

Town of Weymouth
Massachusetts

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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

Robert L. Hedlund
Mayor

75 Middle Street
Weymouth, MA 02189



2021 JUN 24
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MEMORANDUM

#21 106

TO: TOWN COUNCIL
FROM: MAYOR ROBERT L. HEDLUND *RA*
RE: TRAFFIC REGULATIONS LEDGEBROOK ROAD -
MERRYMOUNT ROAD AREA
DATE: JUNE 24, 2021

I submit the following measure to Town Council:

“That the Town of Weymouth, through Town Council, pursuant to G.L. Chapter 40, § 22, and the Town of Weymouth Code of Ordinances, Section 13-104(a) and (d), authorize the placement of signs regulating motor vehicle movement as follows:

Restricted Turning Maneuvers			
Location	Direction	Restriction	Time
Pine Street at Merrymount Road	Northwest Bound	Right Turn Prohibited	6:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except holidays
Pine Street at Hickory Lane	Northwest Bound	Right Turn Prohibited	6:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except holidays

One-Way Street		
Street	Location	Direction
Old Pine Street	Between Ledgbrook Road and Pine Street	Westbound

and cause the above regulations to be listed in the Town of Weymouth Code of Ordinances, Chapter 13, Regulations Affecting Motor Vehicles, Attachment Appendix A under Schedule II, Restricted Turning Maneuvers, and Schedule XIII, One

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 Weymouth
 Town Council

Way Streets”

A report from the Traffic Engineer and the Police Department on this subject is attached.

This measure requires a Legal Notice and Public Hearing.

Department of Planning and
Community Development

Robert J. Luongo
Director of Planning and
Community Development
email: rluongo@weymouth.ma.us

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**Town of Weymouth
Massachusetts**



Robert L. Hedlund
Mayor

75 Middle Street
Weymouth, MA 02189

www.weymouth.ma.us

MEMORANDUM

TO: Town Council

FROM: Owen MacDonald, Traffic Engineer, Lt. Brian Morse, WPD

COPY: Ted Langill, Chief of Staff, Bob Luongo, Planning Director

DATE: June 17, 2021

SUBJECT: Ledgebrook Road – Merrymount Road Area – Through Traffic

Purpose: Weymouth Police and Planning Departments received numerous complaints of traffic speeding through neighborhood streets. This appears to have become more noticeable due to Covid travel patterns (people working from home, less morning travel, more mid-day travel).

Recommendations:

- Post Old Pine Street One Way from Ledgebrook Road to Pine Street
- Prohibit the right turn from Pine Street northwest bound to Merrymount Road and to Hickory Lane between the hours of 6:00 AM and 1:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except holidays.

Background: The neighborhood of concern is triangular, bounded by Pine Street on the west, Ralph Talbot and Oak Streets on the north, and the Hingham Town boundary on the east. Most streets in the neighborhood have 27' to 29' traveled ways, which accommodates 2-way traffic with occasional on street parking. Old Pine Street is an exception to that rule, having a traveled way width of 15' to 18', unable to accommodate simultaneous 2-way traffic.

In response to residents' complaints, Weymouth Police set up the speed trailer at various locations in the neighborhood. Specific findings from the speed trailer records are shown in the appendix below. In general, most (97%) of the recorded speeds were at or below the statutory thickly settled 30 MPH speed limit.

No formal origin – destination study of vehicles on neighborhood streets was undertaken. By random observation, a noticeable number of these vehicles (estimated 30 to 45%) were traveling between Pine and Oak Streets, the through streets on the periphery of the neighborhood. In communications with the Police and Planning Departments, and at virtual neighborhood

meetings, many residents expressed a desire to restrict the ability of motorists to travel through the neighborhood between Pine and Oak Streets. By observation, most vehicles passing through the neighborhood without stopping use Merrymount Road, Hickory Lane, or Old Pine Street. The recommended actions above are intended to address through traffic entering the neighborhood from the south in the morning to noon time frame. Addressing the reverse movement in the late afternoon entails entails a turn restriction from Oak Street to Tamarack Trail. This will require MassDOT action, since the affected segment of Oak Street is State Highway.

