPAC on October 25, 2018.

### **Discussion**

Engineering Services followed up by recording speeds along this section of Rumford Street over a several-day period in early September, 2018. Of about 2,300 vehicles sampled, average speeds were 23 mph and 85th percentile speeds were 28 mph. This is significantly lower than the street's 30 mph speed limit and results from street's seeming narrowness due to on-street parking.

Concord Police Department (CPD) reached out to the resident to discuss reported speeding concerns. CPD was unable to find a suitable location for deployment of the speed trailer along this section of Rumford Street due to curb, sidewalk and on-street parking. CPD followed up with targeted speed enforcement with motorcycle units but did not observe any speeding violations.

TOC discussed this referral and follow-up actions at its August 21 and September 18, 2018 meetings. Both TOC and CPD concurred that significant speeding does not appear to be an

overall issue on this street. Inappropriate speed could certainly be attributable to a few inconsiderate drivers and that enforcement would be the appropriate action. TOC felt that a perception of 'high speed' can also be induced by the apparent narrowness of the travel-way with cars parked along the street. At its October 25, 2018 meeting, TPAC also concurred with these findings and follow-up actions by staff and TOC.