

Town of Clifton Park
Highway Safety Committee

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

August 28, 2025

Minutes

1. Introduction

a. Attendance

Present

Al Karoly

Dahn Bull

Eric Ophardt

Dave Woodin

Tony George

Tom Werner

Lenny Casper

Bob O'Connell

Absent

Jim Allen

Jeff Labarge

Phil Clark

John Scavo

MD Haque

Guests

Frank & Colleen Hally

b. Minutes: The minutes for July were accepted as drafted. Motion by Woodin, 2nd by Karoly. Voice vote to accept.

c. Video for the meeting was not available.

2. Public Input

a. Intersection of Boyack Road @ Southbury Road

- Frank & Colleen Halley who live at the southeast corner of this intersection spoke about the need for some type of traffic control to slow vehicles going through that intersection. They noted that there have been a number of accidents and near misses over the years and that they felt that if a STOP sign was installed on southbound Boyack Road, it would slow traffic and possibly prevent an accident. The accident history showed only two unrelated crashes at the site in the last three years. Speed data was somewhat questionable as we were not sure which direction data was being displayed for. It seemed that the southbound vehicles had a higher overall speed due to the downhill slope while northbound vehicles making a right turn onto Southbury were well under the speed limit. It was suggested that another speed survey be taken over a two-week period and to turn off the speed feedback feature. Woodin explained to the couple that STOP signs are used to assign the right of way and are not to be used for speed control. The crash history suggested that there is no occurring problem which would require a multi-way stop to control the right of way. The consensus was not to recommend any changes in the current traffic control at the intersection, but to get a new speed study.

3. Old Business

- a. NYSDOT's Safety Improvement Projects for NY 146 and US 9
 - On schedule with a June 2026 anticipated completion date. Total cost of \$9.1M. Milling has not happened yet, but new lanes are being built.
- b. NYSDOT Referrals
 - Traffic Studies and Other Requests – John Scavo was absent, so no update from him.
 1. Pierce Road & Usher Road Intersection - Nothing further re: review of this intersection.
 2. Jonesville Fire Station signal removal - Submitted a request in July to remove the fire signal. NYSDOT Region 1 says that they have not received the request. Another copy will be sent.
 3. Shen Campus entrance on NY 146 – July request to repair the EB loop detector.
 4. NY 146 & Bruno Road – Signal Study should be complete this summer.
 5. N-TOR Sign at Exit 8 Southbound Off-Ramp - Provide a supplementary sign off the shoulder.
- c. Okte School Speed Limit Beacons
 - Three issues remain with these flashing school beacons:
 1. Beacons flash until 8 PM instead of 6 PM
 2. Lower westbound beacon is non-operative
 3. Vegetation is about to overtake the lower westbound beacon – Needs trimming
 - Bull reported that rodents have destroyed the wiring in the westbound beacon. The electrical contractor (DCC) is also going to install a new controller.
- d. CRTC Updates [Vision Zero Safety Action Plan](#) & “In Motion Plan Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives”.
 - An email regarding a “stylized” final draft Regional Transportation Plan Report for “In Motion ...” was passed around for the Committee to look at. CRTC has made this version of the draft available for review.
 - No update on the former.
- e. Speed Limit Request to reduce the speed limit on Clifton Park Center Road near South Shen Campus entrance.
 - No action taken this month. Next month, we expect to review collected speed data and Woodin’s analysis of existing school zone signing.
- f. Driveway striping at Community Care Physicians & Clifton Park Center Mall.
 - Scavo has reached out to Columbia Development to make them aware of the situation, but no action taken yet. The mall has done some patchwork of the potholes in the mall.
- g. Guiderail leaning on Bruno Road
 - Bull reported that the guiderail will be fixed. County Bridge & Rail has provided a quote for \$13K to straighten and repair the guiderail. Town Board approval is necessary to approve the expenditure.
- h. Establishing an Advisory Speed for curve on Thunderbird Drive.
 - The Town Board passed a resolution on July 21st for the STOP sign. Scavo and Bull need to coordinate the ball banking of the curve before establishing an advisory speed.

