

191 S. Main Street  
Newtown, CT 06470  
TEL (203) 270-4256  
FAX (203) 270-4247



Joel Faxon  
Brian Budd  
Scott Ciccari  
Neil Chaudhary  
Stephen Sedensky

## TOWN OF NEWTOWN

### POLICE COMMISSION

**The Board of Police Commissioners**  
**Regular Meeting, Tuesday, November 1, 2022, 6:30 P.M.**  
**191 South Main Street, Newtown, CT**  
**Conference Room**

#### **MINUTES ARE NOT FINALIZED UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

**Present:** Joel Faxon, Brian Budd, Scott Ciccari, Neil Chaudhary, Stephen Sedensky

**Also Present:** Chief Kullgren, Capt. Bishop, Dept. of Public Works Director Fred Hurley, four members of the public, one member of the press, Ofc. McCarthy, Lt. Smith and Sgt. Lorancaitis

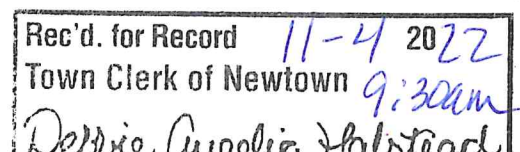
Chairman Faxon called the meeting to order at 6:30p.m. beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance. There was a moment of silence in memory of Sgt. Alex Hamzy and Lt. Dustin Demonte who lost their lives in the line of duty in Bristol, CT. Chairman Faxon also recognized Alec Iurato, who survived and whose action saved lives.

**Public Participation:** Kate Twohy, Nunnawauk Meadows shared that she had reviewed some of the federal manual online. She said there is a loss of civility and would like signage to alert uphill drivers and walkers and a sign that stops walkers, No Walking Beyond This Point. She suggested dropping the speed limit by increments of 5mph. Additionally, a sign is requested to warn drivers there is a stop sign ahead. Perhaps these signs can be developed and installed by the state or the town (att.). David Steiner, 6 Nunnawauk Road said the 25 mph speed limit sign is where Newtown meets the state road and there is a warning sign that a stop sign is ahead. People continue to roll through the stop sign and nearly rear end him when he stops at it. He thinks the road may have been widened when paved, or cleaned up enough to appear wider. Mr. Steiner noted that since the road has been paved it looks wet and people are driving slower. He believes that calling Garner helps with drivers running the stop sign. Cathy Mapen, 2 Nunnawauk Road has lived there since 1977 and while she appreciates Ms. Twohys request for a no walking sign, she doesn't believe it will work because walkers are going to walk and joggers are going to jog and a cyclist will cycle. She suggests a warning 'Pedestrian, Joggers, Blind Curve Ahead' or a flashing light. The responsibility is not just the fast cars but pedestrians and bikers have to their responsibilities as well.

**Police Union Participation:** Sgt. Lorancaitis thanked the Police Commission for hiring Ofc. John Facto.

**Consideration and action on minutes:** Commissioner Budd moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of October 11, 2022. Commissioner Sedensky seconded. All in favor

**Chief's Report:** Ofc. Hyvarinen and Ofc. Piazza have completed their probationary period. Ofc. Facto has completed his familiarization training and is on his own. Recruit Ongaro is slated to graduate from the academy in early December. The department is now fully staffed and appreciative of the hard work of the Police Commission. The Drug Take Back yielded 28 lbs. of drugs, which is less than half received in April. Pharmacy's are now taking drugs back and the PD has bags that render drugs useless, therefore there are alternative ways to dispose of drugs. Ofc. Hayes received MADD award for DWI arrests. Department activity is up, overall. Halloween on Main Street was successful with no incidents. The Police Cadets were acknowledged for assisting. Relative to community service, Sgt.



