

Engineering Services Division

Traffic Operations Committee

Meeting Minutes - August 21, 2012

Attendees: Rob Mack, PE, PTOE, Engineering Services

Ed Roberge, PE, Engineering Services

Steve Henninger, Planning

Greg Taylor, Concord Police Department Rick Wollert, Concord Fire Department

Regular Discussion Items

1) Overview of city-wide accident data, including prior-month accident summary and discussion of select accident locations, circumstances and potential action.

<u>DISCUSSION</u> / <u>ACTIONS</u>: Traffic accident data for July 2012 was reviewed. There were 101 reportable accidents in July 2012. This compares with 72 and 96 reportable accidents in July 2011 and 2010, respectively. 22 accidents resulted in total of 31 people injured, 10 of which occurred on Loudon Road. There were no fatalities.

There were no accidents involving pedestrians.

There were three accidents involving bicyclists: a bicyclist aged 11 years travelling northbound on Fisherville Road on the southbound-side sidewalk and impacting the side of a vehicle turning right out of Tire Warehouse (injury, bicyclist at fault, helmet worn, bike had no working brakes); a bicyclist aged 24 years travelling southbound on N. State Street against traffic and during road construction and colliding with a vehicle turning southbound from Granite Street and merging with stopped traffic (minor injury, both driver and bicyclist at fault, no helmet worn); and a bicyclist aged 54 years cycling with another cyclist eastbound along Iron Works Road and veering into the other cyclist as they approached a vehicle backing out of #49 and falling to the ground (minor injury, no fault assigned, no impact with vehicle, helmet worn).

2) City Council meeting update.

<u>DISCUSSION</u> / <u>ACTIONS</u>: At its August 13, 2012 meeting, Council accepted TOC's report on the Currier Road speed referral from Council. Council also appropriated funds for the design of the Main Street Complete Street Project (CIP460).

3) Transportation Policy Advisory Committee (TPAC) update.

<u>DISCUSSION / ACTIONS</u>: At its July 26, 2012 meeting, TPAC discussed the potential city-wide speed limit policy being developed by staff and TOC. TPAC also endorsed a request by the Pedestrian Committee to have staff work with NHDOT to: initiate regular NHDOT winter plowing of the sidewalk along I-393 that accesses the new Friendly Kitchen site at the bottom of the Commercial Street ramp; and to pursue with the state, the option of reestablishing the Ferry Street rail crossing to allow pedestrian and bicycle crossings at that location. TPAC also discussed the Main Street

Complete Street Project (CIP 460).

- B. On-going Discussion and Action Items.
- 1) None
- C. New Discussion and Action Items
- 1) Request by Cheryl Vaught of 35 Carter Hill Road to install Hidden Driveway signs on both approaches to her driveway (Engineering: 8/03/12).

<u>DISCUSSION</u> / <u>ACTIONS</u>: At issue is a concern from the resident at 35 Carter Hill Road that her driveway location on the inside of a curve on Carter Hill Road, coupled with roadside vegetation and roadway grade, limit the sight line from the driveway. Hidden Driveway signs are requested on the Carter Hill Road approaches to the driveway location.

Rob Mack visited the driveway location and observed that sight lines exiting the driveway were restricted to less than 150 ft due to low vegetation both left and right of the driveway. The low vegetation appeared to be located at or behind the right-of-way limit, or along the road frontage of both #35 and #39. It appeared that, with minor trimming of low branches and brush, driveway sight lines approaching 250 ft could be maintained. City regulations require a 200 minimum sight distance for new driveways. The requirement to maintain these minimum sight lines is indicated on the Subdivision Plat for this lot approved by the Planning Board on May 21, 1997.

TOC concurred that the appropriate and most effective remedy would be to trim and maintain the low-growing vegetation along the street frontage to at least meet the 200 ft required on the subdivision plat, or desirably, enough to provide up to about 250 ft. This vegetation maintenance would be the responsibility of the property owner. TOC also felt that the homeowner might inherit liability by not maintaining the requisite sight lines. TOC did not feel that a Hidden Driveway sign would be effective in this case and that it might act to instill a false sense of security in driveway users.

D.

1) Staff response to miscellaneous inquiries (refer to correspondence in agenda packet).

DISCUSSION / ACTIONS: None.

2) CIP Project Update.

<u>DISCUSSION</u> / <u>ACTIONS</u>: Ed Roberge provided an update on select CIP projects. Phase 4a of the US 3 North project (CIP35) will be paved this week and drainage work on the Phase 4b section is beginning. Construction should be complete to Rumford Street around the end of September. The Langley Parkway study is active with corridor design options being developed in the hospital campus area and in the vicinity of Lincoln Financial; informational meetings with neighborhood groups are anticipated in the fall. Rob Mack also presented a proposed site plan for development of a gas station/convenience store on the southeast corner of the US 4/Whitney Road intersection. The

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project will add turn lanes to the Whitney Road approach to US 4. Signalization of the intersection (NHDOT jurisdiction) is not currently proposed, but is anticipated in the future as additional development occurs along Whitney Road. The project is currently under Planning Board review; proposed improvements at the US 4/Whitney Road intersections are also being submitted to NHDOT District 5 for their review and approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert J. Mack, PE, PTOE, Traffic Engineer Chair, Traffic Operations Committee

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The next Traffic Operations Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 18, 2012 @ 12:00 PM in the 2^{ND} Floor Conference Room.