

City of Beacon  
Traffic Safety Committee

July 23, 2019

Minutes

**Open Issues**

Liberty Street and Wilson Street  
Sycamore Drive  
Dutchess Terrace and Rockhill Road  
Oak Street and Willow Street  
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**New Business**

Stop Signs  
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Mackin Avenue  
Washington and Depuyster  
Resident Parking Permits

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**OPEN ISSUES**

Liberty Street and Wilson Street

*The Issue:* A resident sent a letter which can be found below:

We, the residents of Liberty St and Wilson St neighborhoods btw Stone Rd and Washington Ave, want to draw attention to speeding and unsafe driving in our area and propose some measures to help solve these issues.

Overview

With a lot of young families moving in in recent years, our small neighborhood, without counting Round Tree Court development, has close to 20 children under the age of 7. Given we have no sidewalks, there are constantly kids on skates, bikes, scooters or simply running on the streets. It's a tight-knit community, many kids are friends and it is not unusual to see 6-10 kids

on the street at a time. We as parents do our best to guarantee safety of our kids, but unfortunately there are systematic occurrences of speeding and distracted driving. There are also a couple areas that are especially dangerous due to the traffic patterns & visibility.

Additionally, we have a severely autistic child living at 55 Wilson St. and a deaf older person at 386 Liberty St. Being less than a mile from Forrestal Elementary School there are many kids who walk or ride their bikes to school. We also see a lot of pedestrian & bike traffic coming from the The Lofts at Beacon via Bridge St. bridge.

To foster a more walkable & bikeable city and ensure safety of kids and adults alike, we are proposing the following changes. We are eager to hear about additional measures the Highway Department, Police Department, Traffic Safety Commission and Mr. Mayor can propose to this end.

This proposal is supported by the majority of residents. Full list with names, addresses and signatures will be presented at the Traffic Safety Committee meeting on May 28th together with other supporting materials.

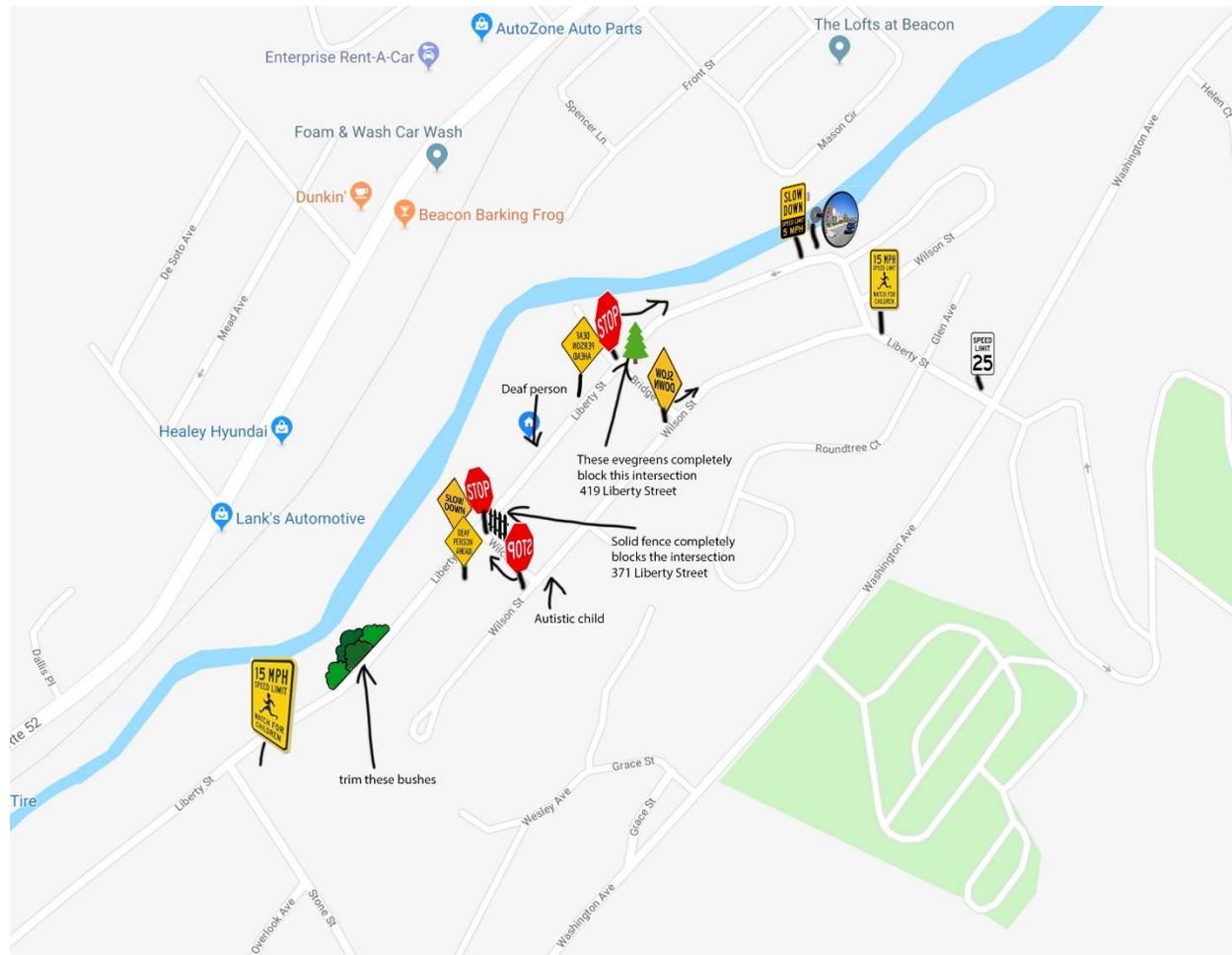
Please refer to the attached map mock up with locations of signs, etc.