Ruszczuk and Ofc. Hayes presented to St. Rose Kindergarten class, Police Cadets assisted with the Grasso Marching Band Competition, Sgt. Chapman visited children at Everwonder Museum and also presented at the Kid's Castle Day Care with Ofc. Greco. The Police Cadets participated in the NERLEEA Cadet Tactical Challenge and received 1<sup>st</sup> place in the emotionally disturbed scenario and 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the officer down scenario. Praise was given to Ofc. Hayes, cadet coordinator, as well as cadet advisors Ofc. Hull, Ofc. McClusky, Ofc. McDermott, Ofc. Wlasuk, Ofc. Wickman, Youth Ofc. Heller of Brookfield and Det. McClintock of Bethel. The gun buy back will be Nov. 12, sponsored by Newtown Action Alliance; other departments participating are Guilford, Hartford, Waterbury, Stamford and Middletown. Budget preparations have begun. The Exit 11 paving is behind schedule due to utilities and retaining wall vendors. Slip ramp B competitions is uncertain (report attached). Chairman Faxon asked about the accreditation process. Currently there is a Lieutenant and an Administrative Sergeant assigned to the Professional Standards Division; the two of them are working on accreditation with the part time assistance of one civilian staff. Newtown is due to recertify in Tier 1 in November. POST is holding off as they are looking at departments that are not currently accredited. Newtown, and other previously accredited departments, have been given a waiver until POST is ready to evaluate for Tier 1, Tier 2 or Tier 3. Tier 2 is to be achieved by 2025, Tier 3 by 2026. Some tiers are focused on the building itself, some add additional requirements to previous standards. The new building allows Newtown to be Tier 2 and Tier 3. POST is modifying the standards; by 2026 there will be no need for separate tiers, all departments will be required to obtain all three, therefore no need to separate tiers. Capt. Bishop noted that accreditation applies to all law enforcement agencies. Modifications to our department policies will make language consistent with accreditation standards. When updated the policy numbers will mirror the standard accreditation numbers. Commissioner Budd asked about items in the budget. Staffing is the biggest portion. Vehicles are one cycle behind due to Ford cancelling orders, possibly for additional delays due to lack of supply and canceled orders, statewide. Due to supply and production issues, 2023 patrol vehicles are \$11,000 more as well as \$7,500 more for upfitting each. The wait time for patrol vehicles is approximately 30 weeks. Capital funds will cover the increase in price and unfitting. The fleet is stable for a year to 18 months.

Chairman Faxon moved to add the presentation relative to line stripping to the agenda for discussion and action. Commissioner Cicciari seconded. All in favor. Fred Hurley presented a list of roads (att.) for approval to receive double centerline yellow stripping. Mr. Hurley requested additional rumble strips on Hanover and possibly other roads and asked if the commission has a roads they feel should be prioritized. Chief Faxon asked Chief Kullgren for suggestions for the next meeting. Commissioner Sedensky moved to approve the list of roads to receive double centerline stripping. Commissioner Chaudhary seconded. This request will not affect the list that was previously approved. All in favor.

Commissioner Chaudhary followed up on his concern that there is no straight arrow when leaving Reed School onto Wasserman Way. Mr. Hurley will make a request to the state and does not foresee any issue.

#### **Old Business:**

**a.) Police Commission Regulations:** Chairman Faxon stated the only regulations applicable to the Police Commission are relative to discipline. The strong recommendation of the Labor Attorney, Fred Dorsey, is to amend section 21 of the regulations to make them consistent with the law related to Loudermill due process hearings. This would eliminate a separate regime of hearing process. Chairman Faxon asked the commission to consider removing the jury trial process for termination or discipline as it not required by law; this is going above and beyond. This would allow the Police Commission to utilize the Loudermill process and in some circumstances allow the Chief to be the designee for the Loudermill hearing process in compliance with the collective bargaining agreement. The Loudermill process is that charges are presented from the Chief; the employee has an opportunity to rebut the charges; ultimately there is a decision making process, either by the Commission or the Chief. There was further discussion about consulting with the Police Commission Association for an opinion as well as CCM and finally having the First Selectman review a draft.

There was discussion about the ballot question relative Charter changes which states the Police Commission would also act as the Civilian Review Board. This is relative to the Police Accountability Bill. The Police Commission is already compliant as a Civilian Review Board; there will be no name change.

**b.) Nunnawauk Road & Hitfield Road, Residents Concern:** Chief Kullgren went over the Nunnawauk Rd. and Hitfield Rd. Traffic Unit Evaluation (att.). The recommendation is to review further traffic data to select the days and times for targeted enforcement. That enforcement be continued in the area and to keep the vegetation trimmed on a regular basis. No further signage is recommended at this time. A counter will be left out to determine peak times; technology will help focus enforcement. Mr. Hurley talked about squaring off the intersection and removing some of the ledge to improve the site line. With a squared intersection the stop sign will be in a clear site line. Ms. Twohy is upset there are no further signs recommended. She doesn't see anything that will make the intersection safer. Commissioner Budd noted one accident in years of data doesn't justify more signage; signs do not endorse behavior. Chairman Faxon said focusing enforcement and making physical changes to the intersection are being considered. There is less threat to pedestrians when the intersection is squared off.

The traffic collector is collecting data on John Beach. An alternate consideration is to have John Beach remain two way but can only be exited at one way. Mr. Hurley will work with the traffic unit and also talk to the homeowner regarding the stonewall on town property. It is a work in progress.

