

August 31, 2017

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF HIGHWAY DESIGN**

CONFERENCE REPORT

PROJECT: OSSIPEE
X-A003(995)
29315
NH 28 / NH 171
Intersection Safety Improvements

DATE OF CONFERENCE: August 14, 2017

LOCATION OF CONFERENCE: Ossipee Town Hall

ATTENDED BY: NHDOT
Michael Dugas
Trent Zanes
Alan Hanscom – District 3
Bill Cass

Officials

Joseph Kenney – Executive Councilor (District 1)
Lino Avellani – State Representative
Rick Morgan – Board of Selectmen, Chair
Brad Harriman – Public Works Director
Fire Chief Adam Riley (Ossipee Corner)
Mike Izard – Lakes Region Planning Commission

Others

See attached

SUBJECT: Public Informational Meeting

NOTES ON CONFERENCE:

M. Dugas provided a history and status of the intersection safety improvement project. He stated that at the conclusion of the August 2016 public informational meeting the Department had determined to proceed with a small-scale improvement to add a southbound right turn lane on NH 28 at NH 171. The Selectmen had offered their opinion that the chosen design was inadequate to correct the safety issues, and recommended that a more comprehensive improvement such as a traffic signal or a roundabout be pursued. Following a fatal crash at the intersection in November 2016 the Selectmen once again sought through Senator Jeb Bradley to

reopen discussion on the intersection improvements. On January 10, 2017 the DOT met with Town officials and State Police and agreed to a list of potential short, medium, and long-term improvements to be pursued. These treatments and their current implementation status are shown below.

Short-term improvements

- Tree clearing near intersection: done.
- Stop signs: missing stop sign installed on NH 171 westbound traffic island.
- Object markers: added to NH 171 stop signs.
- Review existing signs: NHDOT Bureau of Traffic confirmed that current sign materials, messages, and locations are up-to-date.
- Temporary rumble strips: this remains as an option if supported by Town.

Medium-term improvements

- Add intersection warning sign on NH 28 southbound near crest of hill: to be installed in fall 2017
- Conduct NH 28 speed study: done in spring 2017; study revealed that prevailing speeds are above the 50 mph posted speed – thus, no reduction in the posted speed is supported.

Long-term improvements

- Traffic signal: still under consideration.
- Roundabout: still under consideration.

M. Dugas discussed the two potential long-term alternatives.

1. Traffic signal: While the conditions at this intersection do not fully meet the requirements to justify installation of a traffic signal, the DOT would support this alternative. In conjunction with a traffic signal some minor intersection modifications, particularly to adjust the existing traffic islands, would be needed. The estimated cost of this alternative is \$500,000. He stated that the DOT has concerns with this alternative. In addition to the traffic volume being lower than recommended for this treatment, the addition of a traffic signal would increase the chance of rear-end crashes. This alternative would also not necessarily reduce speeds through the intersection, and would also not prevent the possibility of high-speed angle crashes.
2. Roundabout: The proposed roundabout would have a diameter of approximately 135' and be roughly centered on the existing intersection. The Department had stated in prior meetings our concern with the westbound sight distance to the roundabout being limited by the crest on NH 28 east of the intersection. To address this concern the easterly splitter island would be extended east to the top of the crest. The extended island, in addition to the pavement markings and signs that would be installed, would address the Department's concerns. This alternative would cost between \$1.2 million and \$1.5 million. While more expensive than the signal option, this design would provide a more comprehensive safety improvement. By reducing the speed of all vehicles as they pass through the intersection, this design would reduce the number and severity of crashes. Because this layout would extend outside the existing right of way, construction would not occur until 2020 to allow time for property acquisitions.

Discussion

1. Traffic volumes: Councilor Kenney expressed his support for a long-term solution. He stated that traffic volumes appear to be growing throughout the region. [A review of NHDOT traffic data showed little or no growth in the annual average daily traffic figures; however, this may not reflect increases that might be perceived in peak tourist seasons or on weekends.]
2. Long-term improvement alternatives: There was support from all on the need for a long-term improvement. Of those who expressed an opinion, there appeared to be strong support for the roundabout alternative, but little support for the traffic signal.
3. Temporary rumble strips: The Selectmen continue to support the installation of temporary rumble strips, although the residents are less supportive due to noise concerns. The Department will wait to hear from the Town on their desired course of action.

Submitted by:

/s/ Trent C. Zanes, PE
Preliminary Design Supervisor

MEETING ATTENDANCE

PROJECT Ossipee: NH 28/171 Intersection Safety Improvements

LOCATION Bub Avery Memorial Gymnasium, 55 Main Street, Center Ossipee, Loudon, NH

PROJECT NO. X-A003(995)

29315

Federal

State

Name	Agency or Address	Comments
Mike Sweeney	8 Wake Hill Rd.	
Jan Sweeney	8 Walker Hill Rd	we liked the info you gave
Don Adams	554 Jean Bachman Hill Rd	what if you move where 171 meets 28?
John M. Bidwell	80 Old Rte 28	like roundabout
WILLIAM MARSY	742 PLEASANT VALLEY WOLFEBORO	REP CAROL & HUGGINS TRUSTEE. CONCERNED RE: ENTRANCE TO MD OFFICE IN ROUNDABOUT OPTION.
Melissa Pappas	2 Courthouse Sq Ossipee	speed to fast through intersection/prefer stop light
JAMESON PAPPAS	2 Courthouse Sq	Safety concerns
DAVID LAUTEIGNE	29 Woodcrest Dr.	Speed concerns, Safety turning concerns
DONNA LAUTEIGNE	29 Woodcrest Dr. Ossipee	PREFER ROUNDABOUT
JAMES BRENNAN	165 BROWNS RIDGE RD OSSPEE	
JIM SPENCER	25 CORTHOUSE SQUARE	
Melissa Seaman	Carroll County Independent	
GINNY SPENCER	PO BOX 182 (COURTHOUSE SQ.)	
Lynae Parker	809 Browns Ridge Rd. Ossipee	
Elizabeth Chubbuck	65 County Farm Rd Ossipee	Concern Emergency equipment negot in Jim
Richard Gaskins	65 County Farm Rd Ossipee	Speed concerns like info from lanes like roundabout.
BRAD HARRISMAN	PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR - OSSPEE	prefer roundabout — interested in environmental impact
ADAM RILEY	OSSPEE CORNER FD. PO BOX 415 OSSPEE NH 03824	
Joseph Kenney	Executive Council Dist 1 Concord, N.H. 03301	
Ken Kennard	20 BEINGHAM RD, OSSPEE	ROUND-ABOUT is very costly / LIGHTS
Rep. Lino Duellman	CAVILL COLLEGE	GOOD WORK
Mike Lantz	LRPC	
Bill Cuzz	NHDOT	
Todd Hayes	LRPC	
Alan Hanson	NHDOT D3	
Rick Morgan	CHAIRMAN, OSSPEE Board of Selectmen	