CITY OF CONCORD TRAFFIC OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES OF November 19, 2019

The Traffic Operations Committee (TOC) met at 9:00 a.m., on November 19, 2019, in the Second Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 41 Green Street.

Attendees: Jim Major, Terry Crotty, David Cedarholm, John Thomas, Sam Durfee, Todd Welch,

Ashley Hamilton

Absent: Matt Cashman, Fred Reagan, Rick Wollert

Guests: Dick Lemieux

1. Approval of Minutes

The meeting minutes of October 22, 2019 were approved with minor edits (Motion – Durfee; Second – Crotty).

2. Regular Discussion Items

a. Overview of City-Wide Crash Data showed that 108 accidents occurred in October 2019, which is less than October 2018. No fatalities were reported. Two incidents involved a collision with a pedestrian and one involved a bicyclist.

3. Ongoing Discussion and Action Items

- a. Referral from City Council on illegal vehicle left turns from East Side Drive into the CVS driveway:
 - i. David Cedarholm indicated that Councilor Bouchard was not in favor of using Jersey barriers in this area. Additional traffic pattern scenarios were discussed.
 - ii. Cedarholm suggested that crash barrels filled with sand or water could be a cheap and feasible alternative to test in the area. Jim Major state that he was not a fan of using barrels, but agreed they might be viable solution on a trial basis.
 - iii. TOC members agreed that Councilor Bouchard and City staff should meet with the impacted businesses to discuss all options and depending on this outcome consider hosting a public forum.
- b. Review of traffic/speed counts on Little Pond Rd around curve just west of Pond Place Lane and near 34 Little Pond Rd to address the resident concerns.
 - John Thomas stated that the speed trailer repairs are ongoing and agreed to have it set up in this area once repaired.
- c. Discuss traffic counter data for Hoit Rd, and consider painting "stop ahead" on the pavement and "crossing traffic does not stop" signs at the Hoit Rd Mountain Rd intersection.
 - i. There was general consensus that painting "stop ahead" on the pavement would mostly likely be no more effective than the current configuration of having two oversized stop signs on either side of Hoit road in addition to the overhead blinking light.
 - ii. Jim Major agreed to have (4) MUTCD W4-4P "CROSS TRAFFIC DOES NOT STOP" signs mounted to each of the (4) stop signs on Hoit Road.

- iii. TOC agreed to gauge the effectiveness of the new signage prior to taking any further action.
- d. Discuss request by a resident, Jennifer Chase, for additional 25 mph speed limit sign and "Children at Play" sign at the intersection of Swett Street and Elm Street in Penacook.
 - Jim Major agreed to review the possibility of installing additional 25 mph speed signs in the area if warranted.
- e. Discuss resident request regarding traffic issues on Ridge Rd.
 - i. TOC members discussed a possibility of reducing the Liberty St. /Centre St. roundabout traffic backup by removing the stop signs on School St. at Liberty St. to make it a 2 way stop instead of 4-way. The following items would need further consideration:
 - a. Council approval would be needed.
 - b. Traffic data would need to be collected before and after any changes.
 - c. Traffic pattern change signage and public communication including a variable message board would be needed.
 - ii. David Cedarholm agreed to have Engineering collect traffic data in the Forrest/Ridge Road and School St/ Liberty St. areas for TOC to review.
 - iii. John Thomas agreed to review the collected data from the most recent directive patrol in the area.
- f. Review recent Rockingham St speed/volume traffic data.
 - i. Overall data collected shows that traffic speeds were slightly reduced on Rockingham Street following the posted reduced speed limit from 30 MPH to 25 MPH, noting that the average speed over the posted speed limited stayed consistent. Volumes of traffic also appear to have dropped slightly. The report would be sent to TPAC for further review.

4. New Discussion and Action Items

- a. Discuss request for crosswalk at South Street and Mooreland Ave.
 - i. TOC agreed that if a crosswalk was to be installed, it may be better supported on the north side of Mooreland Ave with proper signage and a paved connection between the roadside pavement and the sidewalk on South Street. There was concern expressed about there not being a sidewalk on either side of Mooreland Ave and how to configure the crosswalk connection to South St while ensuring safe pedestrian passage at this intersection.
 - ii. David Cedarholm agreed to have Engineering complete further review of the driveway at 271 South Street and would make contact with the homeowner to see if they were amiable with crosswalk installation. Engineering would create the sketch for review.

5. Open Discussion Items

- a. Staff response to miscellaneous inquiries (refer to correspondence in agenda packet).
 - i. Blodgett Street and Pembroke Road intersection modification.

- a. TOC reviewed several proposed plans and agreed that option 4 was preferred in which the stop bar would be relocated, signage would be installed, and the island would be removed.
- b. Members agreed that curbing should be added to help the storm water get to the basins.
- ii. Request for stop signs at either end of Pine Crest Circle and Freedom Acres Drive.
 - a. TOC reviewed and confirmed that there were no accidents in the 2019 crash history. John Thomas agreed to review all crash data within the last three years to verify.
 - b. Pending further history review and discussion.