**Correspondence:** none noted.

**Commissioners Participation:** none.

**Adjournment:** Having no further business the regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners adjourned at 7:48p.m.

Attachments: Kate Twohy memo; Exit 11 update, Oct. 28, 2022; Additional Roads for double yellow center line stripping; Nunnawauk Road/Hitfield Road Traffic Unit Study

*Susan Marcinek, clerk*

Police Chief

## Suggestions from The Federal Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices

Prepared by : Kate Twohy

This is just a beginning of some of the early sections of the manual.

...very dense, technological language...looking to find signs helpful to our purpose. This is a long document so this is a first effort.

Kate says: We are looking for a way to alert drivers, many who do not stop at the top of the uphill Nunnawauk Road for the STOP sign. We are seeking to save a car from striking a pedestrian who ventures too near to the blind corner on the East-West side of the road. Joggers, walkers, even a woman pushing a baby carriage have been spotted near the corner we have identified.

We see it to be necessary to have at least one additional sign on the uphill road and a critical sign on the East-West Nunnawauk Road after the turn.

The signs we are mentioning follow the order of the manual (found on your computer under the above title. A few may have gotten a little out of order.

East-West Nunnawauk Road (after the corner at the top of the hill):

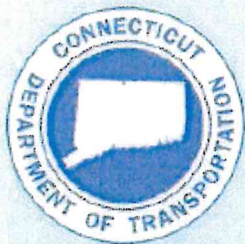
### SIGN NO PEDESTRIANS TO THE CORNER

We have not as yet matched that to an existing sign in the manual...but it could be there and....we have a suggestion to use an existing Newtown sign, changing one word. (We will show at the meeting.) This sign would be around 70 to 75 feet from the corner on the same side of the East-West road where cars turn so quickly.

Kate: Warning walkers seems so urgent. Everyone is blind to what awaits them at the corner. The loss of civility exercised by the driving public which I have witnessed over two months makes one shudder for that individual who walks without knowing the situation at the corner. We must warn our neighbors quickly. Our efforts are to get an appropriate sign.

The manual has another suggestion for that spot See R5-10b has a sign. NO PEDESTRIANS OR BICYCLES . It is suggested to use a LARGER SIGN 30 X 18 in. It could also be around 70 feet from the corner.





## *Weekly Construction Update*

**October 28, 2022**

Improvements to I-84 Exit 11 Ramps & Vicinity

### **Anticipated Work for Next Week:**

- Continued installation of piles for Wall 101A & B along Rt. 34 (Berkshire Road).
- Continue construction of the permanent retaining wall on Rt. 34.
- Drainage work along SR 490 Wasserman Way.
- Continue construction of the temporary retaining wall on Rt. 34, East of I-84 overpasses.
- New sidewalk construction on SR490 Wasserman Way @ the Commuter Lot.
- Demolition of Old I-84 Exit 11 EB Ramp and Temporary I-84 On Ramp.
- Guardrail installation - Exit 11A

**Traffic Advisory for I-84** – Wasserman Way: Traffic will be moved to a section of the new I-84 On Ramp (East and West Bound) on Wednesday night.



Above: New I-84 On Ramp



Above: Temporary Retaining Wall Rt. 34 Berkshire Road

**The Major Intersection Improvements Project on**  
Wasserman Way (Route 490) at the Interchange 11 Ramps; Route 34 at Route 490; and Toddy Hill Road

Questions/Comments? Email: [Dot.NewtownExit11info@ct.gov](mailto:Dot.NewtownExit11info@ct.gov) Phone: 203-304-1067



4 TURKEY HILL ROAD  
NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT 06470  
FAX (203) 426-9968

FREDERICK W. HURLEY, JR  
PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR  
(203) 270-4300

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

To: Police Commission  
From: Public Works / Highway  
Subject: Addition of Roads to Double Yellow Center Line Stripping  
Date: 11/1/2022

We request that the following roads be added to the approved list of roads to receive double centerline yellow stripping:

Bradley Lane  
Butterfield to Parmalee Hill  
Buttonsop  
Great Quarter  
Nunnawauk  
Osborne Hill  
Park Lane  
Rock Ridge

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Hurley  
Director of Public Works

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Fred Hurley", is written over the printed name and title.

