



TOWN OF HAMDEN, CONNECTICUT TRAFFIC AUTHORITY REGULAR MEETING

Hamden Government Center
2750 Dixwell Avenue
Hamden, Connecticut 06518

The Traffic Authority, Town of Hamden, held a regular meeting on Monday, July 10, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom meeting.

Meeting recording:

https://hamden.zoom.us/rec/share/5KfDMns4rQVzClSb_gLQTBb9jC1nmIAYbphsaQh5LEX7Tw_f1TjrT4EnU6_3Mst.5X3AJI4nErX0wLSt

Passcode: @4439BD*

MINUTES:

1. Call to order/Roll Call

Commissioner, Vaughn Willis made a motion to elect Commissioner Daniel Dunn to Chair the July 10, 2023, Traffic Authority regular meeting. Commissioner, Elaine Dove seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Commissioner, Daniel Dunn called the meeting to order at 5:40 PM. A roll call was conducted by the Commission Clerk, Nancy Forvil. Commissioners, Elaine Dove and Vaughn Willis were present. Stephen White, Town Engineer, LTA was also present. DOT guests (Edward Sabourin, Marissa Pfaffinger and Andrew Correia.

2. Approval of minutes of meeting June 12, 2023.

Commissioner, Vaughn Willis made a motion to approve the June 12, 2023 minutes. Commissioner, Elaine Dove seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

3. Public comments on agenda action items

1. Karlen Meinsen

4. Correspondences

- a) Anthony T. Moore, 18 Murray Street- Requesting speed humps put on the street to slow vehicles down. There are children and pets on our street, and it is not safe for them.

- b) Bianca Woods, 37 Longmeadow Ave- Requesting a “do not block driveway” sign added to my property, driveway is always being blocked. Even when I am home someone is always blocking my driveway.

- c) John Bysiewicz, The 46th Annual New Haven Road Race is set for Labor Day, September 4th. The half marathon courses dips into Hamden on Whitney Ave (course linked below). We usually have two Hamden police officers work the detail. (One block on Whitney Avenue from Cliff St to Armory Street.)

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/61e6c0c434c67857de457a8a/t/623dd52377c29a7a998726b9/1648219428052/half_map.jpg

- d) Kristen Kuselias, 3226 Whitney Avenue- It is dangerous to turn off of Joyce II onto West Todd. There have been at least two significant accidents. There has been a traffic study. Flashing speed limit signs have been placed in the vicinity, but they do not work. You cannot see traffic coming out of that road. There are no stop sign markings. The grass is so overgrown. Something needs to get done before someone get seriously hurt.

- e) Karla Kendrick, 44 North Sheffield Street- Requesting speed bumps or other traffic calming take place for the area. There are many children in the area and the cars seem to use this street as a cut through and speed.

- f) Webster Zackary, Request speed hump or Traffic Calming on Barraclough Avenue. Resident Petition is attached.

- g) Marilyn Dickman, 140 Centerbrook Rd- Requesting sign to inform motorist that they are parked too close to driveways which creates sight line issues for cars pulling out the driveway.

- h) Chantel Elis Young, 40 Beaver Street- Requesting handicapped parking space, application attached.

5. Department Report

- a) Edward Sabourin, Project Engineer, DOT- Presenting on informational materials for the proposed Route 15 Interchange 61 Improvements, including changes to Whitney Avenue at the interchange ramps.

6. New Business

- a) Approval of New Line Striping Plan for Skiff Street
Skiff Street Striping Plan – CTDOT is replacing the Skiff Street bridge over Route 15. When the bridge replacement is complete a new striping plan will be implemented for Skiff Street. Skiff Street is a Town Road and the approval of a striping plan is under the purview of Hamden’s Traffic Authority. CTDOT sent a request on May 31, 2023, asking the town to provide conceptual layout and approval of the striping plan concept by July 10, 2023. The Traffic and Engineering Departments completed the conceptual layout Friday June 9 and are submitting it to the Traffic Authority for approval.

Commissioner, Vaughn Willis made a motion to approve the New Line Striping Plan for Skiff Street. Commissioner, Elaine Dove seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

- b) Anthony Tracy Moore is requesting Speed humps on Murray St between Woodin St and Helen Street.

Commissioner, Vaughn Willis made a motion to move the speed hump request to the LTA priority list. Commissioner, Elaine Dove seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

- c) Karlen Meinsen is requesting pedestrian safety and traffic calming at the intersection of Dixwell Avenue and Connolly Parkway. “The intersection of Dixwell Avenue and Connolly Parkway and the crosswalks along Dixwell Avenue south of the school. These areas are very dangerous for our students to cross the streets and crosswalks multiple times per day.”

Commissioner, Vaughn Willis made a motion to table the request for a pedestrian safety and traffic calming at the intersection of Dixwell Avenue and Connolly Parkway. Commissioner, Elaine Dove seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

New Business (continued)

- d) Alan Gold is requesting traffic calming on Newbury Street. “Speed bumps need to be raised.”

Commissioner, Vaughn Willis made a motion to move the speed hump request to the LTA priority list. Commissioner, Elaine Dove seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

- e) Charles and Carolyn Paul are requesting traffic calming on Foote Street. “We request installation of a speed hump to slow down drivers driving at an unsafe speed on the block of Foote Street between Ridge Road and Hartford Turnpike.”

Commissioner, Vaughn Willis made a motion to move the traffic calming request to the LTA priority list. Commissioner, Elaine Dove seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

- f) Kimberly DiGiovanni is requesting a “Turtle Crossing Sign” be placed on New Road. “Request a turtle crossing sign be placed on New Road near Quinnipiac University. Turtles are regularly crossing the road, particularly in the spring. Some of the turtles are very large. Signs would alert drivers to their crossing and keep everyone safer.”

