

**TOWNSHIP OF VERONA**  
**NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC & SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 9, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 7:37 PM via Zoom.

Open public meeting statement was read.

**ROLL CALL**

Santi Condorelli, Nicole Quick, Louis Knoetig, Alissa Randall, George Manousos, Board of Education Representative Laura Palmerezzi, Traffic Engineer John Jahr, Susan DeWitt, and Councilman Christopher Tamburro, were present. Chief Kiernan and Robert Rowbotham were absent.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the September 14, 2021 meeting were approved.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Discussion:**

- Traffic Engineer John Jahr stated been very busy recently with damage and issues from Tropical Storm Ida.
- Claremont Ave - recommending additional stop signs. Traffic light at Pompton and Claremont was approved. A private entity is paying for the installation. Town helping to get paperwork through the process. Speed humps are not warranted.
- Nicole Quick expressed concern about more cut through traffic on Claremont once light is installed. Nicole asked if it would ever be an option to block off Claremont Ave (west side) at Pompton. Engineer stated State DOT would not approve that.
- George Manousos asked Engineer if he has ever done speed limits lower than 25 MPH, Engineer stated yes (ex. Bloomfield by Watsessing Ave by Train Station) but it would be very hard to justify on any streets in Verona.
- Santi Condorelli expressed concern over what private entity is paying for light and why. Would like to know who is funding project.
- Louis Koentig asked where additional stop signs are going to be on Claremont. Engineer stated he was waiting for final police approval before releasing his report.
- Engineer gave some information on pedestrian activated crossing lights. Need a traffic study and must be warranted before they can be installed.

Solar powered with 5yr warranty. George asked about cost. Engineer stated just installed one in Bloomfield for approx. \$56,000. Several members of committee gave suggestions for locations for this type of light and suggested making a priority list.

- Councilman Tamburro reminded committee once a list is made we need to prioritize list. New budget season is coming up, might be the time to suggest pilot testing one of the pedestrian lights. Engineer suggested putting on non-county road and obtain feedback from police as to location.
- Santi Condorelli asked what parameters we should be looking at to justify light. Engineer stated obvious safety issue and Pedestrian crossing area with limited sight distance.
- Santi Condorelli suggested getting police involved as they are out on the road and will know where the high pedestrian traffic is.
- Councilman Tamburro suggested a meeting with Township Manager Cavallo, Chief Kiernan and Santi Condorelli to see what the budget looks like and to get a reasonable idea of what money could be available. Councilman Tamburro to set up meeting.
- Engineer stated weight restriction study would be about \$50,000 and an implementation cost of approximately \$3000 in the SW Quadrant. He also stated pedestrian light would be about \$75,000 and Traffic Studies run from \$1,500 to \$7,500.
- Engineer stated that there are grants available and that may be an area where committee could help. Santi asked if town has a designated grant writer. Engineer stated we do not but several employees have written successful grants. George indicated he would be willing to work on grants.
- Engineer reminded everyone that the flooding problems in town are also a traffic and safety issue and need to be addressed and we should be aware of that when requesting money in the budget.
- After discussion committee came up with \$150,000 to ask Township Manager to put into budget for one pedestrian light, one weight survey and some additional traffic studies.
- George Manousos shared a video of traffic at Linden and Fairview. Engineer stated County has said that it does not warrant a traffic light. George asked if town has done a traffic study at that location. Main problem occurs for approximately 2:45 to 3 or 3:15 PM. Asked if the police could post an officer there for 15-20 minutes each day to assist with traffic and pedestrian crossing.
- Engineer stated stop sign does not appear to be in correct location. Striped crosswalks would have to get county approval.
- Councilman Tamburro stated this might be a good place to get schools involved.
- Engineer will check with county on timing for light at Personette and Fairview.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Steve Cruz, 1 Cypress Ave
  - Stated he appreciates everything the committee does. He is a retired police officer who was a traffic officer.
  - States it would be impossible to put an officer at Linden and Fairview everyday due to manpower restrictions.
  - States he asked the town about a school guard at Grove and Sampson when school started. Was told town would be hiring a private company to staff School Guards and then one would be added there.
  - Stated traffic studies are valuable to the town.

**Next Meeting - January 11, 2022 @ 7:30 PM via Zoom**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan DeWitt  
Secretary