

City of Beacon  
Traffic Safety Committee  
October 24, 2019  
Minutes

Attendees: Matt Dubetski, Gary Barrack, Michael Manzi, Lieutenant Sands Frost, Collin Milone, Peter Skorewicz Jr.

➤ Open Issues

1. Cross Street at West Church Street
2. Washington Avenue and Depuyster Avenue
3. Prospect Street and Alice Street
4. Cross Street Speeding/Parking
5. Dummy Light
6. Liberty Street and Wilson Street
7. Dewindt Street Width
8. Willow and Main
9. Grove Street
10. East Main Street Navigation and Parking
11. Leonard Street
12. Grove and Liberty
13. Commerce Street

➤ New Business

1. Roundtree Court

## Open Issues

### 1. 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.

*October Follow Up:* The TSC has recommended the following two items:

- A. Codify signs that are already up – No Parking on the east side of Cross Street from Main Street to West church Street
- B. Codify and install No Parking on the east side of Cross Street 65 feet North from West Church Street

### 2. Washington Avenue and 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.

*October Follow-Up:* This item is closed; PD will continue to monitor.

### 3. Prospect Street and Alice Street

*The Issue:* There is a second sign saying “No Parking Between Signs” on Prospect Street. The arrow should not point towards East Main Street.

*October Follow Up:* MM put up the sign. This item is closed.

### 4. Cross Street Parking

*The Issue:* TSC Chairperson Matt Dubetsky would like to discuss parking on Cross Street as it relates to sight distance and getting fire apparatuses down the street safely.

*Committee Recommendation:* Chief VanVhooris will test what it’s like to get a fire apparatus through and will bring back to TSC next meeting. MD will get the measurements.

*October Follow Up:* Closed, please see agenda item # 1.

## 5. Dummy Light

*The Issue:* Please see the letter below from a resident regarding traffic patterns at the Dummy Light.

"I have been having bad experiences at the dummy light. Yesterday was the most dangerous one though. People treat the railroad tracks like a crosswalk and it's not. There is also a downward hill there (so if someone walks in front of your car as you are rolling down it can be harder to stop) and drunk party people walking around, it's too dark as well.

Is there anything in the works to improve this area? There is a lot going on there and it's not well light at all or clear as to where to walk and people get confused (tourists) about where to turn etc. also, not well marked at all."

*Committee Recommendation:* A decision will be made based upon an interdisciplinary pedestrian and bicycle audit on Main Street.

*October Follow Up:* The Dummy Light is now flashing. PD will monitor. This item is open and is awaiting the Main Street Audit.

## 6. Liberty Street and Wilson Street

*The Issue:* Please see the letter below from a resident on Liberty Street.

Good morning,

First of all, I want to acknowledge the work that has been done so far addressing our concern over traffic safety in Liberty/Wilson neighborhood. Myself and members of the community would like to attend Sept 24 Public Safety Committee meeting to hear the updates and plans to move forward. With days getting shorter there is increased danger for our kids on the streets in the evenings. Speeding and reckless driving is still an issue.

Some flashpoint over the last couple months:

- A landscaping truck with a trailer was speeding against traffic in one-way section of Liberty Street by the water plant, when the truck was turning the sharp corner there the trailer skidded and came within inches of hitting my parents who were strolling.
- A white SUV was doing 50-60 mph on Liberty St as I stood with several kids on bicycles near my driveway. I stepped onto the street waving the SUV to slow down. Instead, the SUV played "chicken" with me - started barreling toward me and I had to jump off the road.
- Consistent aggressive driving by a Wilson St resident driving silver Mercedes SUV despite constant pleas to slow down
- Two intersections are still blocked by trees (Liberty St and Bridge St) and fence (Liberty St and Wilcox St).

- Lack of Detour signs directing drivers going north on Liberty towards Washington Ave to go Stone St instead during water main work on Wilson results in people who come to Liberty St / Bridge St intersection to find that Bridge St and/or Wilson are closed for traffic, turn around and speed aggressively south on Liberty St. back to Stone St.

Thank you,

Sergei Krasikov

*Committee Recommendation:* CM will tell Dave Buckely about the complaint about the fence at Liberty and Wilcox for a code violation and the trees at Liberty St and Bridge St.

Construction will be completed in the next couple of days.

PD says they haven't written tickets in the area although they are monitoring and will continue to do so.

*October Follow Up:* A traffic sign was up and the data show 1.1 speeders per day in the area. The PD monitored frequently and wrote no tickers. PD will continue to monitor. This item is closed.

#### 7. Dewindt Street Width

*The Issue:* A woman who lives in the area of Dewindt Street called and commented that the road is not wide enough to park cars on both sides and have cars driving simultaneously in opposite directions.

