

**CITY OF CONCORD
TRAFFIC OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF JUNE 17, 2025**

The Traffic Operations Committee (TOC) met at 9:00 am on June 17, 2025
in the Second Floor Conference Room, 41 Green Street.

Attendees: Michael Bezanson, Karen Hill, Alec Bass, Matthew Casey, Kevin Demers, Harold Palmer

Absent: Fred Reagan, Matt Cashman

Guests: Mike Smith - 4 Emerson Rd
Bryan Christiansen – Pembroke Board of Selectman
Henry Huntington – Owner of Pleasant View Gardens, 830 Pembroke Road
John Huntington – Pleasant View Gardens, 830 Pembroke Rd
Lou Cote – 434 Rosedale Lane Pembroke, NH
Jeanne Dube – 99 Metalak Drive

1. Introductions

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. May 20, 2025 TOC Draft Meeting Minutes
The meeting minutes of May 20, 2025 were approved.

3. Review City-Wide Crash Data

- a. April and May 2025
There were 99 reportable crashes in April 2025. This compares with 86 and 81 reportable crashes in April 2024 and 2023, respectively. 18 crashes resulted in injuries. There were no fatality involved accidents. There were zero reported accidents involving pedestrians and zero involving bicyclists.

There were 86 reportable crashes in May 2025. This compares with 100 and 96 reportable crashes in May 2024 and 2023, respectively. 12 crashes resulted in injuries. There were no fatality involved accidents. There was one reported accident involving pedestrians and one involving bicyclists.

Casey also noted that one pedestrian accident is still under investigation and does not show up in the data, so there was a total of 3 pedestrian/bicycle accidents.

4. Council/Committee Updates

No updates

5. Project Updates

Hill shared that the Centre Street and Washington Street intersection improvements, the Sewalls Falls Road and Abbott Road intersection improvements, and the Clinton Street sidewalk and crosswalk improvements will be moving toward construction this season.

6. New Business

- a. *Resident request through SeeClickFix to examine the sight lines at the corner of Terrill Park Drive and Old Turnpike Road*

Hill summarized the request to improve sight lines at Terrill Park Drive and Old Turnpike Road and shared photos of the intersection from a recent site visit.

Demers mentioned that the property with overgrowth is owned by Unitil, although there is a monument maintained by Parks and Rec in the area, they do not maintain the specific area of concern.

Demers will follow up with Unitil to have them trim the brush to improve sight lines at the intersection.

- b. *Resident request through SeeClickFix for a "Dead End" sign on Prescott Street*

Hill summarized the request and made a site visit to confirm signage is in place and current.

The Committee recommended no action at this time as there is already a No Outlet sign. Hill also confirmed that google maps recognizes it as a no outlet street.

- c. *Resident request for additional speed limit signs on Langley Parkway*

Hill provided a summary of the request for additional speed limit signs on Langley Parkway.

Casey stated that Concord Police Department has historically received speed complaints on Langley Parkway and that they actively patrol the roadway.

The Committee did not recommend additional signs at this time but agreed that since the recent accident it would be prudent to increase patrols in the area.

7. Unfinished Business

- a. *Referral from City Council in regards to a communication from the Town of Pembroke Administration requesting consideration of removing the trucking restriction on North Pembroke Road from the Pembroke T/L to Sheep Davis Road (NH Route 106)*

Members of public were in attendance so this item was moved and heard first on the agenda.

Hill provided a summary of the item, noting that this request was also heard at length last month. Hill shared that she has spoken with one of the Concord

residents on N Pembroke Road, who shared that they are indifferent to the request as they already hear noise at all hours.

Bryan Christiansen, Pembroke Board of Selectman, reiterated that the bridge was replaced about 5 years ago which made it essentially go from a one lane bridge to two. Adding that the prior layout required trucks to stop and accelerate in the area. He believes the new configuration creates less noise. He also mentioned that the zoning of the area has changed from rural/agricultural to light commercial/industrial.

Lou Cote, 434 Rosedale Lane, mentioned that the current restriction on N Pembroke Road forces truck traffic from the business district about 4 extra miles and past approximately 70 residents.

Henry Huntington, Pleasant View Gardens, reiterated support for a concept of allowing an exception for agricultural use in the trucking ordinance.

Hill shared that Engineering is currently working with the Legal Department to clarify how the ordinance is to be interpreted.

Bass shared a concern with establishing N Pembroke Road as a truck route as it would essentially open up a two-way truck route along N Pembroke Road all the way to Route 28.

Huntington shared he does not believe opening N Pembroke Road would increase the amount of truck traffic beyond the business district as there are more convenient routes to travel north or south.

The Committee was in general agreement to pursue a possible solution for the business to access Route 106. However, additional research on agricultural exceptions and Legal interpretation of the current ordinance is needed.

b. *Referral from City Council in regards to a communication from the private association of Metalak Drive requesting a gate at Loon Ave*

Members of the public were in attendance so this item was moved and heard second on the agenda.

Hill provided a summary, as this item was discussed at last month's meeting.

Jeanne Dube spoke about the issue of speed and cut-through traffic from some residents on Loon Ave. Their association has discussed speed bumps, but do not think they will resolve the issue.

Bass recommended that the best path forward would likely be to pursue an amendment to an approved site plan to install a gate. Hill reminded Dube that it would need to be approved by Concord Fire Department.

Hill will connect the association with the Planning Department for next steps.

c. *Traffic data collection results on Thackeray Road – follow up from September 17, 2024*

Members of the public were in attendance so this item was moved and heard third on the agenda.

Hill provided a summary, stating that since the last time this came to the Committee, traffic volume and speed counts were performed and analyzed. The information was provided to the Committee in the agenda packet.

Hill shared that based on ITE Trip Generation, they would expect 217 trips per day for 23 homes, which appears to be in line with what the traffic count data provided. Hill noted that the high speeds recorded with the traffic count were not at a consistent time or day or very frequent, with only a handful spread across seven days. Because of this, she felt that enforcement would prove challenging.

Mike Smith appreciated the data collection effort. He mentioned that they do witness delivery drivers often taking Thackeray Road and driving at high speeds, particularly around the corner.

It was determined that from the data collected and because of the context of the neighborhood and geometry of the roadways that in general, excessive travel speeds are not frequent. The Committee felt that the perception of speeding is likely limited to a small number of inconsiderate drivers; and that no type of permanent signage is likely to correct that behavior.

The Committee did agree to explore temporarily placing the Police Department speed trailer in the neighborhood to educate drivers. Location is based on a number of factors; the Police Department will determine feasibility.

d. *City-wide truck routes and appropriate signage*

Hill discussed the need to confirm consistent trucking signage moving forward. She mentioned that there have been circumstances in the past where no trucks signs have been posted, causing confusion between no trucks and no thru trucking. MUTCD provides a few different sign options, including “No Thru Trucks” or a “Except Local Delivery” secondary plaque placed below the existing “No trucks” signs.

The Committee agreed to wait for Legal’s guidance pertaining to the trucking policy, but felt that the secondary “Except Local Delivery” plaque is more desirable rather than replacing the existing signs. The Committee also agreed that these signs would be installed if a new sign is added or if an existing signage is replaced, they will not be installed all at once.

Demers mentioned once a decision is made, he would like to begin a yearly process to improve signage until complete.

8. Other Discussion Items

Bezanson shared that a Councilor had mentioned a possible sight line issue at School Street and Green Street with the placement of the barrier along the Legislative Garage project site. Hill will look to see if there is an increase or change in reported accidents in the area since the barrier and fencing was installed.

Next Meeting: July 15, 2025

Meeting adjourned at 11:06 am.