

CITY OF MARLBOROUGH MEETING POSTING

Meeting Name: Traffic Commission

Date: Wednesday, June 30, 2021

Time: 10:00 am

Location: 3rd Floor City Hall – Memorial Hall

Agenda Items to be addressed:

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
CITY OF MARLBOROUGH

2021 JUN 28 A 9 20

1) MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

- a) Review draft from 5-26-21

2) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Bike Path Flashing Light Request – Hudson St.
- b) Cashman Street – One Way
- c) Reservoir @ Red Spring Road
- d) Speeding Traffic on Danjou Drive
- e) Parking on Essex Street

3) OLD BUSINESS

- a) Issues with the turn movement at intersection of Boston Post Road West & Ames Street
- b) Traffic concerns on Oakcrest Ave.
- c) Safety concerns at the intersection of Lincoln St. & Cashman St. at Assabet Valley Rail Trail
- d) Traffic Signal lights at Union St. & Bolton St. and Bolton St. & Hudson – Request for audible signal to accommodate blind pedestrians.

THE LISTING OF TOPICS THAT THE CHAIR REASONABLY ANTICIPATES WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING IS NOT INTENDED AS A GUARANTEE OF THE TOPICS THAT WILL HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED. NOT ALL TOPICS LISTED MAY IN FACT BE DISCUSSED, AND OTHER TOPICS NOT LISTED MAY ALSO BE BROUGHT UP FOR DISCUSSION TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.



**CITY OF MARLBOROUGH
OFFICE OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION
140 MAIN STREET
MARLBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS 01752**

DRAFT

Traffic Commission Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Traffic Commission was held as a **virtual meeting** on Wednesday, May 26, 2021 at 10:00 am. Members present: Chairman - Police Chief David Giorgi, Commissioner of Public Works Sean Divoll and City Clerk Steve Kerrigan. Also present: City Engineer Tom DiPersio, Assistant City Engineer Tim Collins, Ashley Miller & Ryan Malcolm also from the Engineering Department, Officer Andy Larose from the MPD Traffic Services Unit, City Councilor Christian Dumais, City Councilor Katie Robey and local residents Aura Gauthier and Roland Lachapelle.

Minutes were taken by Karen Lambert, MPD Records Clerk, upon viewing of the recorded minutes as she was not physically present at the time of the meeting.

Chief Giorgi started recording the meeting at 10:03 a.m. and began by welcoming everyone and making introductions.

1- Minutes

The minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of Wednesday, April 28, 2021.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

TO APPROVE – All in Favor - Accept and Place on File.

2 - New Business –

2a) Traffic signal lights at Union St. & Bolton St. and Bolton St. & Hudson – Request for audible signal to accommodate blind pedestrians.

Chief Giorgi received an email from John Usinas who is making this request on behalf of the Commission on Disabilities. We have done this before at the intersection of Bolton St. and Lincoln St. Tim Collins said that the pedestrian pushbuttons at this location were

malfunctioning or had been hit and needed to be repaired. The contract said that they would be replaced with an audible signal. He said that MUTCD (Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices) says as long as everything is working, all is good, but when an update or change is needed the entire intersection needs to be upgraded as well. The intersection of Bolton St. and Union St. is one of the oldest signalized intersections in the City. It dates back to 1975. He said that there is currently a loop detector on Union Street and that Bolton Street has the right of way. The light changes only when someone comes onto Union Street and it doesn't change for very long. The whole intersection needs to be upgraded.

It's not as easy as saying let's add an audible signal especially when there is an unprotected crosswalk at this location. Mr. Collins pulled up an aerial mapping photo of the intersection for reference. There is a crosswalk that goes from the gas station to the Middle School. There should be a push button on the gas station side. Chief Giorgi thought he remembered having an issue with this before and that the sidewalk was actually part of the gas station driveway. He asked how would the pole be erected? Mr. Collins explained that the sidewalk was constructed back in 2015. There used to be gas pumps there but now the sidewalk goes all the way across. The post should be within five feet of the crosswalk. It is an apex intersection and the crosswalk should be pulled back with a yellow truncated tactical pad underneath. There are a lot of things that would need to be done to make this a safe intersection.

Chief Giorgi asked if there are any plans to upgrade this intersection, especially with the school being there. Mr. Collins said that the audible signal would be step 1 of a much larger project. He did note that there is a school crossing guard at this location. If there are a lot of kids crossing, the guard is stopping traffic that has the green light so the kids can cross. It's dangerous because cars see the green light and keep going and don't notice the crossing guard stopping traffic for the kids.

