

CITY OF MARLBOROUGH MEETING POSTING

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CITY OF MARLBOROUGH

Meeting Name: Traffic Commission

Date: June 23, 2015

2015 JUN 18 A 9:32

Time: 10:00am

Location: City Hall, 1st floor Committee Meeting Room

Agenda Items to be addressed:

- 1) MINUTES OF LAST MEETING
- 2) NEW BUSINESS
 - a) Request for speed limit and other warning signs on Simpson Rd.
 - b) Parking concern; Sawin St. @ E. Main St.
 - c) Speeding and other traffic concerns on Lakeshore Dr.
 - d) Timing of traffic signal on Lincoln St. @ Bolton St.
 - e) Request from Councilor Delano, re: Warning signage in the area of Villages East to assist exiting traffic.
 - f) Traffic concern on Williams St. @ Gleason St.
- 3) OLD BUSINESS
 - a) Municipal off street parking regulation.
 - b) High School parking regulations.
 - c) Stop signs on Bigelow St.
 - d) Traffic Commission rules and regulations update.
 - e) Towing vehicles from municipal lots for snow removal.
 - f) Request to consider making Francis St. one way.
 - g) Communication from Maureen Matott, re: Request for yield sign for traffic on East Main St. @ Stevens St.
 - h) Communication from Ruben Rassi, re: Lakeside Ave. at Lincoln St./Bond St. intersection concerns.
 - i) Request for HP spot in front of 2 Hill Rd. and sign restricting parking within 20' of Hill Rd. and Lakeshore Dr.

THE LISTING OF TOPICS THAT THE CHAIR REASONABLY ANTICIPATES WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING IS NOT INTENDED AS A GUARANTEE OF THE TOPICS THAT WILL HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED. NOT ALL TOPICS LISTED MAY IN FACT BE DISCUSSED, AND OTHER TOPICS NOT LISTED MAY ALSO BE BROUGHT UP FOR DISCUSSION TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.



**CITY OF MARLBOROUGH
OFFICE OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION
140 MAIN STREET
MARLBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS 01752**

DRAFT

Traffic Commission Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Traffic Commission was held on Tuesday, May 26, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in the City Council Committee Room, City Hall. Members present: Chairman - Police Chief Mark Leonard, DPW Commissioner John Ghiloni, Fire Chief Geoff Herald and City Clerk Lisa Thomas. Also present: Assistant City Engineer Tim Collins, City Councilor Katie Robey and local resident James Joubert. Minutes taken by: Karen Lambert, MPD Records Clerk.

1- Minutes

The minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of Wednesday, April 29, 2015.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:
TO APPROVE.

The minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of Tuesday, March 31, 2015.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:
TO APPROVE. (Lisa Thomas abstained as she was not present at this meeting.)

2 – New Business

2a) Communication from Farm Road residents, re: Farm Rd. construction project.

Residents sent a letter to Councilor Page, outlining numerous concerns on this project. Their three main concerns are 1) the addition of a stop light at the intersection of Broad

Meadow Rd. and Farm Rd. 2) The likelihood of significant increases in overall speed and 3) flooding problems at the intersection of Farm Road and County Lane.

Chief Leonard advised that Evan Pilachowski (Engineering) has already addressed most of the concerns brought up by the residents. He noted that he was copied on an e-mail with the responses.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to ACCEPT as a communication and PLACE ON FILE.

2b) Communication from Maureen Matott, re: Request for yield sign for traffic on East Main St. @ Stevens St.

In her correspondence, Ms. Matott outlined a “very dangerous issue that has been happening for years”. Cars traveling straight through this intersection onto Stevens Street have the right of way, however, cars coming in the opposite direction and taking a left onto Route 20 often do not yield to vehicles going straight. She notes, “I can’t tell you how many other times I have almost been hit by a car/truck/bus...you name it...turning left onto Rt. 20 East as I am going straight onto Stevens, or how many times I have seen others almost get hit too”. Ms. Matott is at least looking for a sign indicating who has the right of way.

Chief Leonard agrees that this can be a “tricky” intersection. Traffic on East Main has the right of way. The rule is that turning traffic is to yield to straight traffic. He is not sure as to the exact MUTCD wording. Tim Collins confirmed that there is no exclusive left turn here and that there are two lanes on Lincoln Street coming east. He noted that the stop sign is far from the intersection. The first car can make a quick turn and scoot across and then the second car tries to do the same as the straight traffic is moving forward. According to Tim Collins, “those tuning left must yield on the green ball”. A sign here does make sense.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING to determine the proper yield sign for this location.

