

30 Sewalls Falls Road
Concord, NH 03301
February 4, 2024

City of Concord Engineering Department
Traffic & Transportation
41 Green Street
Concord, NH 03301

Re: Children and Pedestrian Safety on Sidewalks on Sewalls Falls Road

To Whom It May Concern:

There are many reasons why the City of Concord's Engineering Department should carefully consider adding curbing to the section of Sewalls Falls Road, starting at First Street and continuing to Second Street:

1. Many children, both accompanied and unaccompanied, and pedestrians use the sidewalks on either side of Beaver Meadow School that run along Sewalls Falls Road.
2. The edge of the sidewalk to the edge of the road is 37 inches of dirt which is level to the road. There is no barrier between a child or adult walking along the sidewalk and a passing car.
3. There is increased traffic on Sewalls Falls Road and the speed of cars frequently exceeds the limit. Since this portion of the road is a straightaway, cars tend to go faster.
4. The construction of new housing at the junction of Sewalls Falls Road and Abbott Road will add additional traffic, as will the 900 units proposed on property near the former Concord Monitor building.
5. Many cars and trucks tend to drift on or over the fog line, which is close to the sidewalk. This puts children and pedestrians at high risk.
6. More construction vehicles are using Sewalls Falls Road. (refer to Item 4 above)
7. During the summer months, usually on a Sunday or Monday holiday, there is a line of out-of-state cars stretching from the light on the corner of Sewalls Falls Road to Sylvester Street and beyond. Some of the cars turn around and utilize part of the sidewalk to make the turn - creating another risk to children and pedestrians.

Attached is a list of Concord residents who support this request for curbing. We hope that the Engineering Department will seriously consider adding curbing to this section of Sewalls Falls Road. Adding curbs could prevent a future tragedy.

Sincerely,

Linda Schmidt

Attachment