In general, a turn prohibition, covering the desired hours of day and days of week, is sufficient to stop unwanted vehicles from entering the neighborhood, at the cost of inconveniencing the residents of that street and those nearby. However, making Old Pine Street one way from Ledgebrook Road to Pine Street would eliminate the potential conflict of simultaneous 2-way traffic, while at the same time restricting the right turn from Pine street into the neighborhood.


Lt. Brian Morse

Owen J. MacDonald Publicly signed by Owen J. MacDonald
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www.owenmacdonald.com
1-800-333-1111
Owen MacDonald, P.E., PTOE

APPENDIX

The first phase of the speed study was completed yesterday. The sign was in front of 34 Ledgebrook from 5/26 - 6/1. During that time period **2,080** vehicles past the sign board. The breakdown of speeds is as follows:

- **2,032 vehicles were operating at 30mph or below**
- **41 vehicles were operating between 31mph and 35mph**
- **4 vehicles were operating between 36mph and 40mph**
- **3 vehicles were operating between 41mph and 44mph**

***The top speed recorded during the study was 44mph.**

I moved the board to 16 Ledgebrook Rd yesterday. I will leave it there for another 5 days. This will give vehicles a greater distance coming off of Merrymount before they see the board.

The second phase of the speed study was completed today. The speed board was in front of 16 Ledgebrook from 6/1 - 6/8. During that time period **2,429** vehicles drove past the speed board. The breakdown of speeds is as follows:

- **2,304 vehicles were operating at 30mph or below**
- **118 vehicles were operating between 31mph and 35mph**
- **7 vehicles were operating between 36mph and 40mph**

***The top speed recorded during the week was 39mph.**

*** The average speed was 20mph**

I moved the board to 55 Ledgebrook Rd today. It is now facing the opposite direction to get speeds coming from Tamarack Trail. I will leave it there for the week.

The third phase of the speed study was completed today. The speed board was in front of 55 Ledgebrook from 6/8 - 6/15. During that time period **2,159** vehicles drove past the speed board. The breakdown of speeds is as follows:

- **2,053 vehicles were operating at 30mph or below**
- **98 vehicles were operating between 31mph and 35mph**
- **8 vehicles were operating between 36mph and 40mph**

*** For the second straight week the top speed recorded during the week was 39mph.**

*** The average speed was 18mph**

*** Peak times for speeding during this week were 1:00pm-3:00pm**

The fourth phase of the speed study was completed today. The speed board was on Merrymount Rd from 6/15 - 6/22. During that time period **3,497** vehicles drove past the speed board. The breakdown of speeds is as follows:

- **3,453 vehicles were operating at 30mph or below**
- **39 vehicles were operating between 31mph and 35mph**
- **3 vehicles were operating between 36mph and 40mph**
- **2 vehicles were operating at 41mph**

*** The top speed recorded during the week was 41mph.**

*** The average speed on the road was 15mph**

*** Peak times for speeding during this week were 10:00am-12:00pm**

The fifth phase of the speed study was completed today. The speed board was on Hickory Lane from 6/22- 6/29. During that time period **2,867** vehicles drove past the speed board. The breakdown of speeds is as follows:

- **2,843 vehicles were operating at 30mph or below**
- **23 vehicles were operating between 31mph and 35mph**
- **1 vehicle was operating between 36mph and 40mph**

*** The top speed recorded during the week was 37 mph.**

*** The average speed on the road was 17mph**

*** Peak times for speeding during this week were 3:00pm-5:00pm**

The results from Tamarack Trail were as follows. **2,274** vehicles drove past the speed board. The breakdown of speeds is as follows:

- **2,224 vehicles were operating at 30mph or below**
- **48 vehicles were operating between 31mph and 35mph**
- **2 vehicles were operating between 36mph and 40mph**

*** The top speed recorded during the week was 39 mph.**

*** The average speed on the road was 20 mph**

*** Peak times for speeding during this week were also 3:00pm-5:00pm.**

The speed board was in the neighborhood from 5/26 - 7/2 (38 days). A total of 15,306 vehicles were documented. Of the vehicles that were documented 14,909 were operating at or below the speed limit. That equates to 97.4% of the vehicles weren't speeding