

#### 40. Traffic & safety

- **Committee members.**

Membership list:

It was reported that some residents living here often feel “forgotten” by the rest of the Town and left to deal with problems on their own. The junctures of Westover, Westminster and Brock North were also pointed out as continuing problems and a stop sign was asked for this area. Councillor Small-Pennefather agreed that the issue of the missing light has been reported before and, although the light Actually belongs to CSL, efforts will be made to have it reinstated. She explained that a traffic study has already been undertaken in this area and the results will determine what may be done in order to improve the situation. **Follow-up** (November, 2023, Informer – **September, 2023**, Council meeting)

- **Bikes on Westminster sidewalks** (See Bylaws)

- **Brock & Ballantyne North above Sherbrooke two-way?** **Find reference**

- **Circumventing barriers on Devil’s Hill** (Broughton west of Easton)

Other issues included the problem of cars driving over a private driveway as well as the public sidewalk as a thoroughfare to get onto Easton south of Broughton [from Devil’s Hill]. The mayor acknowledged the situation as a long-standing and complicated problem. It will be reviewed, once again, by the Public Security Department to try and determine a safe solution. (March, 2022, Informer – **January, 2022**, Council meeting)

- **Crosswalks on either side of the tracks.** Use oil paint.

Problems for pedestrians using the crosswalk at Sherbrooke and Westminster continue to be reported at Council meetings. **Traffic engineers have been asked for possible solutions and it has been determined that there are none presently.** A long-term plan, involving the cooperation of CP, is required for a reconfiguration of the whole area. (November, 2022, Informer – **September, 2022**, Council meeting)

Councillor Torres explained that the delay in providing a new light at the pedestrian crosswalk corner at Westminster and Broughton is because Public Works is still waiting for a part to be delivered. If the delay continues, another supplier will be found. **Why wait!!** (November, 2022, Informer – **September, 2022**, Council meeting)

- (Other) **Crosswalks on Westminster**

Another query was why there wasn’t another crosswalk crossing Westminster between Curzon and Milner. Councillor Feeney replied that the idea had been considered in the past but that it was hampered by the logistical problems. It would require the addition of stop signs, affecting traffic in both directions, and would involve the loss of some parking spaces in the business area. (May, 2022, Informer -- **March, 2022**, Council meeting)

- **Lights at Westminster & Nelson?**

Councillor Ulin explained that the installation of a stop light at the corner of Westminster & Nelson is not possible and traffic violations observed in that area as well as in all other parts of the Town should be reported to Station 9. (February, 2023, Informer – December, 2022, Council meeting)

- **Malfunctioning light at Broughton crosswalk.**

Councillor Ulin explained that the long delay in replacing a malfunctioning part of the crosswalk signal at Westminster & Broughton is due to difficulty finding replacement parts compatible with the existing solar system. She is aware that this crosswalk continues to be dangerous and the Public Works department is doing its best to expedite the process. (March, 2023, Informer - January, 2023, Council meeting)

- **Missing sidewalk north of Hump.**  
The missing portion of sidewalk (north of the Hump) had been investigated in the past, but construction is made difficult by the presence of underground pipes as well as many mature trees. (September, 2023, Informer – June, 2023, Council meeting)
- **Parking on Strathearn by EBS**  
The problem of parking on Strathearn during the school season is a longstanding one and even the four-hour parking restrictions aren't enough to alleviate it. The Traffic and Safety Committee will have a look at this problem. (November, 2021, Informer – **September, 2021**, Council meeting)
- **Parking on Westminster in the business area** (See ??Bylaws)
- **Police stationed by railroad tracks.** Why don't they direct traffic?  
The police seen on Sherbrooke and Westminster at the level crossing are hired by Exo and are responsible for ensuring vehicles obey the barriers when trains are moving. They are authorized to give out tickets to recalcitrant drivers. (February, 2024, Informer -- **December, 2023**, Council meeting)
- **Poor lighting on Brock S. & Ballantyne S.**  
A feeling of safety after dark is being hindered by inadequate lighting on Brock South. The mayor explained that a study is in progress to evaluate all lighting solutions in the Town and it will be a useful guide to remedy situations such as this one. However, additional lamp posts can only be added when the street is undergoing reconstruction. (April, 2022, Informer – **February, 2022**, Council meeting)
- **Pot holes** (See Infrastructure)  
????(December, 2021, Informer -- **October, 2021**, Council meeting)
- **Snow clearing off CP tracks sidewalk.** (See Snow clearing)
- **Speed bumps & bollards** ???(Traffic calming)
  - **Ballantyne North above Sherbrooke:** The next resident wanted to know why bollards were removed from their spot on Ballantyne North (just above Sherbrooke) and why a speed bump, which had been requested, had not been installed. Councillor Mazzone responded that the bollards, placed in mid-October, were removed in preparation for the winter. The bollards will be replaced in spring and the traffic situation will be reassessed at that time. (January-February, 2021, Informer – **November, 2020**, Council meeting)
  - **Ainslie, Fenwick, Wolseley South:** Traffic calming measures may also be needed on Ainslie and Fenwick as well as Wolseley South according to residents in that area. Councillor Small-Pennefather asked for emails with details where perceived problems exist. (September, 2023, Informer – **May, 2023**, Council meeting)
- **Speeding on Westminster**  
Councillor Small-Pennefather stated that the Traffic and Safety Committee is continually looking at ways to promote safety and one of its members is the Community Liaison officer from PDQ 9. She added that it is very important to report moving violations to the SPVM and this can be done on their website. She also explained that speed bumps cannot be installed to slow speeding on Westminster since it is used by buses with no seat belts as well as fire trucks and emergency vehicles. (These all travel on Brock & Ballantyne when there are diversions!!) (September, 2023, Informer – **June, 2023**, Council meeting)