He said they can also look into the intersection of Bolton and Hudson, but this is an entirely different scenario. It was installed when Stratus was at the Boston Scientific site. At that time, people leaving work had only one way to get to Rte. 290 and Rte. 495. They would take Hudson St. to Bolton St. and head up. There is another option now with access off Sasseville Way. If traffic counts were done again, they might find that this signalization is not even needed now. The signal here is newer but count down times would still need to be added.

Mr. Collins said that there is nothing wrong with installing audible signals, they would just need to continue with other upgrades. The audible signals would be installed by the signal maintenance company. Chief Giorgi said that he would respond back and let them know that we can start the process and go from there.

Commissioner Divoll advised that sooner rather than later, residents in the area would need to be notified of the change. Mr. Collins said that he went out to check the signal at Bolton St. and Lincoln St. and had to put his ear right up against the pole to hear the signal. One of the problems with this type of signal is that they make a constant sound and people in a residential area complain about the noise. Then the volume gets turned down and you have an audible signal that you can't even hear. Feedback from residents is necessary to have a good combination of safety vs. annoyance for residents.

Steve Kerrigan agrees that the noise is a concern at Granger Blvd. and Newton St. People complain that they can hear the audible beep all night long.

Chief Giorgi advised that the first step would be to reach out to residents. He questioned the best way to do this. Councilor Robey suggested addressing the issue with the Ward Councilor, Councilor Navin, and having him reach out to neighbors. She asked if neighbors could overrule this request or if it had to be honored for a disability issue.

Steve Kerrigan asked if there was a way to adjust the signal so it doesn't beep all the time. He also asked if there was a minimum volume requirement. Mr. Collins advised that the idea is that the person had to be able to find the button, which is why it beeps all the time at a constant tone.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to Chief Giorgi to talk to Councilor Navin as Step 1. This item will be left on the agenda for next month to discuss what was found and go from there.

3-Old Business

Old Business Items taken out of order – Items concerning residents in attendance will be taken first. Aura Gauthier and Roland Lachapelle were in attendance for this issue.

3d) Traffic Concerns on Oakcrest Ave.

Update: Chief Giorgi reviewed that after the last meeting the DPW was going to look into other options. Tim Collins pulled up a graphic of what they were reviewing at this point. They were looking at a sidewalk that would go up Stevens Street to the sidewalk trail and school property. One of the problems he found was regarding documentation of the layout in the area. Stevens Street became a public way in 1897 and it was done without the benefit of a description. He is not 100% sure of the layout. The graphic shows a red line where the sidewalk would be located, however, it might entail "takings" from the property of #43 if it can't fit in the width of the city owned layout.

Chief Giorgi advised that it would be a matter of what makes sense and that it is not an overnight process but something Engineering is working on. Ms. Gauthier said that she was happy to see that research was being done to try to help and expressed her appreciation.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to TABLE.

3a) Issues with the turn movement at intersection of Boston Post Road West & Ames Street

Update: Engineering drafted a response to MA DOT with the additional information they required. Still waiting on response.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to TABLE.

3b) Review of School Zone Regulations

Update: Officer Larose pulled up the revised regulation that was drafted by Chief Giorgi. As discussed at the last meeting, we are repealing the specific time limits “from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm” and replacing it with “from one hour before classes start to one hour after classes end”.

Tim Collins advised that there was one other issue specially involving the IC School. The IC School is now closed and does not need to be included in the School Zone Regulation. This section should be repealed. The School Zone signs should come down and the crosswalk will turn into a regular crosswalk not a School Zone crosswalk.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to APPROVE the revised School Zone Regulation. ALL IN FAVOR.

Karen Lambert will forward the regulation to Steve Kerrigan for advertisement.

3c) Review Crosswalks & Stop Signs for 2021

Update on Crosswalks: Chief Giorgi also drafted the revised regulation for Section 60.1: “Crosswalk Locations”. Tim Collins noted that the two crosswalks on Washington Street were formerly the IC School crosswalks. He also noted that the crosswalk on Forest Street at AMSA School needs further discussion with the school. Students used to get dropped off across the street and the school petitioned the City for a School Zone Crosswalk. The school does not use this parking lot anymore and the crosswalk may not even be needed. The Chief advised that he has not included this crosswalk in the regulation for now and we can research this later.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to APPROVE the amended regulation for “Crosswalk Locations”. ALL IN FAVOR

Karen Lambert will forward the regulation to Steve Kerrigan for advertisement.