1. Reduce traffic speed in the whole area btw Stone St. and Washington Ave to 25 mph. Alternative proposal - to reduce the area traffic to 25mph on all roads north of East Main and west of Washington Ave.
2. Install yellow “15 mph speed limit, watch for children” signs on northbound Liberty St. near the one lane bridge at Stone St and east/southbound on Liberty St before a fork of Wilson St. and one-way section of Liberty St.
3. Install a Stop Sign on a one-way section of southbound Liberty St. at Bridge St. Many cars go pretty fast through that intersection. Given that the Bridge Street has an incline going west, kids tend to go really fast towards the intersection and we already had a couple close calls.
4. 419 Liberty Street property, NE corner of Liberty St. and Bridge St., has dense evergreens that make it impossible for the drivers going south on Liberty St. to see if there is anybody going west on Bridge St., or for people on Bridge St. to see if there are cars coming. Ask the owners of 419 Liberty St. to trim down evergreens obstructing visibility.
5. Install a curved mirror and 5mph recommended/Slow Down speed sign at a 90 degree turn on one-way section of southbound Liberty St. right after the entrance to the water treatment plan. The road is very narrow and drivers cannot see if there is anybody pass the turn. There were several occasions when people were “burning rubber” in the turn and came within inches of one of the dads pressing the kid against a guard rail.

6. TBD - Install a DO NOT ENTER sign on NW corner of Liberty St. at Bridge St. Some navigator apps send people north on Liberty St. pass the Bridge St. even though it is a one way. There is a Do Not Enter sign on the east side of the road, but drivers miss it.
7. Install Slow Down and Deaf Person Ahead signs on northbound Liberty St. prior to Wilcox St. intersection on the way to the house with a deaf person.
8. Install Deaf Person Ahead sign on southbound Liberty St. after Bridge St. intersection on the way to the house with a deaf person.
9. Trim bushes on southbound Liberty St. approaching one lane bridge prior to Stone St. There is Limited Visibility sign there, trimming bushes a couple times a year by a couple feet would greatly increase visibility. Non-local cars often approach the bridge at over 30 mph and there is not much room to escape them. Increased visibility would help both the pedestrians and the drivers to know what's coming.
10. Install a Stop sign on Wilcox St. at Liberty St. intersection. The view at the intersection is obstructed by parked cars, a solid fence on NE corner at 371 Liberty St. Additionally, because of the southbound incline on Liberty St., bikes, skaters, scooters, etc move pretty fast near this intersection.
11. Install a Stop sign on Wilcox St. at Wilson St. intersection. An autistic child lives diagonally across that intersection.
12. Install Slow Down sign on southbound Wilson St. after Bridge St. intersection - autistic child lives further down that street.
13. Place a temporary radar speed sign on Liberty St. after implementing the above measures.