# Newtown Department of Police Services

## Traffic Unit

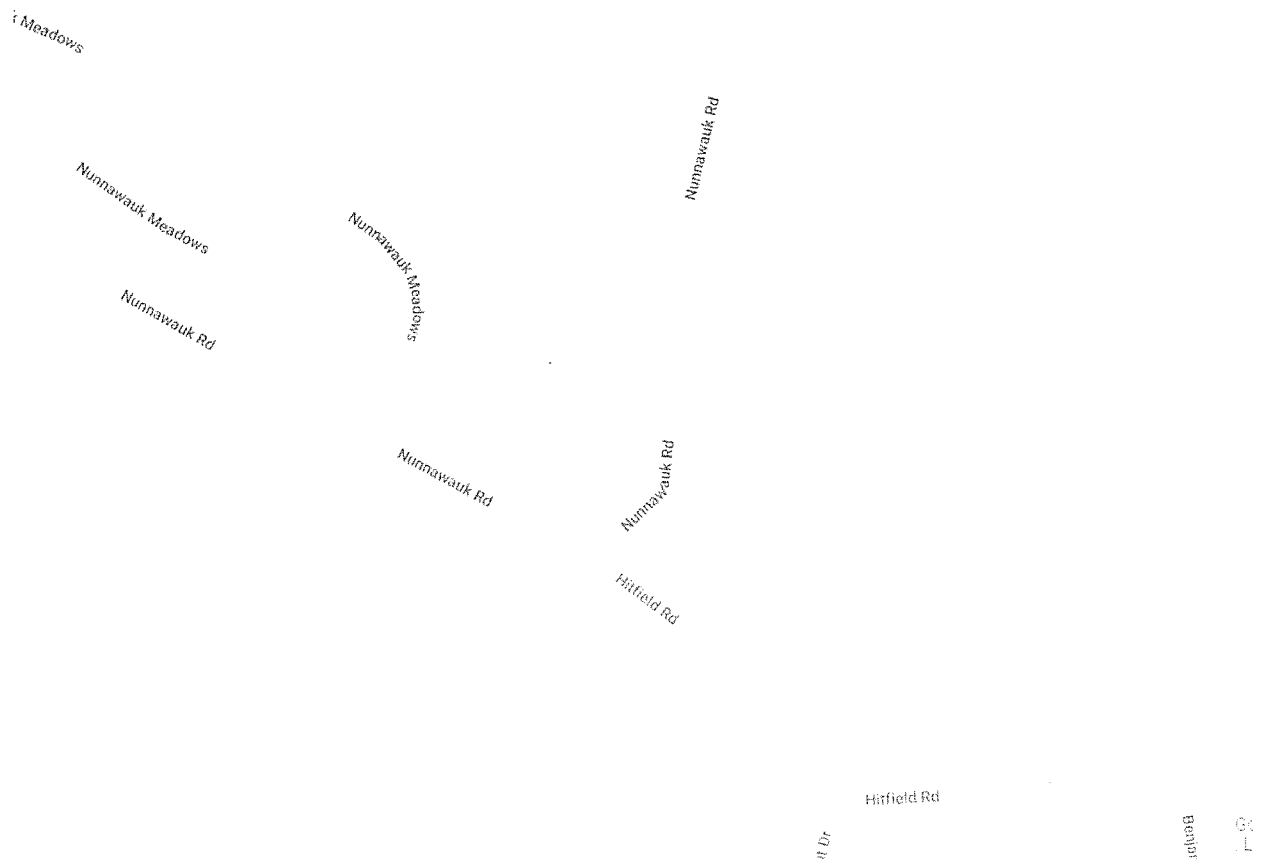
### The Intersection of

### Nunnawauk Rd and Hitfield Rd

### 2022 Vehicular Speed and Volume Evaluation

### CFS# 2200008956

Completed by Ofc. Benjamin Mulhall



#### Overview

The Newtown Police Department Traffic Unit received a complaint stating that the intersection of Nunnawauk Rd and Hitfield Rd was dangerous and vehicles were not stopping for the stop signs. The complaint also stated that people walking on the roadway near the intersection were in a blind spot due to the layout of the roadway.

## **Location Details**

Nunnawauk Rd is a town-owned roadway that travels north/south between Hitfield Rd and Wasserman Way. At the intersection of Hitfield Rd, Nunnawauk Rd makes a 90-degree right-hand turn and continues East/West to the intersection of Mile Hill Rd South. Along Nunnawauk Rd is a State of Connecticut's Department of Corrections Correctional Institution. There is also the condo complex Nunnawauk meadows and several private residents. The road is approximately 1.2 miles long with a state-approved speed limit of 25mph.

Hitfield Rd is a town-owned roadway that provides access to a small neighborhood consisting of Black Walnut Dr, Benjamin Dr and Carol Ann Dr, which are all dead-end roadways. This neighborhood consists of all private residences and borders State of Connecticut property along Hitfield Rd. The road is approximately 1500 ft. long and does not have a state-approved speed limit.