3e) Safety Concerns at the intersection of Lincoln St. & Cashman St. at Assabet Valley Rail Trail

Update: At the last meeting, it was discussed that the crosswalks would be repainted and that the area was scheduled for reconstruction. Commissioner Divoll advised that the crosswalks have not been painted yet. He said that there is a backorder on crosswalk paint. This item will remain on the agenda for next month to follow up.

3f) Traffic Concerns on Tucker Avenue

Update: Officer Larose pulled up a copy of the Extended Speed Summary Report for Tucker Ave. WB. The speed sign was out at this location from 4/24/21 to 5/3/21. The summary shows an average speed of 13.9 mph. The 85th percentile was 16.2 mph with a maximum speed of 28 mph. The average volume per day was 26 vehicles. Chief Giorgi said the summary does not indicate a speed problem as the maximum speed was still under the speed limit of 30mph. The Chief asked if Officer Larose had sent this information to Councilor Pearlman. Officer Larose wasn't sure but he will talk to Sgt.

Attaway and they will make sure she has a copy so she can review it with the resident who made the original request.

3g) Parking concerns on Gay Street

Update: The issue was with the width of the roadway and problems when cars were parked on both side of the road. Mr. Collins was going to measure each side and determine which side had more available parking spots. He found that the number of parking spots on each side is about equal.

Chief Giorgi said that the more he looked into and thought about this issue, he kept thinking back to a similar issue on Howland Street and many others in the City. Cars basically need to “slalom in and out” of parked cars on both sides. Mr. Collins also said that it is the same issue on Newton St., Florence St., and Howe St.

All agreed that the best idea would be to leave it as it is. Restricting parking to one side would only cause other problems.

3h) Continued parking concerns on Preston Street @ Elm Street

Update: Chief Giorgi drafted the language for the amended regulation to add the first 60 feet of Preston Street, at the intersection of Elm Street, to the Schedule of “No Stopping, Standing or Parking”. Tim Collins advised that there is also a driveway there so the no parking area is pushed back even further.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to APPROVE the regulation. ALL IN FAVOR.

3i) Issues with Cotting Ave: Do Not Enter – One Way Signage

Update: Tim Collins advised that the Do Not Enter Sign has been relocated to the entrance of Dominos so you can't go down to cut into the gas station. Chief Giorgi advised that he was there yesterday and said that the sign is much more obvious now, as it is visible to Main Street traffic. Councilor Robey said she was in that area recently also and saw people ignoring the sign. She thinks residents use this street and just ignore the Do Not Enter sign. Mr. Collins said he has seen gas delivery trucks doing the same thing. People see that it is a short distance and if no one is coming, they scoot across. Chief Giorgi said that at least the sign is fixed and now we can work with the gas station owner and enforcement if the problem continues.

Chief Giorgi asked if anyone else had anything else they would like to add.

Councilor Dumais brought up an issue on Valley Street. He said that when you come down from Neil Street onto Valley Street, Brook Street is hidden. He asked if there could be a sign posted there that said something like “blind street ahead”. He thought that an email had been sent to Chief Giorgi on this issue, but the Chief said that he did not receive an email. Tim Collins pulled up a photo for reference and you could see that the street is hidden. All you see are the two houses on the corner that look like they are next to each other. Mr. Collins said that we could use a yellow advisory sign with an

indication of a side street, similar to what we just did on Reservoir for Red Spring Road. There is no regulation needed and we can just add the sign.

Mr. Collins also pointed out another problem in the photo. There is a garage there where cars jump the curb to park and pull off to the side. These parked cars also block the view of Brook Street. This may need to be addressed with the property owner of Code Enforcement.

No other concerns or comments.

That there being no further business of the Traffic Commission held on this date, the meeting adjourned at 10:44 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Lambert
Records Clerk
Marlborough Police Department

List of documents and other exhibits used at the meeting:

- City of Marlborough Meeting Posting for Traffic Commission Meeting on Wednesday 5/26//21, including meeting agenda.
- Draft of Traffic Commission Minutes from Wednesday, April 28, 2021.
- Email from John Usinas to Chief Giorgi, dated 5/5/21, re: request for audible traffic signal lights on Bolton Street (at Union St. & Hudson St.)
- Email from Tim Collins to Dave Giorgi, dated 5/20/21, re: School Zone Regulations and Crosswalk Locations
- Proposed language to revise the regulation for Ch. 586-58.1: School Zone.
- Amended regulation for the School Zone.
- Proposed language regarding the School Zone Crosswalks.
- Amended regulation for the School Zone Crosswalks.
- Amended regulation to add the first 60 feet of Preston Street (at the intersection of Elm St.) to the Schedule of "No Stopping, Standing or Parking."