The constant complaints of vehicles speeding in the Town took on a new twist when it was reported that on at least two occasions, it was police cars, with no lights flashing, that were speeding. The mayor responded that having a police station so close to the Town had some advantages, but at the same time, if the speeding was not related to duty, it was something he could discuss with the commandant of Station 9. (February, 2022, Informer -- **November, 2021**, Council meeting) !!! Extra 20 seconds!!

- **Staircase between Courtney and Ronald Drive.**

The proposal to provide lighting for the steps from Ronald Drive (to Courtney?) may be considered. (December, 2021, Informer -- **October, 2021**, Council meeting)

The question of why the Town has stopped clearing the stairs in winter between Courtney and Ronald Drive was brought up again and this time by multiple people. The mayor explained, once again, that those stairs have not been cleared of snow by the Town for decades. The steep stairs are considered very dangerous in the winter and, to prevent accidents, the Town had installed a fence at the top and the bottom with a sign stating the stairs were closed during the winter. The mayor expressed willingness to co-operate in a discussion with the appropriate people concerning what solution to this situation could be implemented and maintained. (January-February, 2021, Informer – **November, 2020**, Council meeting)

- **Street Light Master Plan.**

During other business, it was announced that the long-awaited Street Light Master Plan for the Town has been approved. (November, 2022, Informer – **September, 2022**, Council meeting)  
**Get report.**

The quality of the street lighting in the Town has repeatedly come under question and a company is conducting a study to recommend improvements. (September, 2021, Informer -- **June, 2021**, Council meeting)

- **Traffic lights at Sherbrooke & Westminster tracks.**

Although the installation of traffic lights has been reviewed and dismissed, the present crosswalk will be upgraded and then repainted appropriately with the familiar horizontal lines of a protected crosswalk. Follow-up. (November, 2021, Informer – **August, 2021**, Council meeting)

Councillor Mazzone stated that there are no plans to install more traffic lights or stop signs on Westminster. Traffic violations should be reported to the police. .... The zebra stripe crossing indicators which tend to fade during each season are always repainted in the spring. (March-April, 2021, Informer – **February, 2021**, Council meeting)

- **Trucks on Ronald Drive & Avon** (Avon awaiting Lachine approval of traffic plan)A truck route is still awaiting Lachine's approval before police can enforce any more restrictions on traffic on Avon road. (December, 2022, Informer – **October, 2022**, Council meeting)

Large transport trucks rumbling along Brock South and Ronald Drive, especially at night, prompted a resident to ask if there are any restrictions the Town can impose on this traffic. The mayor explained that only the SPVM can enforce regulations involving moving violations. However, the Town does have restrictions on the types of trucks going through the area. Public Security can investigate further if they are informed of the distinguishing letter (F or L) on the licence plate of the truck. (April-May, 2021, Informer – **March, 2021**, Council meeting)

The oft-repeated complaint about the many trucks using Avon can be resolved only when the Quebec government approves the trucking plan submitted by the Town and it becomes law. The hold-up is because all the surrounding municipalities must first give their approval to this plan and Lachine has not yet done so. Either the plan must be modified to suit Lachine or the Town must find another way to surmount the obstacles. **Follow-up** (December, 2021, Informer -- **October, 2021**, Council meeting)