



Engineering Services Division

Traffic Operations Committee

Meeting Minutes – July 21, 2015

Attendees: Rob Mack, PE, PTOE, Engineering Services
Ed Roberge, PE, Engineering Services
Jim Major, General Services
Greg Taylor, Concord Police Department
John Thomas, Concord Police Department
Kevin Partington, Concord Police Department
Mike Adam, Concord 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 June 2015 was reviewed. There were 85 reportable crashes in June 2015. This compares with 87 and 100 reportable crashes in June 2014 and 2013, respectively. 20 crashes resulted in total of 20 people injured. There were no fatalities.

There were two crashes involving pedestrians: a pedestrian aged 66 crossing Pillsbury Street midblock and being struck by a vehicle turning left from the driveway at #2 Pillsbury (minor injury, pedestrian at fault); and a pedestrian (construction flagger) aged 27 years controlling traffic at the Village/Borough intersection and being struck in the wrist by the side mirror of a pickup truck travelling along Village Street (minor injury, driver at fault).

There were two crashes involving bicyclists: a bicyclist aged 18 years traveling southbound along Fisherville Road in the construction zone near CC Tomatoes and claiming to have been knocked down by a vehicle (no visible injury, no witnesses, helmet worn); and a bicyclist aged 43 years travelling eastbound (wrong way) on the sidewalk along Loudon Road and striking a vehicle turning onto Loudon Road from Woodcrest Heights Drive (injuries, bicyclist at fault, helmet worn).

2) City Council meeting update.

DISCUSSION / ACTIONS: No TOC items were under consideration at the July 13, 2015 Council meeting.

3) Transportation Policy Advisory Committee (TPAC) update.

DISCUSSION / ACTIONS: TPAC did not meet in June.

B. On-going Discussion and Action Items.

- 1) Referral from City Council regarding a concern by a resident of Pearl Street on vehicle speeds and requesting enforcement or traffic calming measures (*Council: 6/8/15*).**

DISCUSSION / ACTIONS: At issue is a complaint about traffic speeds on Pearl Street and a request for enforcement or traffic calming measures. Pizza delivery vehicles were specifically noted as a concern. Engineering and Police staff conducted a number of investigations. As discussed last month, Engineering staff deployed a radar speed counter at the midpoint of Pearl Street, roughly near #12, from Wednesday, June 10 to Monday, June 15, 2015. Between 500 and 600 weekday vehicles were recorded reflecting an average speed of 22 mph and 85th percentile speed of 28 mph. These speeds are less than the statutory 30 mph speed limit and reflect slower speeds due to the short and narrow street segment. TOC members concurred that overall travel speeds on the street appeared reasonable. There were however, a few inconsiderate drivers travelling at speeds in excess of 35 mph at select times of day. TOC members concurred that enforcement was the appropriate course of action. Concord Police Department (CPD) was provided with time-of-day speed data and followed up with targeted speed enforcement.

CPD staff met with managers of several nearby pizza shops to inform them of the reported resident concerns on speeding. CPD also followed up by conducting eight directed patrols on Pearl Street at various times of the day during June and July. No speeding was observed during these patrols. Four pizza drivers were checked for speed: the fastest was travelling 16 to 18 mph and the other three were going too slow to register a speed. CPD also contacted Ms. Snyder on July 15, 2015 to follow up on her inquiry and inform her of enforcement efforts.

TOC reviewed the above-noted speed data and follow-up enforcement efforts. It was noted that the CPD contacts with pizza shop management appeared to have a positive effect on recently-observed speeds from pizza-delivery vehicles. The same action was initiated by CPD on a similar complaint from Chapel Street residents a few weeks earlier. CPD will continue to monitor. Engineering will prepare a report for City Council summarizing TOC consideration of this item.

C. New Discussion and Action Items

- 1) Referral from Councilor Todd regarding a concern by a resident of Shoestring Road on potential commercial traffic increase on Old Boyce and Shoestring Roads due to proposed commercial development in Canterbury (*Administration: 7/14/15*).**

DISCUSSION / ACTIONS: At issue is a proposed land use development on a lot in Canterbury bounded by Shoestring Road and Old Boyce Road. Proposed is a warehouse-type use comprised of storing and installing tent rentals for outdoor events such as parties and weddings. Of concern is the development of this site in Canterbury with access to Shoestring Road (City of Concord) and Old Boyce Road (also City of Concord between Shoestring Road and Hoit Road/US Route 4). All of the Canterbury parcels north along Old Boyce Road access Hoit Road via the section of Old Boyce Road in Concord. Currently there is a mix of residential and small industrial uses in Canterbury, the largest of which is a dumpster rental business. The resident concern is potential commercial traffic increases from Canterbury impacting the streets in Concord.

Jim Major noted that pavement condition on Shoestring and Old Boyce Roads is poor and would need to be reviewed regarding potential increases in truck traffic. Rob Mack noted that current access to Hoit Road is via a stop sign on the Old Boyce Road approach to the Hoit/Whitney/Boyce intersection. Future intersection signalization and lane widening is proposed in the CIP out-year to accommodate potential traffic growth along Whitney Road as land development continues to the south.

Ed Roberge noted that the proposed development would be considered a ‘development of regional impact’ and as such, would have to be referred by the Canterbury Planning Board to the Concord Planning Board for the latter’s consideration and approval. If and when this occurs, Engineering, Planning and General Services staff would review road sufficiency and other items of concern related to the proposed development’s potential impacts to Shoestring and Old Boyce Road.

D. Open Discussion Items

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

DISCUSSION / ACTIONS: Kevin Partington noted an enforcement concern that the 30 mph speed limit posting on Loudon Road was not immediately visible for traffic entering Loudon Road from the East Side Drive/Canterbury Road intersection. Jim Major will add two more 30 mph signs on Loudon Road, one just east and one just west of the intersection.

Respectfully submitted,

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

***The next Traffic Operations Committee meeting will be held on
Tuesday, August 18, 2015 @ 12:00 PM in the 2ND Floor Conference Room.***