

Traffic Committee Minutes

Wednesday, September 20, 2023- 1pm

Meeting commenced at 1:00 p.m. in the Chief's Conference Room.

Present at meeting: Chief Ryan, Russ Arnold, Jim Ruzbasan, Jim Platosh, Officer Carruth, Sergeant Stone, Anna Savastano and Amber Rush

New Business:

0923-01: Request for reduction in speed limit or speed enforcement to be done on Pinnacle Road.

Group discussed the speed limit for Pinnacle Road is 25 mph, so reducing the speed wouldn't be possible. The last time we collected speed data was in 2018. At that time, 85% of cars were traveling at 29 mph, with maximum speed captured at 41 mph. Officer Carruth will put out the speed box this week to gather updated data on speeds, to be discussed at the next TRB meeting.

Item is tabled.

0923-02: Request for rapid flashing beacon crosswalks on Garden Street.

The requester is asking for approval to install a rapid flashing beacon crosswalk at two locations: one near the Pond crossing, just north of the pool, and another at the Tennis Courts. These two areas are separated by a only 280 feet, with a clear line of sight between them. However, the group deliberated and expressed concerns that having two flashing beacons in such close proximity might confuse drivers.

Additionally, it was noted that Garden Street currently features several speed humps to control vehicle speed. Nonetheless, it was pointed out that these signs may provide pedestrians with a false sense of security, as drivers do not always yield at crosswalks. Consequently, the group is recommending placing a single rapid flashing beacon crosswalk at the most central crossing location. Town Manager's Office to send letter with the recommendation.

Item is tabled.

0923-03: Request for crosswalk on Talcott Notch Road to Talcott Glen.

The group concluded that there is a clear line of sight on Talcott Notch to Talcott Glen. Installing crosswalks in this area might create an unwarranted impression of safety, as there is no guarantee that vehicles will always come to a stop. Instead, the presence of flashing bus lights, a stop sign, and verbal confirmation from the bus driver for pedestrians to cross should offer sufficient signals for drivers to stop and allow children to cross safely.

The group has decided that the Police Department will conduct targeted enforcement in the area and confirm that trees or foliage do not obstruct the line of sight, to be discussed at the next TRB meeting.

Item is tabled.

0923-04: Request for No Right Turn for Trucks sign along River Road by businesses near 162 River.

Group has approved the request. Once requester purchases the sign, Town Highway will install. Town Manager’s office to send letter with approval.

Item is Closed.

0923-05: Request for crosswalk to connect Sycamore Lane to sidewalk at Coppermine.

Normally, mid-block crossings are not typically granted approval. However, the group is requesting the Engineering team to conduct a site visit and assess the potential for a crosswalk in this location, while also taking into consideration the requirements stipulated by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Item is tabled.

Old Business:

TRB #	Description of Issue	Street Name	Action Requested	Recommendations	Dept. Assigned	Status
0721-02	dangerous crossing for ped.	Birdseye at South	request for crosswalk	Waiting to hear back from the State DOT	Town Manager	Second letter sent to DOT on 8/1/23.
0622-07	dangerous curve, causes accidents	near 1305 Farm. Ave	re-design curve by Galleria Salon on Route 4.	Waiting to hear back from the State DOT	Town Manager	Second letter sent to DOT on 8/1/23.
0123-01	hard to see pedestrians on crosswalk on Route 4 (just before Highwood)	Rte 4	install sign with blinking lights to get drivers attention	The State DOT is waiting for the internal components to arrive so they can activate the sign.	Town Manager	Confirmed that the State doesn’t have the components yet.
1021-03	Concern for pedestrian crossing Lovely/Sylvan	Lovely	Revamping of intersection	Blinking crosswalk signs to be installed	Engineering	See below*

* 1021-03: Officer Carruth, Lt. Egan and Sgt. Stone will be hosting a neighborhood meeting on October 5th aimed at addressing local concerns and outlining the measures being taken by the Town of Farmington to resolve issues pertaining to the area of Sylvan Avene.

The intersection of Lovely St and Route 4 was also discussed. One item preventing the reconfiguration of the intersection is obtaining approval from the state for the permits for a flat ADA compliant median for the crosswalk button. Town Highway is prepared to complete the project once the State permit is obtained.

Item is tabled.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amber Rush

Public Safety Management Specialist