

Vermont Traffic Committee
Minutes of Meeting Held
May 23, 2023

The Vermont Traffic Committee met on Tuesday May 23, 2023. Committee Chair Joe Flynn called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm on a virtual Microsoft Teams call. A physical location was also available and open for anyone to attend in person at the VTrans Dill Building in Berlin, VT. The meeting was adjourned at 1:29 pm.

Attendees:

Joe Flynn, Secretary of Transportation, Traffic Committee Chair
Lt. Paul Ravelin, Vermont State Police, Public Safety Representative
Lt. Gene Cote, Department of Motor Vehicles, Department of Motor Vehicles Representative

Ian Degutis, VTrans Traffic Operations Engineer, Traffic Committee Coordinator

Karen Astley, Town Manager, Putney
Josh Arneson, Town Manager, Richmond
Jay Furr, Selectboard Chair, Richmond
David Durfee, State Representative, Shaftsbury

Kristin Driscoll, VTrans Traffic Operations
Joe Kelly, VTrans Traffic Operations
Marcos Miller, VTrans Traffic Operations
Todd Sears, Deputy Director, VTrans Operations and Safety
Josh Taylor, VTrans Traffic Operations

Agenda Items Discussed

- **Putney, US-5, No Parking**

Mr. Degutis explained the request is to investigate on street parking on US-5 near Christian Square. Parked cars on US-5 near Christian Square obstruct sight distance and create visibility issues for vehicles exiting Christian Square. An engineering study completed here shows no crashes, there is a high crash location north of this location but this intersection is not included. Vehicles park here for several businesses including a diner which uses a lot of them through the morning and afternoon. Traffic Operations' recommends creating a No Parking zone for 40 ft on either side of intersection, to provide sight triangle for Christian Square but not create undue burden for businesses in the area. There is a fire hydrant just south of the intersection which already restricts parking, but a formal No Parking zone will make it clearer.

Ms. Astley said that there is parking across the street behind Town Hall and there is an existing No Parking zone in front of the town hall on US-5 and its safe to keep it that way.

Lt. Ravelin asked about crosswalks of which there is one at Kimball Hill and Mill Street but not one at this location. The Traffic Committee unanimously voted to accept Traffic Operations' recommendation, and VTrans will talk to maintenance about getting the crosswalk repainted at Kimball Hill and Mill Street.

- **Richmond, US-2, No Parking**

Mr. Degutis explained the request is to establish a No Parking zone on north side of US-2 in front of Richmond Family Medicine, which is just west of the signal at Bridge Street. The Town had conducted significant outreach in the community before submitting the request. This is not a high crash location but there were two crashes in the vicinity. Parked cars along the wide shoulder make it difficult to exit the driveway shared by Richmond Family Medicine and the neighboring church. Due to ample parking space behind Richmond Family Medicine and based on the outreach conducted, Traffic Operations' recommendation is to create the No Parking zone in this area.

Mr. Furr said large trucks or vans are the most concerning and there are significant waits to get out because of the sight issues. Mr. Arneson said the outreach was significantly in favor. Lt. Ravelin confirmed with the Town that Richmond Family Medicine is in favor. The Traffic Committee unanimously voted to accept Traffic Operations' recommendation. Mr. Degutis noted that there is an ongoing project here so this installation of signs will need to be coordinated with that work.

- **Shaftsbury, VT-7A, No Parking**

Mr. Degutis explained the request is on VT-7A on the west side north of the Church Street intersection. There is a residential building where one space is consistently used but there is also space behind the building for resident parking. The road is fairly busy and there have been no crashes.

Traffic Operations' recommendation is to establish a No Parking zone on the northwest side of the intersection for about 100 ft to address sight distance issues for vehicles exiting Church Street.

Rep. Durfee clarified that he is the one who brought this to the town but no one to speak for the town was in attendance. Lt. Ravelin said the parking spot there is already in violation of current laws but adding a no parking sign would help. Lt. Cote concurred and says that outreach and

education would help as well. The Traffic Committee unanimously voted to accept Traffic Operations' recommendation.

- **Royalton, VT-14, Rescind No Parking**

Mr. Degutis explained the request originated from within VTrans and was found through a road review. The No Parking zone is on the east side of VT-14 extending about 0.2 miles south of the intersection with VT-107. There was a diner here with significant truck parking which created a hazard but there is no longer a shoulder or demand for parking, there is now a pizza shop with a parking lot that meets its needs. Since this No Parking zone was created for a condition that no longer exists and the road character has changed, the town was contacted about removing this No Parking zone and is in support.

Lt. Cote said there doesn't look like there is room for a vehicle to park at this location but VT-107 and VT-14 can be a very busy location so continuing the No Parking wouldn't hurt.

Secretary Flynn said that we can always revisit this in the future if there are any issues that arise from a decision here. The Traffic Committee unanimously voted to accept Traffic Operations' recommendation.

Additional Agenda Items:

- **None**
- **Previous meeting minutes will be resent and certs will be sent via DocuSign.**

Secretary Flynn adjourned the meeting at 1:29 pm.

Minutes prepared by Joshua Taylor, VTrans Traffic Operations, and submitted via Ian Degutis, Traffic Operations Engineer/Traffic Committee Coordinator. Approved by email 6/20/2023.