

**Town of Clifton Park**  
**Highway Safety Committee**  
One Town Hall Plaza | Clifton Park, New York 12065 | (518) 371-6054 | FAX: (518) 371-1136

**May 22, 2025**

**Minutes**

**1. Introduction**

a. Attendance

**Present**

Al Karoly

Dave Woodin

John Scavo

Dahn Bull

Jim Allen

Phil Clark

Tony George

Eric Ophardt

Bob O'Connell

Tom Werner

**Absent**

Lenny Casper

MD Haque

Jeff Labarge

- b. Minutes: The minutes for April were accepted as drafted by a voice vote. Motion by Karoly, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Woodin.

**1A. Public Comment – Intersection Complaint re: Jonathan Drive @ Boyack Road**

Caryl Hugg of Jonathan Drive was allowed to address the Committee at the beginning of the meeting with an issue about sight visibility for vehicles stopping on Jonathan Drive at the intersection of Boyack Road. She explained that visibility to the north is obscured when a vehicle tries to pull out of Jonathan Drive. The problem is exacerbated by the presence of a large bush on Boyack Road that is allegedly growing into the right-of-way plus the occasional parking of both registered and unregistered vehicles on the west side shoulder of Boyack Road. The shoulder is wide and is used by bicyclists and pedestrians as well as an occasional parked vehicle. She also noted that there is a pile of brush along the shoulder. The unregistered vehicle can be eliminated as well as the brush. The Committee discussed other possibilities such as restricting parking along the west side of Boyack Road for several hundred feet north of Jonathan Drive. Bull will check out the right-of-way width as that will determine if the brush can be trimmed back. Further study of the issue is needed.

**2. Old Business**

a. NYSDOT's Safety Improvement Projects for NY 146 and US 9

- Scavo reported that the project is on schedule with a June 2026 completion date. The combined two projects will cost \$9.1 M.

b. Concerns at Pierce Rd. & Usher Rd. Intersection

- NYSDOT will initiate a study to review this intersection.

c. Citizen Concern - NY 146 & Bruno Rd.

- NYSDOT is currently doing the signal warrant analysis to determine the need for a traffic signal at this intersection. A decision is expected possibly in June.

d. Okte Speed Limit Beacons

- The Town has a new electrical contractor (DLC Electric) for its signals and will look at the flashing school beacons again to correct the timing of the westbound flashing beacon. It is

operational again, but Woodin noted that it is flashing later than 6 PM (between 7 and 8 PM). The eastbound flashing beacon correctly turns off at 6 PM.

- e. CRTC Updates: Vision Zero Safety Action Plan & “In Motion Plan Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives”
  - Scavo stated the consultant is developing the final version of the Vision Zero Safety Action Plan. A draft of the “In Motion Plan Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives” is expected in late Summer. Scavo noted a series of four public meetings (three in-person and one virtual) will be held during June and provide website information for each. See: <https://www.caitalregionvisionzero.org/participate>
- f. Clifton Park Center Road Speed Trailer Data
  - There was a virtual meeting with the State Police to discuss the enforcement effort on Clifton Park Center Road. It has now concluded and the speed trailer will be deployed near the South Shen Campus entrance. Woodin is looking into the existing signing along the road to see if the signing meets current MUTCD standards. There have been concerns expressed that eastbound motorists do not have adequate warning of the reduced speed limit because the road curves before the speed zone begins.
- g. Citizen Concern - Request to look at driveway striping at Community Care Physicians at 1793 US 9.
  - Scavo stated that Columbia Development has been made aware that the striping is worn and the centerline is white and not double yellow, thereby causing confusion for entering and exiting motorists. This is a private road.
- h. Citizen Concern – Bruno Road guiderail
  - Werner mentioned that the guiderail along a section of Bruno Road is not vertical and closer to being almost in a horizontal position. Bull will have the Highway Department look at it.
- i. Citizen Concern - Request for a STOP sign on Thunderbird Drive at Meridian as well as the placement of another yellow centerline, and a "Curve" or "Speed limit" sign on Thunderbird.
  - A STOP sign was recommended at the April meeting. The curve will be ball-banked in order to establish an advisory speed.
- j. CAPTAIN Senior Services Committee - Senior Transportation Options for Seniors Study
  - O’Connell reported that CDTA’s changes to the FLEX program will reduce the number of pick-up points by eliminating curb to curb service in favor of centralized pick-up points. The Saratoga Transportation Summit will be held on June 10<sup>th</sup> in Malta. CAPTAIN will advocate for future expansion of transit services for seniors as more than 20% of Saratoga County’s population is over 65 years of age.

### 3. New Business

- a. CP & HM Planning Board Actions
  - The Halfmoon Planning Board is reviewing the following plans:
    1. US Route 9 across from Walmart - A mixed-use development will include two restaurants, three self-storage warehouses and a large storage building.
    2. Grooms Road – New fellowship hall for Harvest Church.
    3. Tabor Road – 60,000 sf of warehouses.

4. Crescent-Vischer Ferry Road – Northway 8 Golf proposes a 6000 sf clubhouse and a 6000 sf covered range.
  5. US Route 9 – A bank at the intersection of Chelsea Place.
  6. Woodin Road – 12 lot residential subdivision
- The Clifton Park Planning Board is reviewing the following plans and/or issues:
    1. Jarose Place – Expansion of a church parking lot.
    2. Culverts greater than 3 feet in diameter are now required to have a habitat assessment for bats.
    3. ADA Ramp & Sidewalk Reporting – Data on pedestrian signals and ADA upgrades on ramps are now being requested as part of the ADA effort.
    4. NY 146 @ Waite Road Roundabout - ROW is needed at the northwest corner. Preliminary design is due in late Summer.
    5. NY 146 @ Tanner Road Roundabout – Design Approval scheduled for December 2025 with other ROW approvals by December 2026. Construction is to begin in March 2027 with completion in October 2028. A request to lower the speed limit to 45 MPH from Blue Barn Road to NY 146A will be submitted to NYSDOT.
- b. FHWA Pedestrian Safety Training Course
    - Al Karoly took the entire course and noted that of interest, there was a chart that provided potential highway safety solutions for specific roadway conditions.
  - c. Prohibiting the riding of motorized bikes in Town Parks
    - This issue is proving to be very controversial and there needs to be a better understanding of the different classifications of e-bikes how they are currently regulated. There may be a need to update the various state laws regarding operation of this type of bicycle on trails and other recreational facilities.
  - d. Investigation of School Zone Signs on Clifton Park Center Road
    - Woodin has done an inventory of the traffic control devices in the vicinity of the Shen Campus South Entrance. He will report at the next meeting as to potential signing improvements that may be possible.
  - e. Vischer Ferry Road @ Riverview Road
    - A work order will be issued to replace missing stop lines (3 of them) at the intersection.
  - f. Exit 8 Southbound Exit Ramp
    - There is a No RTOR sign at the end of the ramp, yet motorists fail to see it (or ignore it) as it is elevated next to the signal head. NYSDOT will be asked if a supplemental sign can be installed at ground level.
  - g. Plank Road @ Kinns Road – Shoulder Use
    - Scavo noted that the Saratoga County Public Works has a TIP project (SA342) for \$3.960 Million to construct a single-lane roundabout at that location in 2027.

**Adjournment** at 7:57 PM

**Next Meeting** – June 26, 2025 @ 6:00 PM