Additional Handouts

- Extended Speed Summary for Tucker Ave. WB
- Aerial mapping photo of the intersection of Bolton Street & Union Street.
- Aerial mapping photo of Stevens Street at Oakcrest Ave., with sidewalk marked in red.
- Diagram of Steven Street at Oakcrest with sidewalk indicated.
- Revised regulation for the School Zone Crosswalks

Karen Lambert

From: Priscilla Ryder
Sent: Friday, June 4, 2021 1:18 PM
To: Thomas DiPersio; David Giorgi
Subject: Bike path flashing light request- Hudson St.

Hi Tom and David,

I've had a few people ask me if there can be a flashing pedestrian light on the Bike Path on Hudson St. just past Kelleher Field. Mark Gibbs and others have mentioned to me that the cars pay no heed to the cross walk painted there and speed right through regardless if bikes or pedestrians are waiting at the cross walk. Mark has seen some close calls at this intersection and wondered if a pedestrian light can be installed here. So I'm passing this along to you.

Not sure if this has been brought to your attention already or not...

Thanks!

*Priscilla Ryder
Conservation/ Sustainability Officer
140 Main St., City Hall
Marlborough, MA 01752
508-460-3768*

"Whenever there's a large spill of solar energy, it's just called a nice day" northern sun

Karen Lambert

From: Timothy Collins
Sent: Wednesday, June 23, 2021 7:15 AM
To: David Giorgi; Karen Lambert
Cc: Thomas DiPersio; Ashley Miller
Subject: Cashman Street - One Way

Chief,

DPW needs to add an agenda item to next Wednesday's meeting. We are adding a dedicated bike lane to Cashman and Prospect Street and need to make Cashman Street a One Way street. Discussion will include, which direction the one way should be.

More info to follow shortly.

Timothy F. Collins
Marlborough D.P.W.
Assistant City Engineer
tcollins@marlborough-ma.gov
Office (508) 624-6910

Karen Lambert

From: Andrew Larose
Sent: Friday, June 18, 2021 2:03 PM
To: David Giorgi
Cc: Zachary Attaway; Karen Lambert
Subject: Reservoir @ Red Spring Road

Chief,

As you are aware, we had a serious motorcycle accident at this intersection the other night. Could we place this on the agenda for this month's traffic commission meeting to discuss a possible roadway redesign/improvements.

Thank you,
Officer Andrew LaRose
Traffic Services Division
Marlborough Police
355 Bolton Street
Marlborough, Ma. 01752
508-485-1212
ALaRose@Marlborough-ma.gov

Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) Liaison

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Extended Speed Summary

Reservoir Street, NB



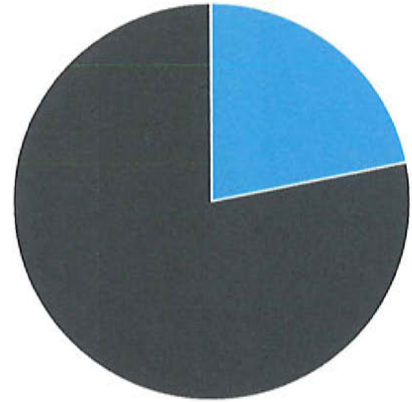
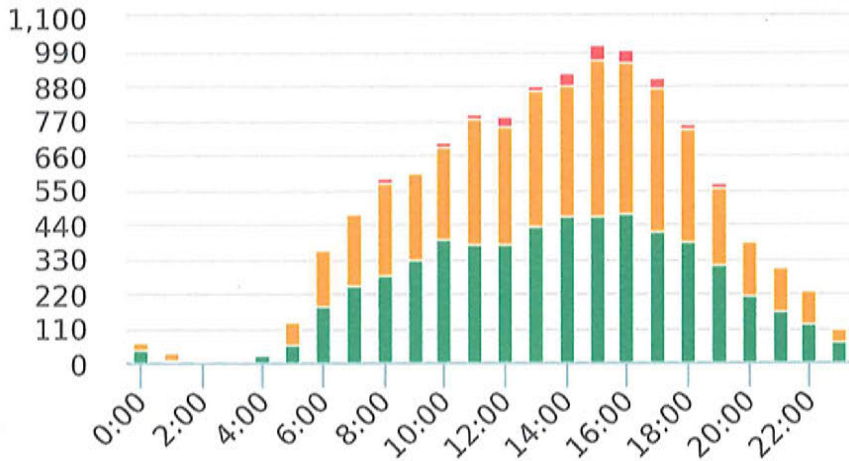
Start: 2021-04-15
 End: 2021-04-21
 Times: 0:00-23:59

