



Engineering Services Division

Traffic Operations Committee

Meeting Minutes – April 19, 2016

Attendees: Rob Mack, PE, PTOE, Engineering Services
Jim Major, General Services
Heather Shank, Planning Division
John Thomas, Police Department
Rick Wollert, Fire Alarm Division

A. 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.

DISCUSSION / ACTIONS: Crash data for March 2016 was reviewed. There were 87 reportable crashes in March 2016. This compares with 98 and 70 reportable crashes in March 2015 and 2014, respectively. 12 crashes resulted in total of 13 people injured. There were no fatalities.

Crash data for February 2016 was also reviewed. There were 106 reportable crashes in February 2016. This compares with 153 and 119 reportable crashes in February 2015 and 2014, respectively. 9 crashes resulted in total of 11 people injured. There were no fatalities.

There were two crashes involving pedestrians: two pedestrians pushing a stroller northbound on Fisherville Road near Thirty Pines as the sidewalk was snow covered when one of the pedestrians was struck on the elbow by a passing motorist aged 79 years (minor injury, pedestrian at fault); and one of three pedestrians, aged 32 years, walking southbound on Manchester Street (wrong way) near Beefside Restaurant at night and being struck by an eastbound pick-up truck with a snowplow (minor injuries, driver fled scene and was later arrested, fault not noted).

There was one crash involving a bicyclist: a bicyclist aged 33 years traveling westbound along Loudon Road on the eastbound-side sidewalk (wrong-way) and colliding into the side of a vehicle turning right out of the Mobil gas station (minor injuries, bicyclist at fault, helmet not worn).

2) City Council meeting update.

DISCUSSION / ACTIONS: No TOC items were considered.

3) Transportation Policy Advisory Committee (TPAC) update.

DISCUSSION / ACTIONS: TPAC did not meet last month.

B. On-going Discussion and Action Items.

- 1) None.

C. New Discussion and Action Items

- 1) **Complaint from a resident on Asby Road regarding cut-through traffic from NH 106 via the curb opening at the back of Makris restaurant (*Engineering: 3/14/16*).**

DISCUSSION / ACTIONS: At issue is a complaint regarding some traffic driving onto Asby Road from NH Route 106 via the rear driveway opening to the lot south of Makris' restaurant (Map/Lot 112-3-1); specifically noted are careless speeds and littering. There is a gate at the subject driveway but is always left open.

The City Surveyor noted that the subject lot has legal access to Asby Road and it is the owner's (Makris) right to allow the subject driveway to be open or closed to access at Asby Road. The city cannot barricade the turnaround area to preclude through-access from NH 106. CPD spoke to an employee at Makris about the issue and since then a front-end loader has been located across the driveway exit to block access to Asby Road.

- 2) **Concern from the Cemetery Administrator regarding northbound trucks on N. State Street entering Blossom Hill Cemetery to make a U-Turn to head back southbound (*Engineering: 3/24/16*).**

DISCUSSION / ACTIONS: At issue is a concern with trucks (parcel delivery trucks, semi-trucks) heading northbound on N. State Street, then entering the southerly cemetery entrance to make a U-Turn within the cemetery site so that they can turn right back onto N. State Street southbound to get access to Rumford Street southbound. A No Left Turn is posted on N. State Street northbound prohibiting the direct left turn into Rumford Street, so the 'U-Turn' in the cemetery might make the turn seem 'legal'.

Engineering staff visited the site and did not observe any of the subject movements. It was also noted that Rumford Street is posted for No Trucks, so the alleged truck turns would be illegal regardless. CPD conducted directed patrols at the cemetery last Saturday, Sunday and Monday but did not observe the alleged U-Turns. Additional directed patrols are planned and the results would be reported back to Engineering.

D. Open Discussion Items

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

DISCUSSION / ACTIONS: None.

2) Other discussion items.

DISCUSSION / ACTIONS: Rob Mack noted that the NHDOT Bureau of Traffic was considering an evaluation of the traffic signal at the northerly mall entrance off NH 106 to determine if signalization is still warranted. They noted observations of marginal use by traffic, but significant delay for heavy traffic flows on NH 106. This signal is under NHDOT jurisdiction. NHDOT plans to collect traffic count data at the intersection and will share results with staff.

General Services noted that repaving work near the Old Loudon Road/Portsmouth Street intersection will occur soon. As part of this work, the highly skewed intersection will be realigned to a safer 90-degree intersection, similar to what was done at the Borough Road/Washington Street/River Road intersection in Penacook last year. Engineering staff will plan the layout of the new intersection configuration.

Respectfully submitted,

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

***The next Traffic Operations Committee meeting will be held on
Tuesday, May 19, 2016 @ 12:00 PM in the 2ND Floor Conference Room.***