2c) Communication from Ruben Rassi, re: Lakeside Ave. at Lincoln St. /Bond St. intersection concerns.

Mr. Rassi noted his concerns with this intersection on SeeClickFix. His main concern is with cars speeding the wrong way up onto Lincoln Street from Route 20. There are currently Do Not Enter signs at the end of Lincoln Street but also a double yellow lane that extends to Route 20. He also goes on to provide a few suggestions on how to correct this problem.

Tim Collins passed out a photo of the intersection with a graphic of “proposed line painting will deter Lakeside Avenue traffic from using Lincoln Street.” (Prepared by Evan Pilachowski). Tim Collins explained that the hash marks would be another visual that this area is one-way and help to deter Lakeside Ave. traffic from entering Lincoln Street. The lines would be white which typically indicates one way traffic. Yellow is used for two way traffic.

It was noted that a left turn at the end of Lincoln Street onto Lakeside Ave. is allowed except between the hours of 4:00pm to 6:00pm. Cars will have to cross this hashed area to make the turn. The hash marks are intended as a visual for those on Lakeside Ave.

Chief Leonard advised that we should try this and see how it goes. He also asked if the Do Not Enter signs could be moved closer to Lakeside Ave. and that the old double yellow lines be removed. He also advised that he would speak to the resident and see if there was any specific time of day that was more of a problem and he could then work on enforcement.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING to move forward and to the POLICE DEPARTMENT for enforcement.

2d) Communication from Joe Duca, re; Beach St. speeding concerns.

Mr. Duca is requesting that speed bumps be placed at the intersection of Beach Street and Clover Hill. If this is not possible, he would at least like to see police patrols there between the hours of 6:00am to 9:00am and then again from 4:00pm to 6:00pm.

Chief Leonard explained that historically the Traffic Commission has not been in favor speed bumps and has found that they actually create more problems. He noted that the road was made narrower to help with the speed issue. He has also tried to get directed patrols out there, however, it's difficult to do in that area because it's hard to pull cars over without blocking the roadway. The best that can be done at this point is to work on enforcement.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to the POLICE DEPARTMENT for enforcement through directed patrols.

2e) Request for deer crossing sign near 421 Bolton St.

This request came through Priscilla Ryder's office. It appears that there have been a number of deer sightings here and they almost caused an accident recently. The resident was hoping signage may alert motorists.

Chief Leonard advised that we have dealt with this issue before. Similar signs were recently installed on Elm Street near the conservation area. It is a tough issue because there are deer all over the city. The property near the land fill is being disturbed by development which is probably causing the current problem. It may not continue to be a problem.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to ACCEPT and PLACE ON FILE.

2f) Request for HP spot in front of 2 Hill Rd. and sign restricting parking within 20' of Hill Rd. and Lakeshore Dr.

Chief Leonard received a phone call on this issue. The woman stated that her parents live at this address and are 90 years old. Summer people are parking here for Fort Meadow. She needs access in front of their house to be able to get them in and out. The Commission went on to discuss that this is a very dangerous place to put a HP spot as it is

on a hill. The steep slope would be difficult for a wheel chair. It would not meet the requirements for an HP spot. Chief Leonard advised that he would discuss the issue further with the caller. Fort Meadow is a neighborhood beach. Is she looking for a parking restriction in front of the house?

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to Chief Leonard to get more information.

3-Old Business

3c) Stop signs on Bigelow Street.

Mr. Joubert was in attendance for an update on this issue. Chief Leonard advised that we are looking for a hardwire location for the second speed sign. He reviewed how the Traffic Commission was trying to come up with a compromise where three of the stop signs would be removed and replaced by speed indicator signs. They have been struggling to find the best location as the Traffic Commission was initially hoping to install two solar powered signs. There was only a sunny enough location for one sign and now they are looking into a hardwired alternative. The process is still ongoing.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:
To TABLE.

3f) Request to consider making Francis St. one way.

Tim Collins advised that the traffic volume count was done for the period of 5/12/15 to 5/19/15. He passed out a summary of his findings along with a diagram. He noted that the street is 22 feet wide and that either way, half the street would be forced to travel in the opposite direction to leave the neighborhood.

Fire Chief Herald asked if the residents were polled as to their opinion on this issue. Chief Leonard asked if MA Highway approval was required to make a street one way. Fire Chief Herald advised that the Fire Department would not use this road unless they were actually responding to something on the street. Commissioner Ghiloni said that residents all over the city would like to see their areas become one way.