Commissioner, Elaine Dove made a motion to approve the New Line Striping Plan for Skiff Street. Commissioner, Vaughn Willis seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

7. Old Business

- a) Colleen Westervelt: Requesting more crossing guards at the back entrance of Williams Street and by Langer Street. Police should enforce parking violations since cars double and triple park on both Helen and Gorham. Crossing guards are on the corner of Pine Rock and Helen/West Helen and the other at Pine Rock and Brook/Gorham. Children are at risk of getting hit crossing in between cars when leaving from the back of the school. Motorist are traveling the wrong way up on the one-way street. Residents are getting stuck in traffic because they are blocked in.

Old Business (continued)

Commissioner, Vaughn Willis made a motion to table the request for crossing guards at the back entrance of Williams Street and by Langer Street. Commissioner, Elaine Dove seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

- b) Adam Weber is requesting a crosswalk installation across Hamden Hills Drive on the Western side of the intersection. This is a well-used crossing location for apartment residents on the north side of the road to get the CT Transit bus stop on the south side of the road. (Tabled 6/12/2023)

Commissioner, Vaughn Willis made a motion to table the request for a crosswalk installation across Hamden Hills Drive on the Western side of the intersection. Commissioner, Elaine Dove seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

8. Priority List

Commissioner, Vaughn Willis made a motion to table all traffic calming requests as they will be reviewed and placed on the LTA's priority list. Commissioner, Frank Ladore seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

- a) Kyle Stone is requesting the Town to enforce the weight restriction on Todd Street. Large trucks over 14,000 lbs are travelling along Todd Street and it feels unsafe. –Correspondence is attached. (Request was tabled on 3/13/2023 for the Town to enforce the weight restriction on Todd Street.)
- b) Tiffanie Perotti-Student Safety on Dixwell Avenue– Hamden High School PTA.
- c) Chris Bresky at 44 Greenway Street- Requesting the Town evaluate the intersection of Elgin and Greenway to increase pedestrian safety.
- d) Councilwoman Sarah Gallagher- Request for stop sign placement at Park Ave and Gordon intersection. Constituent requesting a four way stop sign at intersection. Motorist are traveling too fast at intersection and running the stop sign on Park Avenue. (Tabled 12/12/22)

Priority List (continued)

- e) Rochford Avenue- Speed hump requested; see correspondence for detail. At this time speed hump requests have been paused. This pause is temporary and is to allow the Town time to draft a Complete Streets Policy and process for requesting traffic calming in communities.
- f) Christine Melchinger, 140 Ardmore Street- Requesting traffic calming from Elgin Street, Greenway to Ardmore Street. Motorist are ignoring the speed limit and do not stop at Bedford stop sign.
- g) Crotta, 154 Ardmore Street- Requesting traffic calming from Greenway to Ardmore. Motorist are ignoring the speed limit and do not stop at Bedford stop sign.
- h) Erin Flynn, 51 Greenway Street- Requesting traffic calming from Greenway to Ardmore. Motorist are ignoring the speed limit and do not stop at Bedford stop sign.
- i) Jessica Kaslow, 160 Ardmore Street- Requesting traffic calming from Elgin to Ardmore. Motorist are ignoring the speed limit and do not stop at Bedford stop sign.
- j) Paul Eigenberger- Requesting traffic calming from Elgin Street, Greenway to Ardmore Street. Motorist are ignoring the speed limit and do not stop at Bedford stop sign.
- k) Yvonne Jones, 42 Rochford Avenue and Residents of Rochford Avenue- Requesting speed hump on Rochford Avenue due to excessive speeding. (Speed hump request and petition also attached to backup) (Tabled on October 17, 2022 TA Meeting).
- l) Helen Ward, 51 Caroline Street-Requesting that the Town applies to the CTDOT to redesign lower Whitney Avenue, Dixwell Avenue and State Street to make them safer and more pedestrian and bike friendly. (Tabled on October 17, 2022 TA Meeting.)
- m) Janet Adami, 30 Manor Street, (Lynn Fontes, 172 Mather St), (Sue Colasanto, 164 Mather Street), (Mary Ann Alberino, 168 Mather Street), (Chris Wuerth, 166 Mather Street, (Diane Wuerth, 166 Mather Street) (Tabled at 9/12/2022 TA meeting) Requesting stop sign installation at Mather Street and Martin Terrace, with warning of stop sign ahead prior to arriving at stop sign.

Priority List (continued)

- n) Chris Wuerth, 166 Mather Street- Requesting traffic calming measures on Mather Street. Resident is suggesting Traffic lines, speed humps and or slow down signs for motorist. The traffic is dangerous, and motorists are speeding.
- o) Josh Nilaya is requesting speed humps on Blue Hills Drive. Correspondence is in supporting documentation.
- p) Sam Nitsch is requesting traffic calming on Hall Street near Hamden Hall Country Day School. Correspondence is in supporting documentation.
- q) The Hamden Highschool PTA is requesting traffic calming and pedestrian safety improvements at the Intersection of Dixwell Avenue and Connolly Parkway. Correspondence is in supporting documentation.
- r) Keith Butler is requesting speed humps on Newbury Street. Correspondence is in supporting documentation.
- s) Kenneth Sandberg is requesting traffic calming near the “Whitney Center” retirement community along Leeder Hill Drive. Correspondence is in supporting documentation.

9. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner, Vaughn Willis made a motion to adjourn the Traffic Authority regular meeting. Commissioner, Elaine Dove seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:38PM