*Committee Recommendation:* Lieutenant Frost suggesting making Dewindt Street one way eastbound from Cliff Street to South Chestnut Street and Church Street one way west bound from North Chestnut Street to Willow Street.

*October Follow Up:* The TSC has decided not to recommend any changes to Dewindt Street. This item is closed.

#### 8. Willow Street and Main Street

*The Issue:* A resident raised a concern at the September 16, 2019 City Council Meeting regarding the lack of a Stop Sign on Willow Street where Willow meets Main. Also, "the yellow signs by the state should have signs on both sides."

*Committee Recommendation:* Main Street audit should make recommendations.

*October Follow Up:* The TSC has decided not to recommend any changes to this intersection. This item is closed.

#### 9. Grove Street

*The Issue:* Council Person McCredo brought up Grove Street at the Council meeting on September 16, 2019. She said that something needs to be done about the hill on Grove Street between Highland Place and Overlook Ave. It can be very dangerous for people walking when there are no sidewalks. We should look into extending the one-way from Leonard Street up through that hill on Grove Street.

*Committee Recommendation:* The Committee does not see a need to extend the one way based on the data available. CM will look at the accident data from the audit.

*October Follow Up:* This item is closed.

#### 10. East End of Main Street

*The Issue:* At the September 16, 2019 Council Meeting, Council Person McCredo said that navigating the east end of Main Street is a problem and parking is also an issue.

*Committee Recommendation:* The City Code does not match with the reality for parking regulations. MM and SF will go together and make recommendations at the next meeting. The goal is to make it clearer and easier to enforce parking in the area.

*October Follow Up:* This item is open and will be discussed at the next meeting.

#### 11. Leonard Street

*The Issue:* At the September 16, 2019 Council Meeting, Council Person McCredo said that on Leonard Street many vehicles drive the wrong way, particularly coming out of the new apartments. Signage may be an issue.

*Committee Recommendation:* SF will look at the signage and make a recommendation at the next meeting.

*October Follow Up:* The TSC has decided not to recommend any changes to this location. This item is closed.

#### 12. Grove and Liberty

Please see the letter below:

I want to bring to your attention the intersection of Liberty and Grove Street because it has become a safety hazard and needs to be remedied.

The traffic at this intersection has increased tenfold as it is the only way for all of the residents at the new apartment complex on Leonard Street to reach their home. It is confusing because Liberty Street becomes a one-way street here. At this point, many people seem to understand that it is a dangerous intersection and stop even though there is not a stop sign in the Liberty Street direction. This causes its own confusion and danger because drivers and pedestrians (many of them children) are never sure if a driver is stopping or just slowing down and I have witnessed many close calls as residents try to navigate it without clear guidance from traffic signs. Please consider making this a 4 way stop. It is an inexpensive way to prevent an injury or worse.

Thank you for your service and consideration.

*Committee Recommendation:* SF and Fire Chief will visit the location of the complaint and determine if no parking signs are appropriate.

*October Follow Up:* The TSC recommended codifying this as a three-way stop.

### 13. Commerce Street Parking

*The Issue:* Please see the letter below from a resident on Commerce Street.

I'd like to request the addition of some No Parking signs around my driveway, which is on Commerce Street.

Because Commerce is a narrow, one-way street with parking on both sides of the street, I often have trouble getting in and out of my driveway. Cars are parked both too close to the driveway on my side of the street as well as on the opposite side, forcing me either to do a three- or five-point turn to get in or out, or simply preventing me from using my driveway at all. I share my driveway with my neighbors at 20 South Avenue, so this problem affects them as well.

A buffer zone of approximately five feet on each side of the driveway would resolve this issue and still leave plenty of parking spaces for neighborhood residents and visitors.

I'm happy to meet to discuss this request, if that would be helpful.

*October Follow Up:* This item is open and will be discussed at the next meeting.

## New Business

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### 1. Roundtree Court Parking

Three residents from Roundtree Court came and made the comments below:

- The street light between 61 and 63 is out
- Several stop signs need to be replaced
- All stop signs need to be codified
- Parking in the intersections is a problem
- The residents are requesting no parking signs in several locations, please see the map below. (The map is a little unclear, the residents are requesting no parking near the pool, and on the inside of the bends presented in yellow on the map.)

*Committee Recommendation:* MM will work with Central Hudson to turn the light back on. MM will replace the stop signs. CM will work with city attorneys to codify the stop signs. PD asked that the residents call whenever someone is illegally parked in the

intersection. The committee will take the “no parking” requests under consideration at their next meeting.