Chief Leonard suggested putting out the portable speed sign in the area. Lisa Thomas asked how many of these the Police Department owned. There are three, however, one is in disrepair and another was paid for with mitigation money from NESC and is used in the area of the rink. They also can't be used in the winter. He advised that he would see if he could get the speed board out to Francis Street and request directed patrols in the area.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to the POLICE DEPARTMENT for enforcement.

3d) Traffic Commission rules and regulations update.

Lisa Tomas advised that she is caught up on all advertisements. Tim Collins reviewed that the Traffic Commission has gone thorough off the streets in the City. He now needs to organize the information into a better format.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:
To TABLE.

3f) Towing vehicles from municipal lots for snow removal.

Councilor Robey asked if there was any update on this issue. Chief Leonard advised that he hoped to work on this over the summer with Commissioner Ghiloni to get a plan into place for next winter. He said that the protocol is to contact residents through the Police Department before towing any vehicles but it doesn't always work as planned.

Lisa Thomas asked about the regulations for the parking garage. This is another issue that Commissioner Ghiloni and Chief Leonard need to work on. They need to determine the time frame for how long a vehicle may be parked in the garage. For example, what if they say 72 hours but someone needs to park there when they go away on vacation for a week. It is difficult to come up with a balance and in the past they have dealt with issues as they come up.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:
To TABLE.

Chief Leonard asked if anyone had other updates on old business.

Tim Collins had an update on the Williams Street Crosswalk.

Tim Collins reviewed how there was an existing crosswalk in front of the courthouse. Engineering was initially proposing to move the crosswalk to Robin Drive (closer to the baseball field). It was later determined that the old location was better as it was used frequently by courthouse employees and visitors during the week. It was then found that the old crosswalk location was never formally regulated even though the sidewalk is in place.

Chief Leonard had actually prepared the amended regulation to add a new crosswalk at Robin Drive to be voted on at this meeting. He will now revise this amendment to regulate the exiting crosswalk and present it for a vote at the next meeting.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to Chief Leonard to prepare the appropriate regulation.

Tim Collins also wanted to make note of another issue that may develop in front of the courthouse.

There is no parking allowed in front of the courthouse, however, he has noticed cars parking here on the grass. This is something that they will need to keep an eye on.

3g) Minutes of March meeting.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

Minutes were voted on and approved at the start of the meeting.

3a) Municipal off street parking regulation.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

To TABLE.

3b) High School parking regulations.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

To TABLE.

That there being no further business of the Traffic Commission held on this date, the meeting adjourned at 10:52 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Lambert
Records Clerk
Marlborough Police Department

List of documents and other exhibits used at the meeting:

-Meeting Agenda for Tuesday, May 26, 2015. (Including City of Marlborough Meeting Posting).

-Letter from Deborah Jakubowski Russ, Christopher Russ, Cathy Horman, Christopher Horman and Elizabeth Montgomery to Councilor Page, dated 4/10/15, re: Concern over Farm Road Construction Project.

-E-mail from Maureen Matott to Chief Leonard, dated 4/23/15, re: Traffic sign needed.

E-mail from Evan Pilachowski to Chief Leonard, dated 5/4/15, re: Intersection of Lincoln St. and Lakeside Ave.

-Letter from Joseph Duca to Chief Leonard, dated 5/13/15, re: speed concerns on Beach Street.

-E-mail from Priscilla Ryder to Chief Leonard, dated 5/12/15, re: Deer Crossing signs on Bolton Street.

-Draft of Traffic Commission Minutes from 3/31/15.

Additional Handouts

-Proposed regulation to add a new crosswalk on Williams Street at Robin Drive.

-Photo of intersection of Lincoln St. at Lakeside Ave indicating proposed line painting.

-Traffic Volume Counts for Francis Street along with corresponding diagram.

-Diagram of Hill Road and Lakeshore Drive.