Violation Threshold: Speed Limit + 10
 Speed Range: 1 to 100

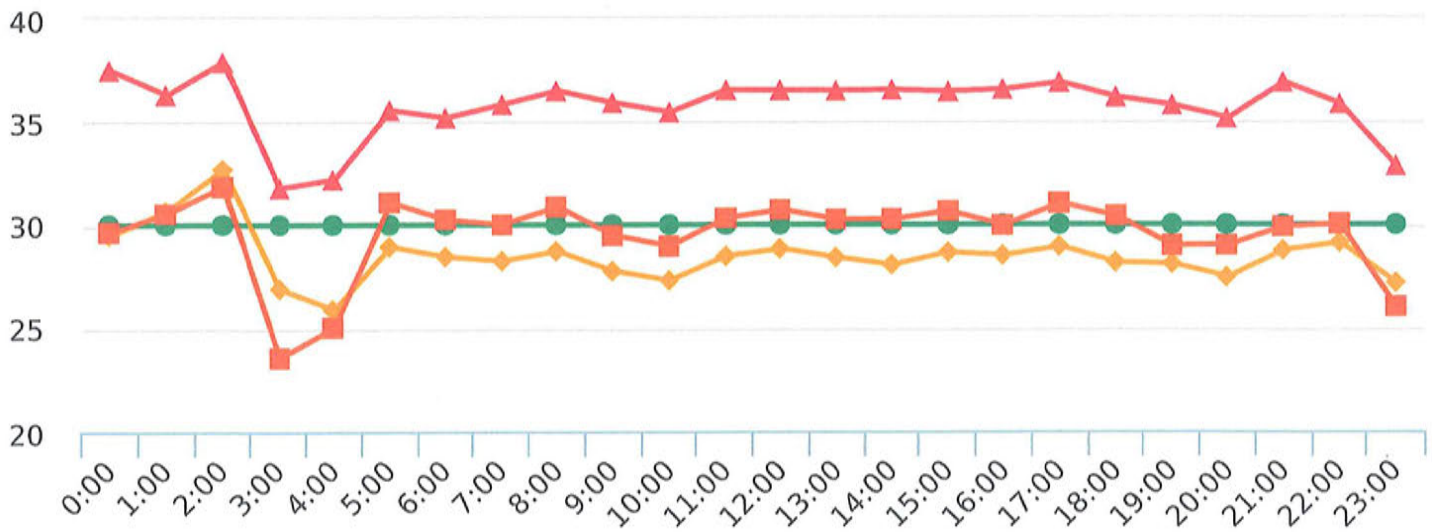
Overall Summary

Total Days of Data: 7
 Speed Limit: 30
 Average Speed: 28.36
 50th Percentile Speed: 30.1
 85th Percentile Speed: 36.22
 Pace Speed Range: 27-37

Minimum Speed: 15
 Maximum Speed: 53
 Display Mode: Speed Display
 Average Volume per Day: 1674.9
 Total Volume: 11724



