

**CITY OF CONCORD
TRAFFIC OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 21, 2023**

The Traffic Operations Committee (TOC) met at 9:00 am on February 21, 2023 in the Second Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 41 Green Street.

Attendees: Karen Hill, Heather Shank, Alec Bass, John Thomas, Jim Major, and Harold Palmer.

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

Guests:

1. Introductions

2. Regular Discussion Items

a. *Approval of Minutes – January 17, 2023*

The meeting minutes of January 17, 2023 were tabled to the March meeting.

b. *Overview of City-Wide Crash Data*

Thomas confirmed that December crash data was provided as a yearly summary. January crash data was submitted in advance of the meeting. It was discussed that with the new data collection system, we cannot process data like we used to and cannot separate parking lot accidents. Hill noted that future data will be skewed and will need to keep that in mind. Thomas confirmed there were no pedestrian or bicycle accidents in January.

Crash data for January 2023 was reviewed. There were 101 reportable crashes in January 2023. This compares with 112 and 83 reportable crashes in January 2022 and 2021, respectively. 10 crashes resulted in injuries. There were no fatalities. There were 0 reported crashes involving bicyclists and pedestrians in January.

c. *City Council Meeting Update*

Shank mentioned that the McKee Square CMAQ application is likely to move forward. The Committee discussed whether West Street would be included in the study, especially examining the one-way traffic pattern and speed concerns. Hill mentioned that there will be plenty of opportunity to discuss the project as it moves forward.

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

None. Next meeting is on March 23rd.

3. Ongoing Discussion and Action Items**a. *NHDOT Improvements at I-89 Northbound and Southbound Ramps with Clinton Street.***

Hill shared letter and email from Tobey Reynolds, NHDOT project manager. The Committee discussed the proposed plan to signalize each intersection and confirmed that the State will be maintaining the infrastructure. Major did not have any concerns with the proposed guardrail tie in along Iron Works Road.

b. *Resident request for guardrail along frontage of 245 Loudon Road.*

Hill received incident reports from Hodges, Thomas also confirmed he sent accident reports last month. It appears the incidents were isolated and do not support the installation of guardrail within the Right-of-Way (ROW). A motion was made and seconded to not install guardrail at this location. Unanimous. The Committee was not opposed to the owner placing landscape boulders outside of ROW and clear zone. Hill will follow up with Hodges.

c. *Resident request for an overhead street light at the corner of Fayette and S State.*

Hill is working on contacting residents in the area to confirm moving an existing street light to the corner. It was discussed that if a new light it needed, then it will need to go to City Council. A motion was made and seconded, that a street light be added or moved to the intersection to light the area and the crosswalk. Unanimous.

d. Referral from Councilor Kretovic regarding residents' traffic concerns along N State Street.

Hill corrected conversations from January that the request was not for a stop sign at Lake Street but a traffic signal. She confirmed it would not meet MUTCD warrants. Thomas confirmed that the pedestrian fatality was between the Hood Plant and the COMF and confirmed the pedestrian was not crossing in a crosswalk. The Committee discussed that bumpouts would not be appropriate in this area because the road is narrow with only 5-foot bike lanes/shoulders and no parking. Hill confirmed that she will collect speed data in the Spring.

4. New Discussion and Action Items**a. *Resident request for review of speed limit signage on S Curtisville Road near Broken Ground School as well as the 4-way stop intersection with Portsmouth Street.***

The Committee first discussed the request for a do not block intersection sign or paint at the intersection of Dominique Drive. Thomas confirmed that it is a Rule of the Road under State RSA 265:69. The Committee agreed that the School District should send out a reminder to parents as a sign would not likely not be

effective. After further discussion, a motion was made and seconded, to not install sign or paint. Unanimous.

The Committee also discussed drivers ignoring the stop signs on Portsmouth Street at the 4-way stop, Thomas confirmed that the intersection is occasionally enforced as well as Portsmouth Street speeds. Hill also reviewed the accident data at the intersection, stating there were only 2 accidents in the last 5 years. Major suggested that Hill look at the City's traffic calming policy and to see if any measures could be applied to the intersection. Hill made a site visit and discussed existing signage in the area. The Committee agreed that it was best to remove the 30 mph sign on the east side of S Curtisville that is within the school zone. Hill also observed a crossing guard during PM peak at the intersection with Dominique Drive. Hill confirmed that she will reach out to Terry Crotty and schedule a morning to meet at the school and observe traffic operations.

b. *Discuss Transportation Master Plan Priorities.*

Shank mentioned that the discussion may be premature and that the Master Plan is coming but not immediate.

Next Meeting: March 21, 2023.

Motion: Hill. *Second:* Major. *Unanimous.*

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 am.