Mark Leonard

From: Nicole Bisazza <nalger1203@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2015 12:31 PM
To: Mark Leonard
Subject: slow- children sign

Hello Chief Leonard,

I am trying to get some signs placed in our neighborhood. Either speed limit postings or Slow/ children signs. There is not a single one in our whole neighborhood. I live at 178 Simpson Road, just at the bend in the road and people drive at unreasonably fast speeds. I have made several calls to the police dept, they said they will make their presence known in the neighborhood but I have yet to see them. We also have Simpson Park in our neighborhood, they're are many children, and its frightening as a parent to see people driving as fast as they do. I would appreciate some consideration of this request at the next traffic commission meeting. Thank you, Nicole Bisazza

Mark Leonard

From: Kj Urato <kjurato@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2015 12:45 PM
To: Mark Leonard
Subject: corner of sawin and east main (used car dealer)

Hey Chief, this is Kj Urato. I talked to you on Memorial Day and you told me to email you to remind you about it. We talked about putting No parking signs up on that corner and maybe the second telephone pole maybe put up a redisence parking sign so no one will park infront of peoples drives or houses.

Thank you

Mark Leonard

From: Sean Monaghan <sean.t.monaghan@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 4, 2015 10:23 AM
To: Mark Leonard
Subject: Attn: Traffic Commission in regard to Lakeshore Drive

Police Chief Mark Leonard,

My name is Sean Monaghan. My wife and I have recently moved to Marlborough with our 1 year old daughter in December of 2014. We are very happy with the city and our neighborhood but I am writing to you in regard of 2 concerns I have with the area. Lakeshore Drive as I am sure you know is somewhat dense area with two resident beaches controlled by the Fort Meadow Association.

The 1st concern I have is in regard to the speed limit on Lakeshore Drive. There is a portion of Lakeshore Drive which is 20MPH and then increases to 30MPH. I am curious to see if you could lend any help or support to investigate what it would take to reduce the entire stretch of Lakeshore drive to a uniform 20MPH.

There are several families in the area with young children and the speed of most drivers on Lakeshore Drive makes me fear for the safety of residents and pedestrians who may be entering and exiting the beaches.

The 2nd concern I have is that there is no stop sign or stop line at the base of Hill Road and Lakeshore Drive. I have witnessed many near accidents of drivers rolling through this intersection. In speaking with other members of the Fort Meadow Association the same instance is true with the intersection of Bruce Road and Lakeshore Drive. I'd like to think that adding stop signs to those intersections would benefit public safety. I know it is law to make a full stop at these intersections, but I believe some folks may have become too comfortable with the lack of signage.

Any support or advice you could give me on these matters would be greatly appreciated. Should you need to view the area for a better real time understanding It would be a pleasure to invite you to our home.

Thank You Very Much for your time

Regards,

--

Sean T. Monaghan

96 Lakeshore Drive
Marlborough MA 01752
(617) 775-8211
sean.t.monaghan@gmail.com

Mark Leonard

From: Evan Pilachowski
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2015 11:05 AM
To: Mark Leonard
Cc: Timothy Collins; John Ghiloni
Subject: Traffic Commission - Lincoln St at Bolton St

Mark,

Can you please add the discussion of the Lincoln St and Bolton St intersection to the next Traffic Commission agenda? We received a concern through SeeClickFix regarding regular traffic backups for westbound traffic at this intersection along Lincoln St. The concern centered on the timing of the traffic signal and the exclusive left turn for eastbound traffic on Lincoln St. We will investigate, and bring additional information for discussion at the next Traffic Commission meeting.

Thank you,

Evan

Evan Pilachowski, P.E.
City Engineer
Department of Public Works
135 Neil Street
Marlborough, MA 01752
(T) 508.624.6910 x33200
(F) 508.624.7699

Mark Leonard

From: City Council
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2015 1:40 PM
To: Mark Leonard
Cc: Delano, Joe (joe.delano@lpl.com)
Subject: FW:FROM COUNCILOR DELANO: Agenda Item for Traffic Commission - Sign on Rte.20 requested by residents of Villages East

From: Delano, Joe [mailto:joe.delano@lpl.com]
Sent: Monday, June 08, 2015 1:29 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Traffic Commission

Hi Karen,

I would like to get a sign put up on Route 20 east, just east of the entrance to Villages East. They have requested some type of "Slow down" or "traffic entering" sign because it is difficult and dangerous for them to leave their driveway when cars are speeding around the bend. Perhaps even with a blinking light or whatever would be most effective and suitable. Can we put this on the agenda for the traffic commission please? Do I need to write a letter?