Looking forward to your feedback.

Sergei Krasikov, on behalf of Liberty St. and Wilson St. neighborhood.



*Committee Recommendation:* SF will set up traffic data collector in the neighborhood to acquire speed data. He will also send PD to the area to monitor the situation. This item is still open, a discussion will take place at the next meeting based upon the data.

*Committee follow up on July 23:* PD provided speed data for Liberty Street, the average speed from 795 vehicles was 20 miles per hour from June 6 – July 21. PD will continue to monitor the situation. This issue will remain open and the TSC will hear from the PD at the next meeting.

### Sycamore Drive

*The Issue:* The Home Owners Association requested No Parking signs on the north side of Sycamore Drive on Sargent Avenue to a point at the end of the stone wall and on the north side of Sycamore Drive on Sargent Avenue to a point at the end of the stone wall. They say there is a blind spot when cars park there.

*Committee Recommendation:* Since the city code already requires no parking signs on both sides of the street from Education Drive to Wolcott Avenue, MM will work with PD to put the signs up.

*Committee Follow Up:* The City Council scheduled a Public Hearing to vote on the code changes for August 5, 2019.

#### Dutchess Terrace and Rockhill Road

*There Issue:* There is a poor line of sight at the stop sign on Rockhill Road turning onto Dutchess Terrace in both directions, particularly turning left. There are overgrown bushes in the way, and sometimes there's a truck parked half on the sidewalk and half in the road near the intersection. Plus, people are blowing through the stop sign.

*Committee Recommendation:* SF will visit the area. CM told residents to call PD when the truck is parked illegally. *Update:* CM got a call week of July 1 from same complainant with same complaints.

*Committee follow up on July 23:* MM will look at the brush to see if it is overgrown at the intersection. Item is still open

#### Oak and Willow

*The Issue:* Below is a letter from Jamie Mulligan to the Traffic Safety Committee:

It's my (and some of my neighbors) contention that the intersections of Oak and Willow, and Oak and N Elm should both be four way stops.

We have multiple close encounters regularly, particularly with people not stopping when they need to, or stopping when they don't need to. Both intersections seem to cause quite a bit of confusion.

Additionally, two days ago there was a significant accident on the latter corner, the root of which seems to have been confusion over who was supposed to stop.

Lastly, there is a preschool on the corner of Oak and Willow and it seems unnecessarily risky to not put in two stop signs when considering the parents and children doing drop-offs and pick-ups.

*Committee Recommendation:* Committee decided to make this a four way stop. C.M will work with City Attorney to update the city code accordingly.

#### Main Street Handicap Parking

*The Issue:* A letter from Stosh Yankowski regarding handicap parking on Main Street can be found at the end of this agenda.

*Committee Recommendation:* The Committee decided to take Mr. Yankowski's recommendations under review. This item is open.

*Committee follow up on July 23:* Committee is considering the suggestions. CM will ask City Attorney about the legality of adding handicap parking.

#### Cross Street Speed

*The Issue:* KJ has been receiving complaints from one resident on Cross Street of people speeding. The Police Department has frequented the area and a speed data collector was placed on the street. The posted speed limit is 30 miles per hour. The average speed from over 8,000 cars over a 26-day period was 14 miles per hour.

*Committee Recommendation:* CM will write the resident a letter on behalf of the TSC stating that due diligence has been taken by the Police Department and the TSC to investigate any safety issues around speeding.

