

**CITY OF CONCORD
TRAFFIC OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF April 18, 2023**

The Traffic Operations Committee (TOC) met at 9:00 am on April 18, 2023 in the Second Floor Conference Room, City Hall, 41 Green Street.

Attendees: Karen Hill, Alec Bass, John Thomas, and Jim Major.

Absent: Heather Shank, Harold Palmer, Terry Crotty, Matt Cashman, and Fred Reagan.

Guests: Mark Beauchesne.

1. Introductions

2. Regular Discussion Items

a. *Approval of Minutes – February 21, 2023*

The meeting minutes of February 21, 2023 were approved.

b. *Overview of City-Wide Crash Data*

Thomas mentioned that accident totals were down in March, compared to prior months and years. Crash data for February and March 2023 were reviewed.

There were 106 reportable crashes in February 2023. This compares with 91 and 120 reportable crashes in February 2022 and 2021, respectively. 21 crashes resulted in injuries. There were no fatalities. There were 5 reported crashes involving bicyclists and pedestrians in February.

There were 80 reportable crashes in March 2023. This compares with 100 and 93 reportable crashes in March 2022 and 2021, respectively. 26 crashes resulted in injuries. There were no fatalities. There were 2 reported crashes involving bicyclists and pedestrians in March.

c. *City Council Meeting Update*

Hill mentioned that Council reviewed the recommendation for installing concrete jersey barriers for outdoor dining in the parking areas downtown. The Committee concurred that the barrier shall be tapered and protected appropriately for the speed of Main Street.

- d. *Transportation Policy Advisory Committee (TPAC) Update*
Hill mentioned that TPAC last met on March 23rd and discussed the City's Annual Paving Program with Chip Chesley. Matt Walsh also presented the proposed Canal Street streetscape modifications being completed with the Riverfront Park project.

3. Ongoing Discussion and Action Items

- a. *Referral from Councilor Kretovic regarding residents' traffic concerns along N State Street*

Hill has requesting traffic counts be completed by CNHRPC through their annual count program. Hill shared an email request from Councilor Kretovic asking that N State Street be re-stripped to narrow lanes when it is repaved. Major mentioned that it will likely be resurfaced in about 4-5 years. The Committee agreed to look at lane widths at that time.

4. New Discussion and Action Items

- a. *School zone traffic concerns on S Curtisville Road near Dominique Drive.*

Hill, Thomas, and Crotty visited to observe traffic operations during AM drop off on April 4th.

The congestion on S Curtisville Road lasted approximately 9 minutes total. Observations included a bus driving recklessly, vehicles not blocking Dominique and some conflicts present at the entrance driveway. One resident complained about the lack of curbing between the roadway and the sidewalk. There was mention of reversing the pattern, but the Committee was reluctant to recommend any changes without more observation and information on the history of the site design. Hill will observe in the PM hour and collect traffic and speed data on S Curtisville this summer.

- b. *Resident concerns with high speed right turns onto Fowler Street from Borough Road.*

Mark Beauchesne, from #35 Fowler Street attended the meeting to discuss his concerns with the intersection of Fowler Street and Borough Road. He mentioned that the intersection approach is skewed and very wide enabling high speed turns. Thomas mentioned that similar concerns were addressed around 2019 and CPD deployed the speed trailer on Fowler Street. Beauchesne mentioned that there are new neighbors that have kids that are always in the street. Hill will add Fowler Street to the list of roadways to collect speed data on this summer. Thomas agreed to place the speed trailer again if Hill finds a speed issue. The posted speed limit is 30 mph, City-wide speed limits will likely be revisited under Transportation Master Plan process.

- c. *Loudon Road/Canterbury/East Side traffic signal flash-mode discussion.*
Hill mentioned that Palmer inquired about having the intersection of Loudon/Canterbury/East Side flash all red instead of Loudon – yellow and the side roads -red. A few recent times the signal has gone into flash, he discussed that it was problematic and vehicles could not get out of the side roads. Hill spoke to a traffic consultant and there are no specific regulations that require all red or yellow, it is up to the jurisdiction. The Committee is open to it, but had concerns with consistency of many signals on Loudon Road, and City-wide. Hill will follow up with the State since they also own signals along Loudon Road.
- d. *Resident request for a traffic signal at Loudon Road/Salisbury Green/Citizens Bank.*
Hill mentioned that a resident called requesting a traffic signal at the intersection of Loudon Road/Salisbury Green/Citizens Bank. The Committee discussed that more traffic is likely using the intersection of Loudon Road/Woodcrest Heights/Dairy Queen Development and that if a signal was not warranted at a part of that traffic analysis, then it is likely not warranted here. Thomas to follow up on number of accidents at the intersection over the last five years.

Next Meeting: May 16, 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.