

November 22, 2021

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

**CONFERENCE REPORT**

**PROJECT:** PLAISTOW 40641  
X-A004(452)  
NH ROUTE 121A – Traffic Calming and Safety Improvement Project

**DATE OF CONFERENCE:** Tuesday, June 22, 2021

**LOCATION OF CONFERENCE:** Virtual Via Zoom

**ATTENDED BY:**

<u>Town</u>	<u>DOT</u>	<u>HTA</u>
Dee Voss	Maggie Baldwin	Stephen Haas
Timothy Moore	Cassandra Burns	

**SUBJECT:** Second Working Group Meeting

**NOTES ON CONFERENCE:**

Cassandra Burns began the meeting by giving updates to any outstanding items include the Westville Signal Warrant Analysis, which is being finalized, as well as the breakdown of Survey #1 results. The following are excerpts from the survey:

- Major Roadway Concerns:
  - o 30% speed
  - o 25% pedestrian safety
  - o 11% believe that truck use, volume of traffic and police enforcement
- Intersections of Concern:
  - o 31% adjacent to the Library
  - o 25% Westville
  - o 20% North St
  - o 11% Elm St
- Top Priorities
  - o 38% vehicle speeds
  - o 22% Frequency of large trucks
  - o 20% inadequate/lack of sidewalks/pedestrian safety
  - o 9% too much traffic

Cassandra Burns noted that these results correlate with the Main Street Traffic Calming Plan (2011), the Village District Charrette (2011) and what the Town noted as major concerns. The Town noted they have also received some comments on Facebook, but most were not positive and that all real comments had been captured by the survey.

Cassandra stated that we should take these results and use them as the base for Survey #2, which will be more of a learning survey to show case what traffic calming measures would work for this corridor and meet those needs and concerns and also ask residents to prioritize/rank the alternatives. As these questions get developed, the Working Group should prioritize the different types of traffic calming measures and eliminate any that the Town would not support. Dee stated that she would be the liaison for the Working Group and Town conversations and the Town Planning Board meets every week. The Town is currently between Town Managers, with Greg Colby serving as Interim.

Cassandra reviewed the different Traffic Calming Measures that could work for this corridor which include roundabouts (compact or standard), corner extension/bulb outs, raised intersection (which was noted as a favorite by the Town), lateral shift, raised crosswalk/speed table, on-street parking, rectangular rapid flashing beacon, and a road diet.

Cassandra mentioned that the Department had conversations with the Bureau of Traffic with regards to changing the speed limit along Main St. In order to lower speeds, there needs to be support by an engineering study and traffic investigation; Towns tend to not want speeds raised. One option that was noted by the Town is to add "Slow Down" signs within the Village District or to Zone the corridor from the Library to the Railroad crossing. Maggie noted that a speed limit change should be coordinated with physical measures to help with compliance. The Working Group was in concurrence to hold off on the signal option at Westville until Survey #2 results are available and signal warrant analysis had been reviewed by the Traffic Bureau.

Cassandra brought up the NH 125 signalization project (40645) and noted that it will be advertising before this project in FY 24, while this project is now FY 25.

Cassandra opened up the agenda to any additional questions, concerns, topics. Maggie asked about the parking situation at the General Store at Westville, if those could be reduced, removed or just moved. The Town said that the store is very busy and there are no real parking spaces, its more of a free for all. It was noted to check with District on any records for the Store's parking

The Town noted that a water treatment facility is now located at Duston and Main Street (153).

Tim Moore added that a lot of drivers get confused at the intersection of Westville and May Ray and will take last minute turns, creating an unsafe condition. He proposed that a signal in that location could eliminate the confusion.

***It was noted after the meeting that Julian Kiszka will no longer be a part of the Working Group. The Board of Selectmen appointed Selectmen Bill Coye as a replacement and appointed Selectmen Jay DeRoche as an alternate.***

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- **The Department will create a list of Town Maintenance Obligations for each Traffic Calming Measure and send that to the Working Group for the Town to read through. Any traffic calming measure that the Town will not maintain will be eliminated from the options.**
- **The Working Group will develop questions for Survey #2 based on the Town Maintenance Obligations mentioned above.**
- **The Department will reach out to District about the General Store's parking.**

Submitted by:

Cassandra Burns  
Senior Design Engineer

clb/CLB

NOTED BY: S. Haas

cc: Attendees; Bill Coyle, Jay DeRouche, Matt Lampron