*Committee follow up July 23:* CM wrote letter, MD signed. Item is closed

#### Fire Zone Parking

GV asked the TSC to consider moving the "No Parking Fire Zone" sign on South Avenue further south from the entrance to the fire station. Fire trucks are having a hard time pulling out of the station when a car is parked adjacent to their driveway. The TSC decided to place a sign stating "No Parking Here to Corner" further south from the entrance to the fire station. Doing so will provide ample space for fire trucks to operate.

*Committee Recommendation:* MM will move the sign. This item is closed.

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### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### North Elm Street at Oak Street

*The Issue:* County Legislator Nick Page requested the TSC to consider making the intersection a four-way stop.

*Committee Recommendation:* The Committee decided to make this a 4-way stop.

#### Oak Street at Cross Street

*The Issue:* County Legislator Nick Page requested the TSC to consider adding stop signs at the T intersection.

*Committee Recommendation:* PD will monitor. This item is open.

#### Ralph Street at Cross Street

*The Issue:* County Legislator Nick Page requested the TSC to consider adding stop signs at the T intersection.

*Committee Recommendation:* PD will monitor. This item is open.

#### Cross Street at West Church

*The Issue:* County Legislator Nick Page requested the TSC to consider the possibility of installing signage to keep the intersection corners clear and passable.

*Committee Recommendation:* Committee will consider adding “No Parking Here to Corner” signs on Cross Street at West Church. This item is open and will be discussed at the next meeting.

#### Mackin Avenue Speeding

*The Issue:* Residents would like the TSC to consider lowering the speed limit, adding speed bumps or other deterrents to mitigate often misguided through-traffic on Mackin Avenue.

*Committee Recommendation:* The Committee will consider taking steps to mitigate the issue at the next meeting.

#### Washington Avenue / Depuyster Avenue

*The Issue:* Resident complaints to County Legislator Nick Page give the impression that there may be some evening/night time racing on Washington Avenue and Depuyster Avenue.

*Committee Recommendation:* PD will monitor and TSC will evaluate next meeting.

#### Resident Permits

*The Issue:* Main Street residents would feel relief if they could pay an annual fee for a sticker that would allow them to leave cars on side streets for longer than the marked periods.

*Committee Recommendation:* The Committee will consider during their next meeting.

#### Herbert and Main Street

*The Issue:* Mayor Casale asked the TSC to review the traffic measures at the intersection of Herbert Street and Main Street on behalf of a resident.

*Committee Recommendation:* TSC decided to have the PD monitor the intersection. This item is open and will be discussed at the next meeting.

#### Dummy Light

Chief VanVooris discussed the lack of electricity going to the dummy light on East Main Street. MM told the Chief that the electricity is out because of sidewalk construction in the area. Electricity should be back on within three weeks.

# HANDICAP PARKING

Josh Yankowski  
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## EXISTING

- 1- CLIFF ST PARKING LOT
- 4 - BMV
- 2 - KEY FOOD
- 1- CORNER MAIN & N. BRETT - NEEDS SIGN & REPAINT
- 1- SIDE LIBRARY
- 1- SIDE RITE AID
- 2 - BACK HUDSON VALLEY CREDIT U
- 4 - BEHIND DOCS S. CHESTNUT (SIDE OF FLEA MKT)
- 1- FRONT P.O.
- 2- SIDE MOSQUE
- 3- BEHIND YANKEE CLIPPER
- 1- SIDE CHASE (PARKING LOT)
- 3- STREET ON SIDE OF BROTHERS
- 2- PARKING LOT CORNER MAIN & VERPLANK
- 1- MELZING PARKING LOT
- 1- EAST MAIN FRONT OF McMILLAN BROS