- i. Seniors Transportation Advisory Committee
 - O’Connell reported that TranWare gave a demo of their software and they have a working model in Queensbury. We are in the early stages of setting up a system to coordinate rides and we need to know how many organizations would be involved. Progress will be slow, but we would like to have one system for the area so that we avoid duplication of requests.
- j. Plank Road at Kinns Road - Shoulder used for right turns
 - There are delineators in place. The problem is motorists driving on the shoulders. Bull reported that a NYR9-9 STATE LAW - DO NOT DRIVE ON SHOULDER sign will be installed. Eventually, this intersection will be replaced by a roundabout.
- k. CRTC Capital Region Transportation Council (CRTC) is providing data collection services at no cost to communities and regional partners.
 - On Demand Trail Counts & On Demand Traffic Counts – Town has requested trail counts for VanPatten Drive and they will be available in September.
- l. Boyack Road – Jonathan Drive Intersection Sight Distance Issue
 - The problem has diminished and monitoring will continue.
- m. Possible removal of the ALL WAY supplemental panel from the Stop Ahead warning signs at the intersection of Main Street and Long Kill Road in Jonesville.
 - Bull will remove the signs that are on Town roads. Main Street is a County Highway.
- n. Clearing/trimming vegetation to address sight distance restrictions
 - Wall Street entrance to rear of Hannaford – Completed.
 - Phragmites along north side of Kinns Road @ Plank Road – Not a problem at this time.
 - Shrubs and plantings in the median along Clifton Country Road – Buildings & Grounds have trimmed along the section.
 - STOP sign northbound near Trustco Bank @ Southside Drive is blocked by leaves – Highway Department will trim.
- o. Status of Preliminary Design on Sitterly Road
 - Design has begun.

4. New Business

- a. CP & HM Planning Board Actions
 - Clifton Park:
 1. Taco Bell site to be redeveloped to include a 7 Brew drive thru coffee shop along with the existing Taco Bell.
 - Halfmoon:
 1. A 126,000 sf distribution center (potentially Coca-Cola) on Liebach Lane is proposed.
 2. Impact Fitness Center on NY 146 is experiencing parking issues with new businesses at the Center. Overflow parking is across the street and a sidewalk on Werner Road is proposed.
 3. Grooms Road - A 30,000 sf office building is being downsized to 20,000 sf.

- b. Van Patten Drive – Review of existing speed conditions for recommendations to the Town Board for safety improvements and measures if warranted.
 - Issues include:
 1. Possible Speed Reduction – Speed study indicated 85th percentile speeds of 45 MPH (northbound) and 41 MPH (southbound)
 2. Crosswalks at Greensboro and LaCosta and Van Patten Drive Intersections – Not Discussed
 3. RRFB's at each Crosswalk – Not Discussed
- c. Boyack Road and Southbury Road Intersection – Addressed at the beginning of the meeting.
- d. "Right to Farm" signs and other non-traffic signs
 - While the Committee recognized that there is other additional type of signs along Town roads that are non-conforming with the MUTCD, removing them at this time will not be pursued unless they a part of a sign assembly with either a regulatory or warning sign.
- e. Bass Pro Parking Issues
 - John Scavo was absent, so the following will be referred to him:
 1. Non-MUTCD conforming Accessible Parking Signs and Accessible Parking Stall Markings.
 2. Need to restrict parking along Clifton Park Center Road by the store?
- f. Update on Kinns Road Corridor Study
 - Initial meeting with consultant covered scope of the project.
 - The study includes Farm to Market Road (CR 109) in Halfmoon – Open drainage will make it difficult to provide for a bike lane.
- g. Other Issues - Casper asked about whether ice cream trucks can operate in neighborhoods after sunset. Since they are required to have a vendor permit, the Town Clerk's Office may have information as to whether or not there is an hour of operation clause as part of the permit.

Adjournment – Motion by O'Connell, 2nd by Ophardt at 7:55 PM

Next Meeting – September 25, 2025