■ Violators
 ■ Inside Threshold
 ■ Compliant
 ■ Vehicles Slowed
 ■ Other



● Speed Limit
 ◆ Average Speed
 ■ 50% Speed
 ▲ 85% Speed

Extended Speed Summary

Reservoir Street, NB



Start: 2021-04-15
 End: 2021-04-21
 Times: 0:00-23:59

Violation Threshold: Speed Limit + 10
 Speed Range: 1 to 100

Time	Sign Mode	Speed Limit	Total # Vehicles	Total # Violator	% Violator	Avg # Vehicles	Avg # Violators	Min Speed	Max Speed	Avg Speed	50% Speed	85% Speed	Sign Effectiveness
0:00	Speed Display	30	76	9	11.8%	12.7	1.5	15	50	29.5	29.6	37.5	25.0%
1:00	Speed Display	30	33	2	6.1%	5.5	0.3	15	44	30.6	30.5	36.3	27.3%
2:00	Speed Display	30	19	2	10.5%	3.2	0.3	15	43	32.7	31.8	37.9	10.7%
3:00	Speed Display	30	9	0	0.0%	1.5	0.0	16	38	26.9	23.6	31.8	0.0%
4:00	Speed Display	30	35	0	0.0%	5.8	0.0	15	39	25.9	25.0	32.2	22.9%
5:00	Speed Display	30	135	5	3.7%	22.5	0.8	15	47	28.9	31.1	35.6	22.8%
6:00	Speed Display	30	365	9	2.5%	60.8	1.5	15	48	28.4	30.2	35.2	21.9%
7:00	Speed Display	30	484	10	2.1%	80.7	1.7	15	43	28.2	30.0	35.8	23.8%
8:00	Speed Display	30	589	15	2.5%	84.1	2.1	15	45	28.7	30.9	36.5	22.2%
9:00	Speed Display	30	614	14	2.3%	102.3	2.3	15	48	27.8	29.5	35.9	22.6%
10:00	Speed Display	30	701	14	2.0%	116.8	2.3	15	45	27.3	29.0	35.5	22.6%
11:00	Speed Display	30	794	21	2.6%	132.3	3.5	15	49	28.5	30.3	36.5	20.4%
12:00	Speed Display	30	781	31	4.0%	130.2	5.2	15	51	28.8	30.7	36.5	21.8%
13:00	Speed Display	30	884	22	2.5%	147.3	3.7	15	45	28.4	30.2	36.5	19.9%
14:00	Speed Display	30	918	37	4.0%	153.0	6.2	15	50	28.0	30.3	36.5	20.9%
15:00	Speed Display	30	1010	47	4.7%	168.3	7.8	15	50	28.7	30.6	36.5	21.8%
16:00	Speed Display	30	992	36	3.6%	165.3	6.0	15	50	28.5	30.0	36.6	24.0%
17:00	Speed Display	30	902	32	3.5%	150.3	5.3	15	51	28.9	31.0	36.9	21.0%
18:00	Speed Display	30	759	21	2.8%	126.5	3.5	15	53	28.2	30.4	36.2	20.7%
19:00	Speed Display	30	573	18	3.1%	95.5	3.0	15	49	28.1	29.0	35.8	20.7%
20:00	Speed Display	30	392	8	2.0%	65.3	1.3	15	52	27.5	29.0	35.2	25.9%
21:00	Speed Display	30	310	12	3.9%	51.7	2.0	15	49	28.8	29.9	36.9	22.9%
22:00	Speed Display	30	237	12	5.1%	39.5	2.0	15	53	29.1	30.0	35.9	19.8%
23:00	Speed Display	30	112	2	1.8%	18.7	0.3	15	41	27.2	26.0	32.8	25.0%
Total Volumes/ Avg			11724	379	3.2%	1940.0	62.6	15	53	28.5	29.5	35.8	21.1%
Total/Avg w/o Feedback			0	0	0	0.0	0.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total/Avg w/ Feedback			11724	379	3.2%	1940.0	62.6	15	53	28.5	29.5	35.8	21.1%

Karen Lambert

From: David Doucette
Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2021 10:01 PM
To: David Giorgi
Cc: John Ryan
Subject: Speeding traffic on Danjou Drive

Chief Giorgi,

I have received complaints from a constituent on Danjou Drive. It seems to be speeding traffic from cars and delivery vehicles who travel down the street (probably accidently) and then turn around. Considering the length of the street and number of homes of the street, this should be a quiet street.

Since this is a col-de-sac, there are kids who ride their bikes and children on the street. Is there any additional signs that can be added near the entrance? Possibly a "Caution Children" or "No Exit."

Can you please put it on the agenda for the traffic commission meeting at the end of the month? Thank you!

Best regards,
David Doucette
Ward 2 City Councilor, Marlborough MA

From: David Giorgi
Sent: Sunday, June 27, 2021 11:35 AM
To: Karen Lambert
Subject: Fwd: Please put on the traffic commission agenda regarding Essex St parking

Can you please add this to this weeks agenda?

Begin forwarded message:

From: David Doucette
Date: June 27, 2021 at 10:40:50 AM EDT
To: David Giorgi
Cc: Don Landers, City Council
Subject: Please put on the traffic commission agenda regarding Essex St parking

David,

I have been receiving complaints about the parking on Essex St. People are parking on both sides of the street, making it almost a pinball effect dodging cars on street. There has been numerous times when I have had to wait for a car to pass in the other direction because of parked cars in the way.

Is it possible, and does it make sense to have parking on the south side only? The sidewalk is on the north side.

David Doucette
Ward 2 City Councilor, Marlborough MA