

**CITY OF CONCORD
TRAFFIC OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF JUNE 21, 2022**

The Traffic Operations Committee (TOC) met at 9:00 am on June 21, 2022
in the Second Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 41 Green Street.

Attendees: David Cedarholm, Sam Durfee, Karen Hill, John Thomas, and Jim Major.

Absent: Matt Cashman, Terry Crotty, Fred Reagan, and Rick Wollert.

Guests: Councilor Stacey Brown, Resident Sharon Silva, Resident Tyler Savage.

1. Introductions

2. Regular Discussion Items

a. *Approval of Minutes – April 19, 2022*

The meeting minutes of April 19, 2022 were approved. *Motion:* Durfee. *Second:* Major. *Unanimous.*

b. *Overview of City-Wide Crash Data*

April and May crash data was submitted in advance of the meeting. Thomas discussed that accident rates are trending down, which is a good thing and a sign that the patrols are working and motorists are taking more care. Thomas indicated that the rollover crash on N State Street was still under investigation but it appears the vehicle crossed over the centerline.

Crash data for April 2022 was reviewed. There were 79 reportable crashes in April 2022. This compares with 92 and 34 reportable crashes in April 2021 and 2020, respectively. 15 crashes resulted in a total of 22 people injured. There were no fatalities.

There were 5 reported crashes involving pedestrians or bicyclists in April, a report summarizing the accidents was included in the agenda package.

Crash data for May 2022 was reviewed. There were 88 reportable crashes in May 2022. This compares with 93 and 69 reportable crashes in May 2021 and 2020, respectively. 16 crashes resulted in a total of 17 people injured. There was one fatality that involved a single vehicle, motorcycle, at the off ramp at Exit 12, the accident is still under investigation.

There was 1 reported crash involving a pedestrian in May, a report summarizing the accident was included in the agenda package.

c. *City Council Meeting Update*

Cedarholm reported that the budget was passed, which included \$100,000 to study the intersection improvements at McKee Square. He also mentioned that Langley Parkway (CIP #30) was removed.

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

Hill reported on the items discussed at the last meeting including review of various streets that are on the upcoming paving program list.

3. Ongoing Discussion and Action Items

a. *Resident request through SeeClickFix for additional signage on East Side Drive near #277.*

Hill initiated discussion regarding the history of the request. She presented accident data provided by Concord Police Department which showed 25 accidents on the corner over 5 years. Resident Sharon Silva then discussed her concerns with the area and provided information to back her request for additional signage heading east from the roundabout into the curve on East Side Drive. She believes the signage helps calm traffic in the westbound direction but the same signage does not exist in the opposite direction. She confirmed that mailboxes and telephone poles have been struck multiple times.

TOC determined that Hill would collect speed data at this location and review area signage. The findings and recommendation will be discussed at a future meeting.

4. New Discussion and Action Items

a. *Resident request for a stop sign on Academy Street at Cambridge Street*

Hill discussed that there have been zero accidents at the intersection over the last 5 years. TOC reviewed a map of the area, confirming that the intersection is a low-volume standard T-intersection.

Based on the City's Stop Sign Policy and the intersection analysis, it was determined that the "T" geometry of the intersections suggests the normal right-of-way rule would be followed. Durfee moved that the STOP signs not be added per the City's Stop Sign Policy and the analysis provided by Hill. Second: Thomas. Unanimous.

b. *Resident request through SeeClickFix for additional lane designation sign on Perley Street approaching S Main Street.*

Hill presented the concern brought forward by the resident and informed the Committee that the "arrows and onlys" were refreshed after the request came

forward. When Hill spoke to the resident she requested an additional lane designation sign closer to the intersection. TOC concurred that the refreshed pavement markings and existing signage is adequate.

- c. *Resident request through SeeClickFix for “Children at Play” signage along N State Street in the vicinity of Granite Ave.*

The committee confirmed that The City does not post signs such as ‘Slow’ or ‘Children at Play’ as they are not federally-endorsed signs. They are not considered effective in slowing traffic and they may also give a false sense of security to folks living in the area. Hill mentioned that there are “Playground” signs at other City parks. Major mentioned that this signage is not consistent and only a few remain. TOC concurred that the WEEBLE in the crosswalk and seasonal crossing guard at this location is the best form of mitigation at this time.

- d. *Referral from Council in regards to resident request to examine the intersection of N. State/Clarke/Lake Street for a traffic signal.*

Hill studied the area prior to the meeting. She reported that there have been zero accidents at the intersection of Clarke Street in the past five years and only 3 at the intersection of Lake. She examined the sight lines at 5 intersections in the area, including Hutchins, Knight, Lake, Clarke, and Engel, all of which are adequate per AASHTO guidelines. Hill performed a signal warrant analysis for the intersection of Clarke/Lake/N State and none of the conditions were met. Hill will draft a formal report to Council in response to the referral.

- e. *Referral from Councilor Brown in regards to speeding concerns on Westbourne & Woodman Streets.*

Resident Tyler Savage who lives on Westbourne discussed his concerns with increased speeding on Westbourne. He mentioned that a school bus had passed him when he was taking a left into his driveway. He asked for School Zone signage on Westbourne and a minimum speed limit of 25 mph. John Thomas discussed that when he previously deployed the speed trailer on Westbourne, that residents were surprised to see the actual speeds of vehicles and assumed they were traveling much faster.

It was determined that Hill will collect speed data on Westbourne and examine the signage around the school to present findings at a future meeting.

- f. *Referral from Council in regards to speeding concerns on Shawmut Street along with a request for sidewalk.*

Hill reported that she has previously spoken to the resident about her concerns. Her main objective is to be able to walk safely on a sidewalk from her home to drop her child off at the Eastman School for childcare. TOC determined that Engineering should collect speed data in the area. If speeding is found to be an issue, John Thomas will do some directed patrols in the area and determine if

there is a location for the speed trailer. Sidewalk in this area is in the pedestrian master plan but is currently ranked 50 of 117 in the guiding priority list. Hill will report back at a future meeting with a summary of the data collected.

Motion: Cedarholm. Second: Hill. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.