

Town of Clifton Park
Highway Safety Committee

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

October 23, 2025

Minutes

1. Introduction

a. Attendance

Present

Al Karoly

Jim Allen

Jeff Labarge

Dave Woodin

Tony George

Lenny Casper

John Scavo

Tom Werner

Dahn Bull

Absent

Eric Ophardt

Phil Clark

Bob O'Connell

MD Haque

Guests

Damara Fredette

Andrew McUmber

b. Minutes

The minutes of the September meeting were accepted as drafted

2. Usher's Road Traffic Concerns

Damara Fredette and Andrew McCumber, residents of Usher's Road, expressed concerns about increased traffic, including commercial vehicles and speeding, on the road. They inquired about the speed limit and the town's responsibility for managing traffic on Usher's Road, which is a town road. The committee explained its role as an advisory body and discussed ongoing transportation studies in the area, including a County Route 109 corridor study with the Town of Halfmoon. The group discussed increased truck traffic on local roads, particularly Usher's Road and Kinns Road, with construction vehicles being a significant contributor. They noted that solar-powered rectangular rapid flashing beacons were not functioning properly due to battery issues, requiring monthly replacements at a cost of \$200 per battery. The discussion also covered enforcement challenges, with the group noting that sheriff's deputies had made extra patrols in response to their requests, though they acknowledged that more enforcement would be needed to address ongoing traffic concerns. John discussed traffic data and speed enforcement on local roads, noting that 14,134 vehicles were counted over a week, with 217 vehicles exceeding 51-55 mph. He mentioned that solar panels at some RFB locations were not receiving enough sun and would likely need to be hardwired, with Chris from Traffic Signal Systems testing alternative solar panels. The group also discussed the possibility of reducing the speed limit to 35 mph, with John explaining that the 85th percentile speed in the area was 45 mph. They agreed to collect more data and share it with law enforcement to target enforcement efforts.

3. Old Business

- a. NYSDOT's Safety Improvement Projects for NY 146 and US 9. Activity on the projects seem to have slowed considerably.
- b. NYSDOT Referrals. Traffic Studies and Other Requests
 1. Pierce Road & Usher Road Intersection. No news
 2. Jonesville Fire Station signal removal. Will not proceed until next year in Spring or Summer.
 3. Shen Campus entrance on NY 146 - July request to repair the EB loop detector. Seems to have been repaired
 4. NY 146 & Bruno Road - Signal Study. Still awaiting action by NYSDOT.
 5. NTOR Sign at Exit 8 Southbound Off-Ramp - Supplementary sign requested off the shoulder.

Still awaiting action by NYSDOT.

6. Traffic Analysis Summary for 287 Ushers Road Business Park – Applicant is seeking a curb cut widening from NYSDOT. NYSDOT had no issues with the project.
7. Traffic Signal Timing at the intersection of Ashdown Road & NY 146A. Was not previously referred to NYSDOT. John will follow up.
- c. Okte School Speed Limit Beacons. Trimming around the beacon has been completed. The Highway Department is awaiting a new timing device.
- d. CRTC Updates for [Vision Zero Safety Action Plan](#) & “In Motion Plan Vision Statement, Goals, and Objectives”. The team discussed updates on CRTC activities, including the public review period for the Vision Zero draft plan, which is expected to proceed to final adoption without major changes. The team also discussed applying for future CRTC funding, with John suggesting they wait to apply until they have a project of value to increase their chances of success.
- e. Speed Limit Request to reduce the speed limit on Clifton Park Center Road near South Shen Campus entrance. Dave reviewed his recommendations for signing improvements. It was recommended that the hours of operation for the speed zone be posted.
- f. Driveway striping at Community Care Physicians & Clifton Park Center Mall. John followed up with the CCP owners and they are planning to restripe before winter.
- g. Guiderail on Bruno Road. Dahn Bull needs to follow up.
- h. Establishing an Advisory Speed for Curve on Thunderbird Drive. The curves were run using a ball bank indicator and the advisory speed will be posted for 20 mph.
- i. CAPTAIN Senior Transportation Advisory Committee. Bob was not available for an update. Applications for 5310 funding are due in early December. The committee felt that it would use the time prior to the next round of funding to prepare a plan of action.
- j. Plank Road at Kinns Road - Shoulder used for right turns. STATE LAW – DO NOT DRIVE ON SHOULDER installed as requested.
- k. Boyack Road. Continued monitoring of Jonathan Drive Intersection Sight Distance Issue. Complaints are still being received. Brush has been cut back. It is recommended that No Parking from Here to Corner be posted after passage by the Town board. Boyack Road and Southbury Road Intersection. No additional speed counts were received. Dahn spoke of a new counter available that can be mounted to any post. He will make this information available to the committee.
- j. 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 and any other intersections in that vicinity. The committee recommends removal of the signs by the Town and the County.
- k. Clearing/trimming vegetation to address sight distance restrictions. Stop sign near the Trustco Bank on the northbound access drive approach to Southside Drive is blocked by an overgrown tree. A tree crew was dispatched to trim the tree.
- l. Status of Preliminary Engineering for the Sitterly Road project (PIN 1763.21). John has not heard back from NYSDOT on their review.
- m. Van Patten Drive – Review of existing speed conditions for recommendations to the Town Board for safety improvements and measures if warranted. Status of trail count data collected on Van Patten Drive. Trail counts were recently received and have not been analyzed. A review of the southbound curve at the north end of Van Patten Drive was recommended.
- n. Bass Pro Shop. No update from Clifton Park Building Dept re: Accessible Parking Signs and Accessible Parking Stall Markings that are non-MUTCD conforming. The need to restrict parking along Clifton Park Center Road by the store will be revisited in the Spring.
- o. Update on Kinns Road Corridor Study meeting of September 30th. The meeting was held with excellent citizen turnout, interest and participation. Members were encouraged to complete the project survey.
- p. Traffic speed data re: Ashdown Road and English Road. The State Police were notified.
- q. Riverview Orchards. Denied a request last month for a warning device (RRFB) to assist pedestrian crossings at Riverview. Since the device would serve a private crossing, can they be given a permit to install and operate a seasonal RRFB? It was suggested that for the picking season a variable message sign could be deployed.

- r. STOP sign request for Greenlea Drive at intersection of Broadleaf Drive. Recommended for installation at September Meeting. Not yet on the Town Board's October agenda. John will follow up.

New Business

CP & HM Planning Board Actions. Clifton Park: Concrete Batch Plant proposed off US 9 south of Ushers Rd. Halfmoon: Public hearing was held for the Coca-Cola warehouse off US 9.

- a. Signing issue at Market 32 on Park Avenue – STOP sign and a STATE LAW YIELD TO PEDESTRIAN sign share a common sign post. There are several of these sign combinations and they are not MUTCD compliant. The signing was recommended by the building department.
- b. Lapp Road Speed Counts. The committee reviewed the counts and speeds.
- c. Future Design Ideas for County Route 109 (Kinns Road & Farm to Market Road). Previously discussed.
- d. Clifton Park Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvement Open House. Held prior to the Committee meeting.
- e. There was a discussion of a citizen's request for a speed limit in the Legends Way subdivision.

Adjournment

Next Meeting – November 20, 2025