The intersection between these two roadways is a T shape that is controlled by 3 stop signs. The roadway was recently paved and the roadway markings have yet to be installed.

See attached Photos.

## **Action Taken**

After receiving the complaint, the Traffic unit went and evaluated the intersection and noticed there was excessive growth along the roadway and contacted the public works department and had the roadside mowed. The traffic unit and patrol conducted 9 Traffic Enforcements in the area, which resulted in 6 traffic stops that produced 1 infraction and 5 verbal warnings.

## **Recorded Data**

The traffic unit installed the department's traffic counter on Nunnawauk Rd just west of the intersection to record the number of vehicles traveling through the intersection. The approximate Daily Traffic traveling west onto Nunnawauk Rd is 325 vehicles.

See attached printouts for further data.



In the past 5 years there has been one accident that directly involved the intersection but it does not appear to have been caused by a vehicle running the stop sign.

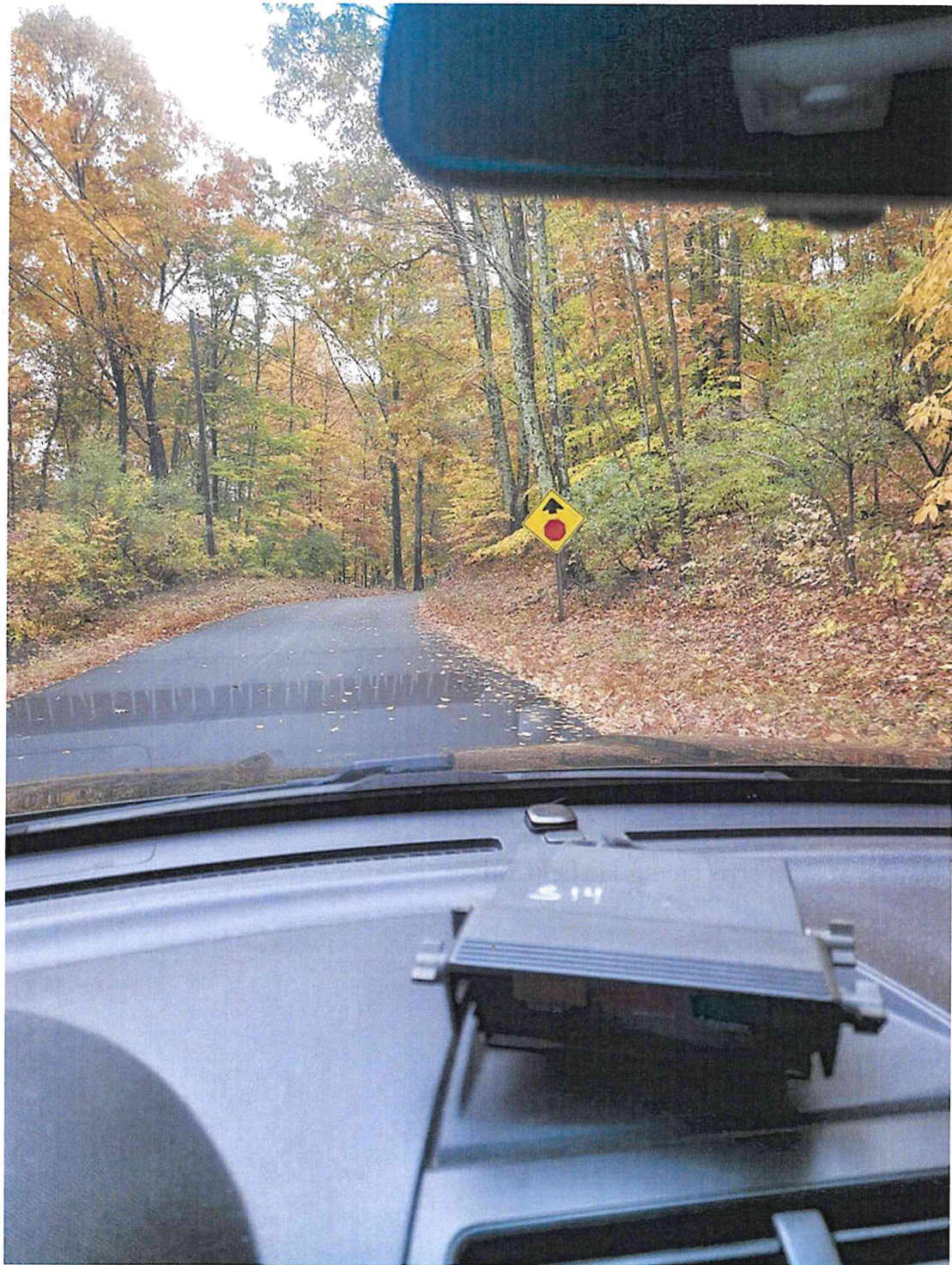
### **Recommendations**

At this time, it is going to be the recommendation of the Newtown Police Department Traffic Unit that enforcement is continued in the area. It is also recommended that the vegetation growth on the sides of the roadway be trimmed back on a regular basis. No further signage is required for the area at this time.