Joseph F. Delano
Delano Financial Management
Registered Principal
LPL Financial
133 West Main Street, Suite 201
Marlborough, MA 01752
Phone: (508) 460-8889
Fax: (508) 357-2130
Email: joe.delano@lpl.com

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Mark Leonard

From: Karen Lambert
Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 2:55 PM
To: Mark Leonard
Subject: Traffic Commission Item??
Attachments: Williams and Gleason Street - MVA.pdf

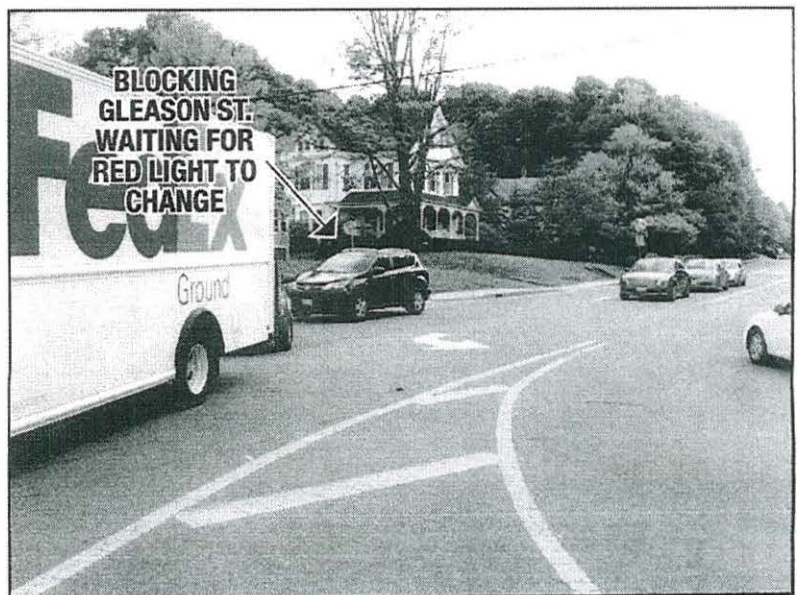
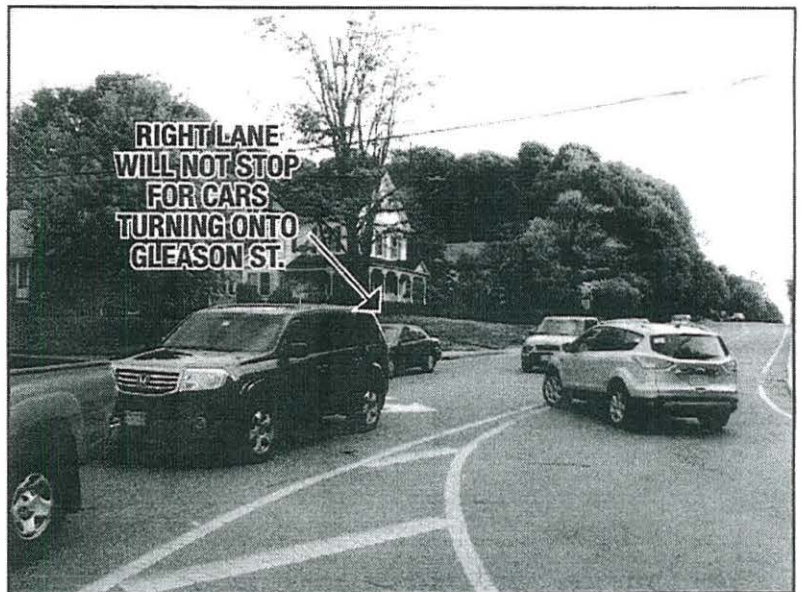
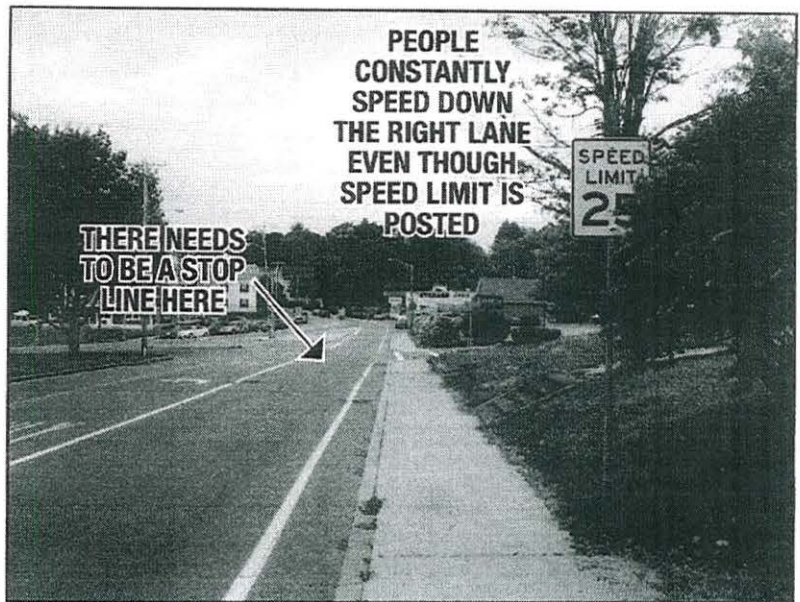
Chief –

Not sure if this counts as a request for an agenda item, but the attached Crash Operator's Report came in with a very specific request attached to it so I am forwarding it to you.

