

Council Agenda Report

Date: October 11, 2016

Prepared and Submitted by: Oden C. Wheeler Jr., Director DPW

SUBJECT: Traffic & Safety Committee Recommendations

Recommendation: That Council:

- A. Approve the Department of Public Works (DPW) to install a "School Bus Stop Ahead" sign on Bayly Rd. in the appropriate location to give adequate warning to vehicular traffic.
- B. Approve the Cambridge Police Department (CPD) to provide adequate notice to the residents on Vue D' Leau St. regarding the City's code as it pertains to the parking of boat trailers/campers on the street, and parking on sidewalks, then begin enforcement of said code.
- C. Begin the public process to consider changing Vue D' Leau St. to a one-way street in the direction of Water St. to William St.
- D. Approve changing the posted speed limit from 35 mph to 25 mph between Park Ln., and Washington St.; yellow striping be installed with a white line to designate a pedestrian walking area from Washington St. to the beginning of the sidewalk near Cosby Ave., install a street light on the pole near Park Ln.
- E. Approve DPW to install the appropriate signage ("Road Closed When Flooded") near and around the Water St. area to warn motorists.

Discussion:

On September 21, 2016 the Traffic and Safety committee met to discuss several issues that citizens have indicated are problematic. There were five requests and the Committee is recommending that Council take action on four of them. The above recommendations are projected to increase public safety for the following reasons:

- A. There is a children's bus stop on Bayly Rd., at the entrance of the Patamoke subdivision, and currently the children existing the bus are at risk from speeding, high traffic counts, and the location of the stop being on a curve.
- B. The constituents of Ward 1 have expressed concern with the parking situation on Vue de Leau St. There are some large vehicles (such as campers and boats) that are parked for long periods of time and this, combined with the presence of parked cars on both sides of

the two-way street presents several opportunities for residents to be concerned about the safety of their cars.

- C. Similarly, making the street one-way is predicted to alleviate some of the risk to residential parked cars.
- D. Over the past several years, several housing units have been developed in the area between Park Ln. and Washington St. on Leonards Ln., which has resulted in an increased level of foot traffic on Leonards Ln. Lowering the speed limit and completing striping to designate driving and walking lanes is necessary to facilitate vehicular and pedestrian safety in the area, given the current lack of sidewalks.
- E. Water St. has an acknowledged tendency to flood during rain events and extremely high tides, which presents a hazard for vehicular traffic. Generally, the Cambridge Police Department places barricades at the appropriate locations to indicate that the street is closed while it is flooded. However, if CPD is heavily engaged, the barricades may not be placed. Therefore, signs indicating that the street is closed when flooded at the intersections of Hambrooks Blvd. and West End Ave. and at High St. and Water St. will alleviate the need for the barricades.

I have enclosed a copy of the Traffic & Safety Committee meeting minutes for your review and further information supporting the above referenced subjects.

Fiscal Impact:

The installation of the proposed signage is estimated to cost approx. \$300 which DPW can absorb from our 2017 fiscal budget. DPW has applied for \$10,000 from State Aid Funds to perform striping throughout the City. We will be acquiring bids for striping upon receipt of these funds, which this project could be included.