Nunnawauk Rd on the Garner Corrections side





Nunnawauk Rd approaching intersection on Garner Corrections side





Nunnawauk Rd at stop sign facing Hitfield Rd





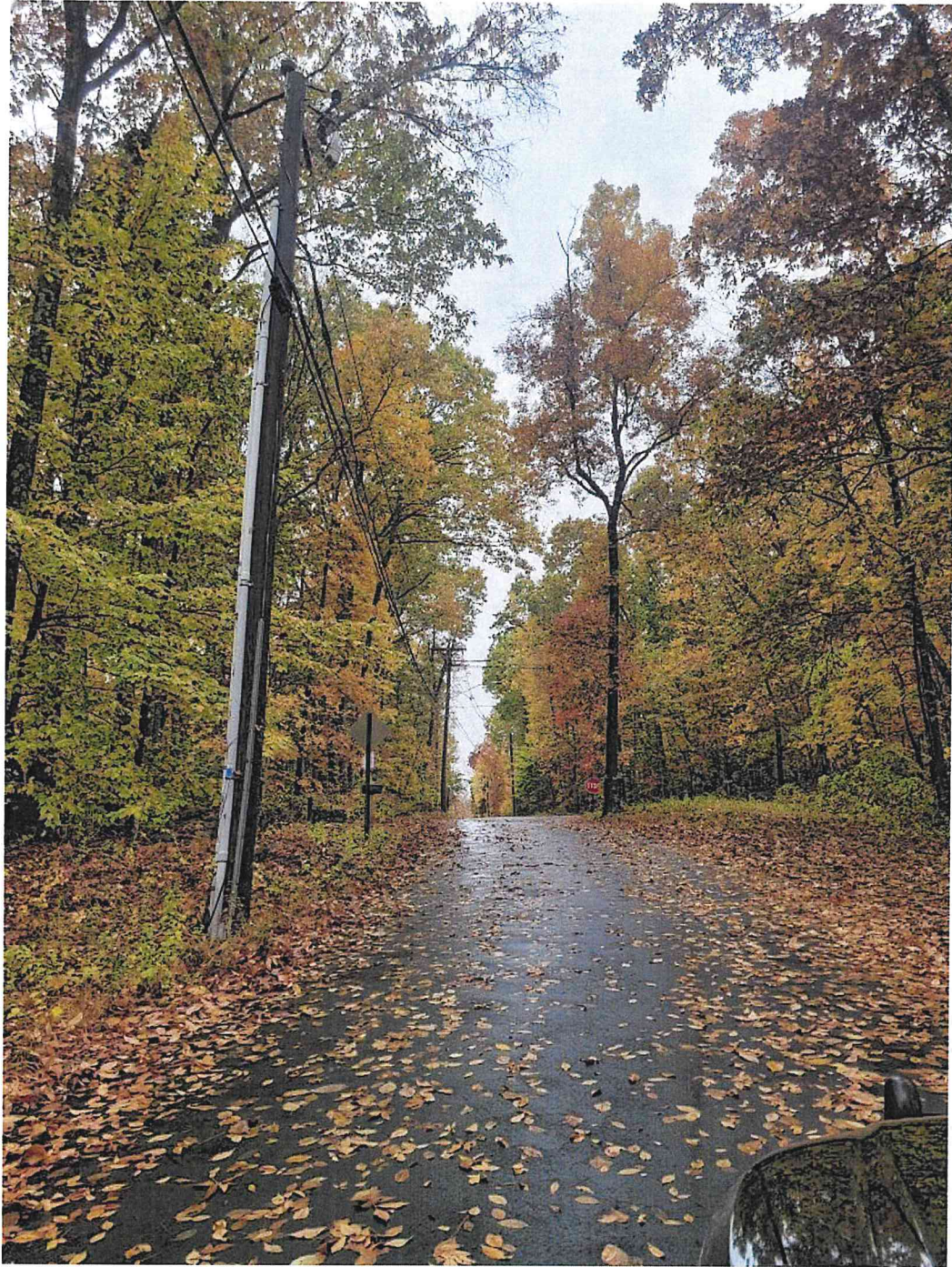
Nunnawauk Rd at stop sign looking down Nunnawauk Rd toward Nunnawauk Village





