



City of Beacon

Parking and Traffic Safety Committee

City Hall
1 Municipal Plaza, Beacon, NY 12508

Minutes

August 27, 2020 at 9 am

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Parking and Traffic Safety Committee (PTSC) met via video call.

Attendees: Acting Chief of Police Sands Frost, Fire Chief Gary VanVoorhis, Superintendent of Streets Michael Manzi, Planning Board Representative Jill Reynolds, Mayor's Secretary Collin Milone

➤ **Old Business**

1. Exeter Circle
2. Dutchess Terrace Speed Bump
3. Mountain Lane
4. Verplanck Ave Speeding

➤ **New Business**

1. North and South Parking
2. Teller Avenue Speeding
3. Liberty Street Speeding

➤ **Updates**

1. Howland Avenue Truck Route
2. Roundtree Court Stop Signs

➤ Old Business

1. Exeter Circle

Please see the note below from a resident.

Yesterday upon returning home as I entered Exeter Circle there were cars parked belonging to hikers leaving exactly 8'4" space between them. None of the residents of Exeter Circle needed an ambulance or fire truck. If we had, I think they would have needed 11' There is no good reason for allowing hikers to park on our street. Most of us have children and built or bought these homes on Exeter Circle for the advantages of living on a cul de sac. Our kids can no longer ride their bikes, scooters etc. around the circle. We cannot go out and play catch with our kids. There is a constant parade of cars turning around the circle. This all seems very unfair for us. The solution appears simple. Parking for residents only. Move the "***no parking from here to corner***" south 50 meters and allow only resident parking from that point on. I hope you will give this serious consideration and take appropriate action before one of our kids gets run over or we need an emergency vehicle that cannot get through.

April: PD has been sending a car to Exeter Circle 4 times daily and ticketing illegally parked vehicles. C.M will update complainant. PTSC will revisit after Scenic Hudson parking lot reopens at Mount Beacon trailhead.

May: Lt. Frost told the Committee that there are constant patrols in the area. One car was illegally parked on Exeter Circle and it was ticketed. This item will remain open.

June: PD will continue to monitor now that traffic is slowly returning to the pre-COVID-19 status quo.

July: This item will be removed from the agenda. PD will continue to monitor.

August: The Committee recommended no parking on one side of Exeter Circle. MM and SF will measure for the proposed local law.

2. Dutchess Terrace Speed Bump

Message from a resident: "I'd like to get something started regarding speed bumps on Dutchess Terrace (heading to and from 84) so let me know if I start with a petition and signatures from residents on the block --or the best way to get started."

June: Police Department to monitor.

July: PD will monitor M-F, 4 – 7 pm. CM will publish the speed bump criteria on city website.

August: The Committee recommended to not build a speed bump. CM will tell the resident. Speed bump criteria published to website can be found here in the "Resources" side bar on the city website <https://www.cityofbeacon.org/index.php/government/boards-committees/traffic-safety-committee/>.

3. Mountain Lane

Resident request for No Parking signs on Mountain Lane.

June: MM and GV will measure the area from the Mountain Lane Bridge (above Dry Brook Stream) to about 20 feet beyond Monument Rd. (the dirt road), taking into consideration the degree of maneuverability of a ladder truck in the area.

July: MD and SF will review the area and report back to the committee. Pocket road stop signs may need to

be codified.

August: The Committee recommended no parking signs on Pocket Road and Mountain Lane. MM and SF will measure for the proposed local law.

4. Verplanck Ave Speeding

See the message below from a resident.

"I would like to address the considerable amount of speeding on Verplanck.

My daughter and her husband live at the corner of Verplanck and Fishkill where the speed limit is 25mph before and after the light. Although there are signs, 25mph is not the case with most drivers. Granted this is a busy road, but the amount of cars speeding through that stop light has become a dangerous situation for the people who live here. They have to back out of the driveway and when cars are speeding through the light it becomes extremely dangerous for them and their infant child.

What are possible solutions for this problem? Perhaps speed bumps on Verplanck and Fishkill to slow down the traffic before the light? Perhaps more police radar points? Perhaps cameras at the lights to catch speeders and send out electronic tickets? These are just a few of our thoughts and I'm sure you have ideas of your own.

If you would like to come over and sit on the front porch and experience the noise and disregard for the town speed limits, we would love to have you! We would of course have masks and distance ourselves safely.

Thank you for everything you have done to keep Beacon safe during this pandemic. Hopefully, we can make Verplanck safer too!"

July: PD will monitor

August: PD has monitored and will continue and will continue to do so once construction in the area concludes and traffic patterns are less interrupted.

➤ **New Business**

1. North and South Street Parking

See below a letter from Councilmember Dan Aymar Blair.

"I went back over to North and South Streets and can confirm that there is no signage restricting parking on either side of the street at the intersections with Schenck. Further, I saw there were cars parked very close to the ends of the street, less so on North St where there is a fire hydrant on the corner.

I would like to request "No Parking from Here to the Corner" signs at least on the south sides of the street at a distance determined by the Fire Department. This will prevent personal vehicles from obstructing fire trucks entering North and South Streets from Schenck."

August: The Committee recommended no parking here to corner signs on North Street on the north and south sides of the street from Schenck Avenue to a point 30 feet east. The Committee recommended no parking here to corner signs on South Street on the north and south sides of the street from Schenck Avenue to a point 30 feet east. The signs are already codified, MM will put up the signs.

2. Teller Avenue Speeding

See below a letter from a resident.

“What will it take to get a stop sign or some other measure to see low the traffic down and on Teller Ave?

We are sitting here watching cars speeding by.
It is getting worse as time goes by.

Something must be done before there is a terrible accident.

Thanks for looking into this.”

August: PD will monitor.

3. The PD received a complaint of speeding on Liberty Street between Stone Street and Grove Street. The PD has been monitoring the area.

➤ **Updates from previous meetings:**

1. Howland Avenue truck route signs have been installed.
2. Roundtree Court stop signs have been installed.