## NEED

BANK SQUARE COFFEE

M+T BANK

CITIZEN'S BANK

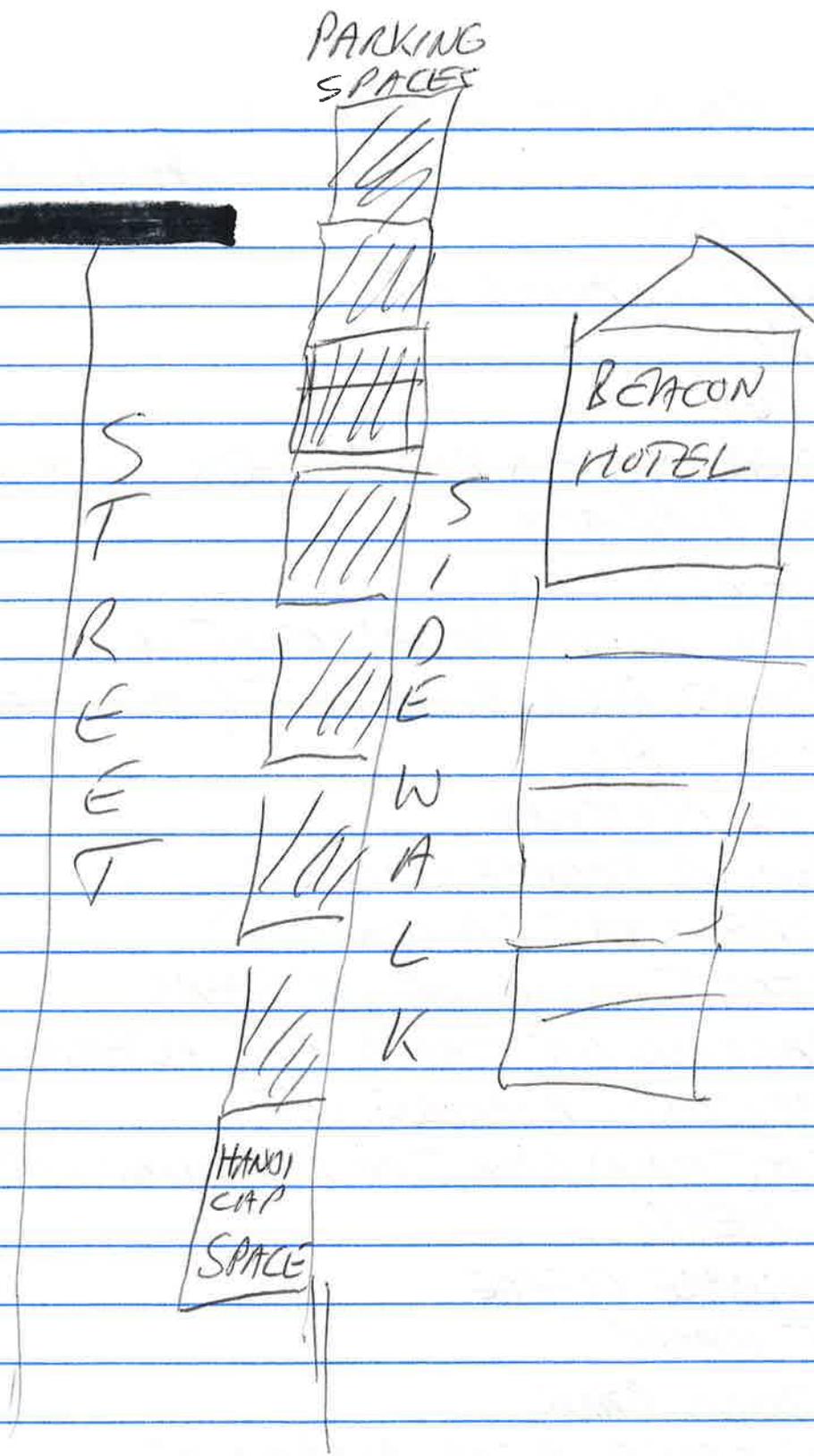
TOWN CRIER REAR AND/OR SIDE

BEACON HOTEL

HOWLAND CULTURAL CENTER

SUKHAT

BEST TO CREATE HANDICAP AT END OF ROW OF SPACES  
(SEE OVER)



EASIER TO PULL INTO  
SPACE RATHER THAN BACK IN