

Speidel, Marn

Subject: FW: Traffic Safety

From: Peter Nealley [mailto:pnealley@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2010 7:22 PM
To: City Council - All; Carolyn J. Mebert; Colarusso, Anthony
Subject: Traffic Safety

This long overdue letter has been prompted by an incident last Saturday. Walking north on the sidewalk on Back River Rd. from my home on Digby Ln. a vehicle, clocked at 51 mph on the portable speed indicator at the intersection with Leathers Ln., passed within less than a foot from me. In little over 1 week this same sidewalk will be filled with school children. The school department very quietly, and to my knowledge without public input, have decided to strictly enforce busing guidelines for the middle & high schools. This will result in a considerable increase in both foot and vehicular traffic in and around the schools.

I would therefore like to ask you to consider the following suggestions.

1. Enact a speed limit of 25 mph within 2 miles of all public & private schools.
2. Reduce the corresponding school zone speed limit to 15 mph.
3. Install a pedestrian activated yellow flashing signal at the crosswalk in front of the high school at Durham Rd.
4. Assign a crossing guard to intersection of Back River Rd. & Central Ave.-Durham Rd. at least 2 hours per day.
5. Make sure that all crosswalks have proper warning signs. The crosswalk in front of Garrison School at the intersection with Meridian St. has had no sign for over a year.

I try to walk at least 5 miles every day starting at Digby Ln. and proceeding via several different routes to 3rd St. and back through downtown. I can't help but notice and enjoy walking down Cushing St. It would appear to be home to less than 5 school age children yet enjoys not 1 but 2 sidewalks and a 25 mph speed limit. Let's make the rest of the city and the majority of children just as safe as these few.

Sincerely,
Peter Nealley
7 Digby Ln.
Dover

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