Karen L. Lambert
Principal Clerk – Records
Marlborough Police Department
Phone: 508-485-1212 ext. 6975
Fax: 508-624-6937
E-mail: klambert@marlborough-ma.gov

The corner of Williams Street and Gleason Street needs to have a Stop Line and a DO NOT BLOCK INTERSECTION sign. This is a dangerous intersection during rush hour. The traffic in these pictures is very light but on a heavy day Gleason St is completely blocked causing backup from cars coming from Route 20.

When taking a left onto Gleason St during rush hour you cannot see the traffic coming down the right lane either, making it extremely difficult to make a left turn when someone in the left lane is allowing you to go.



Section F: Crash Conditions

Light Conditions 1 Daylight 2 Dawn 3 Dusk 4 Dark - lighted roadway 5 Dark - roadway not lighted 6 Dark - unknown roadway lighting 97 Other 99 Unknown	Weather Conditions (up to two) 1 Clear 2 Cloudy 3 Rain 4 Snow 5 Sleet, hail, freezing rain 6 Fog, smog, smoke 7 Severe crosswinds 8 Blowing sand, snow 97 Other 99 Unknown	Traffic Control Device 1 No controls 2 Stop signs 3 Traffic control signal 4 Flashing traffic control signal 5 Yield signs 6 School zone signs 7 Warning signs 8 Railroad crossing device 99 Unknown	Was the traffic control device functioning at the time of the crash? 1 ___ Yes 2 ___ No	Road Surface 1 Dry 2 Wet 3 Snow 4 Ice 5 Sand, mud, dirt, oil, gravel 6 Water (standing, moving) 7 Slush 97 Other 99 Unknown	Roadway Intersection Type 1 Not at intersection 2 Four-way intersection 3 T-intersection 4 Y-intersection 5 On ramp 6 Off ramp 7 Traffic circle 8 Five-point or more 9 Driveway 10 Railway grade crossing 99 Unknown
Trafficway Description 1 Two-way, not divided 2 Two-way, divided, unprotected median 3 Two-way, divided, protected median 4 One-way, not divided 99 Unknown	School Bus Related? 1 ___ Yes 2 ___ No	Work Zone Related? 1 ___ Yes 2 ___ No	Manner of Collision 1 Single vehicle crash 2 Rear-end 3 Angle 4 Sideswipe, same direction 5 Sideswipe, opposite direction 6 Head on 7 Rear to rear 99 Unknown		

Section G: Crash Diagram

↑

Indicate North by Arrow

Please draw a diagram of the roadway or streets where the crash occurred, indicating the vehicles involved and direction of travel using the following symbols:

→ = Direction
 1 = Vehicle 1 (Your Vehicle)
 2 = Vehicle 2
 O = Pedestrian/Non-motorist
 ↑ = North

Select one of the following if the crash did not occur on a public way:

___ Off-street parking lot
 ___ Garage
 ___ Mall/shopping center
 ___ Other private way

Section H: Witness Information

Witness Name (Last, First, Middle)	Address	Phone

Section I: Property Damage Information (Other than Vehicles)

Owner Name (Last, First, Middle)	Address	Phone	Property and Damage Description

Section J: Description of What Happened

I was stopped on Williams St. to make a left hand turn onto Gleason St having to cross a two lane way. Traffic was very heavy which makes it into a dangerous intersection. The driver in the left lane was letting me go while I was unable to see any traffic in the right lane. When I was half way through right lane an on coming car which was travelling to fast, slammed on their brakes. Hearing their brakes, I stopped. I thought it was going to be a miss but they ended up hitting me. There needs to be a "DO NOT BLOCK INTERSECTION" sign for Gleason St. Rush hour makes it very difficult to make this turn because no one will leave it open, creating back up from the Route 20 intersection.

Section K: Signature

	Print KRISTIN RIDDLE	Date 6.6.15
"Signed under Pains and Penalties of Perjury"		