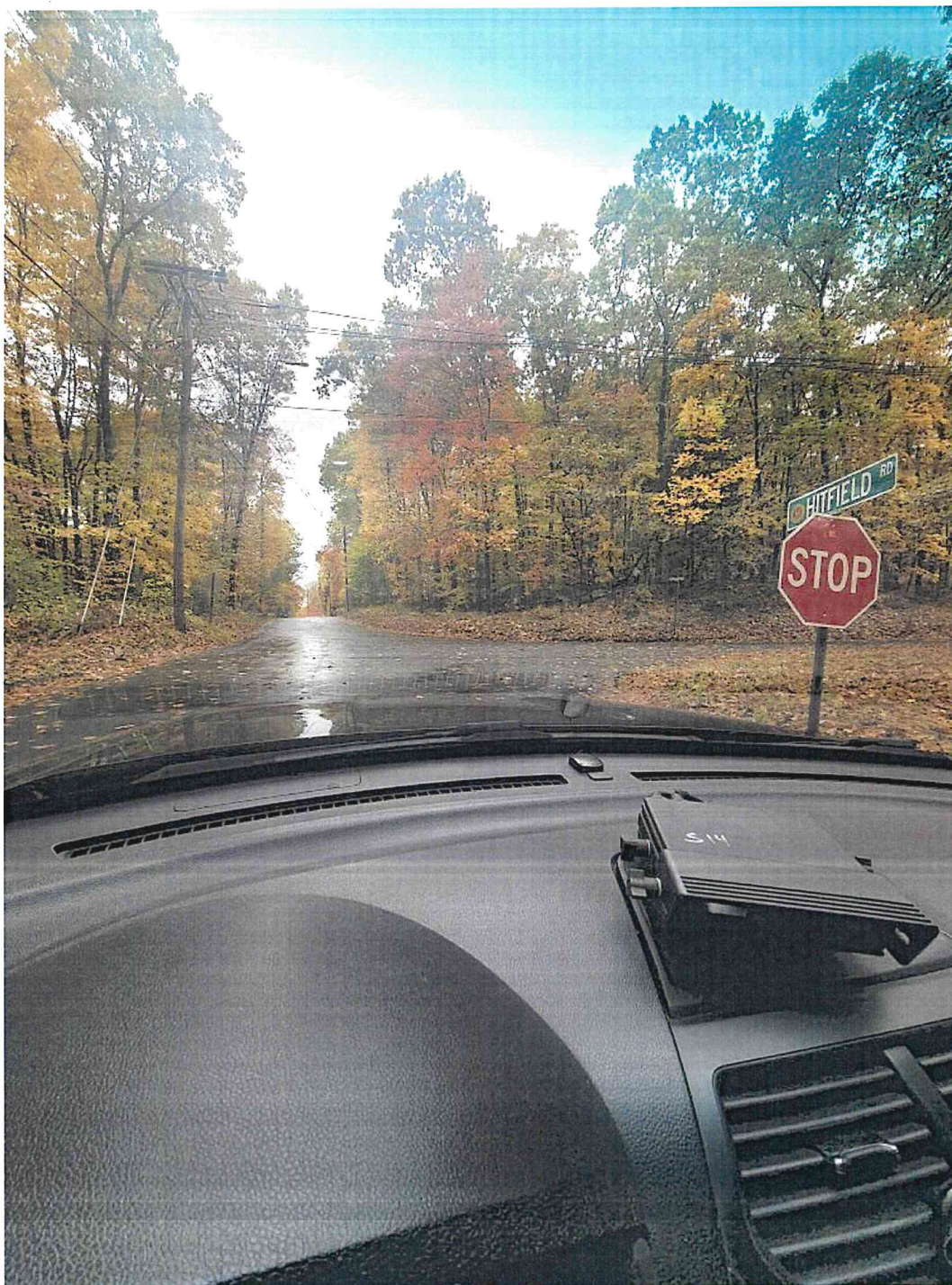
View of intersection from Nunnawauk Rd at the stop sign from the Garner Corrections side





Hitfield Rd approaching intersection





Hitfield Rd at Stop Sign





Nunnawauk Rd facing Hitfield Rd





Nunnawauk Rd at stop sign looking toward Garner Corrections



Incoming Monthly Counts  
Nunawauk Rd / Hifield Rd

from Tue-Oct-25-2022-12-00-PM to Sun-Oct-30-2022-01-59-PM

Hour	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Week Day Avg	Weekend Avg	Week Day 85% Avg Speed
0 - 1	*	*	1	2	1	3	2	1.33	2.5	34.67
1 - 2	*	*	1	2	0	1	0	1	0.5	22.5
2 - 3	*	*	0	0	0	2	1	0	1.5	0
3 - 4	*	*	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0
4 - 5	*	*	1	2	0	1	0	1	0.5	26
5 - 6	*	*	4	4	5	4	1	4.33	2.5	27.67
6 - 7	*	*	25	25	25	5	3	25	4	33.6
7 - 8	*	*	44	40	30	7	7	38	7	34.07
8 - 9	*	*	30	26	30	10	9	28.67	9.5	33.5
9 - 10	*	*	27	17	16	15	10	20	12.5	31.4
10 - 11	*	*	13	11	13	16	15	12.33	15.5	30.67
11 - 12	*	*	21	22	20	22	20	21	21	31.43
12 - 13	*	14	24	22	17	18	21	19.25	19.5	30.7
13 - 14	*	31	36	35	29	25	7	32.75	16	33.28
14 - 15	*	30	30	31	24	19	*	28.75	19	34.48
15 - 16	*	16	25	25	24	20	*	22.5	20	32.62
16 - 17	*	26	33	25	17	23	*	25.25	23	32.7
17 - 18	*	31	26	24	27	11	*	27	11	34.05
18 - 19	*	17	13	18	10	19	*	14.5	19	31.62
19 - 20	*	11	9	8	6	6	*	8.5	6	32.12
20 - 21	*	7	12	8	12	9	*	9.75	9	32.38
21 - 22	*	4	7	3	12	10	*	6.5	10	32.12
22 - 23	*	2	4	3	7	7	*	4	7	29.55
23 - 24	*	5	4	5	5	10	*	4.75	10	32.38
Totals	0	194	390	358	330	264	97			
% of Total	0%	11.88%	23.88%	21.92%	20.21%	16.17%	5.94%			

Incoming Weekly Counts  
Nimnawauk Rd / Hatfield Rd

from Tue-Oct-25-2022-12:00-PM to Sun-Oct-30-2022-01:59-PM

Hour	10/24/2022		10/30/2022		Friday 10/28/2022	Saturday 10/29/2022	Sunday 10/30/2022	Week		Weekend Avg	Week Day 85% Avg Speed
	Monday 10/24/2022	Tuesday 10/25/2022	Wednesday 10/26/2022	Thursday 10/27/2022				Day Avg			
0 - 1	*	*	1	2	1	3	2	1.33	2.5	34.67	
1 - 2	*	*	1	2	0	1	0	1	0.5	22.5	
2 - 3	*	*	0	0	0	2	1	0	1.5	0	
3 - 4	*	*	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	
4 - 5	*	*	1	2	0	1	0	1	0.5	26	
5 - 6	*	*	4	4	5	4	1	4.33	2.5	27.67	
6 - 7	*	*	25	25	25	5	3	25	4	33.6	
7 - 8	*	*	44	40	30	7	7	38	7	34.07	
8 - 9	*	*	30	26	16	10	9	28.67	9.5	33.5	
9 - 10	*	*	27	17	16	15	10	20	12.5	31.4	
10 - 11	*	*	13	11	13	16	15	12.33	15.5	30.67	
11 - 12	*	*	21	22	20	22	20	21	21	31.43	
12 - 13	*	14	24	22	17	18	21	19.25	19.5	30.7	
13 - 14	*	31	36	35	29	25	7	32.75	16	33.28	
14 - 15	*	30	30	31	24	19	*	28.75	19	34.48	
15 - 16	*	16	25	25	24	20	*	22.5	20	32.62	
16 - 17	*	26	33	25	17	23	*	25.25	23	32.7	
17 - 18	*	31	26	24	27	11	*	27	11	34.05	
18 - 19	*	17	13	18	10	19	*	14.5	19	31.62	
19 - 20	*	11	9	8	6	6	*	8.5	6	32.12	
20 - 21	*	7	12	8	12	9	*	9.75	9	32.38	
21 - 22	*	4	7	3	12	10	*	6.5	10	32.12	
22 - 23	*	2	4	3	7	7	*	4	7	29.55	
23 - 24	*	5	4	5	5	10	*	4.75	10	32.38	
Totals	0	194	390	358	330	264	97				
% of Total	0%	11.88%	23.88%	21.92%	20.21%	16.17%	5.94%				