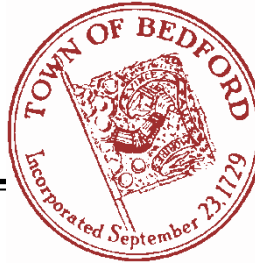


# TOWN OF BEDFORD

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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314 THE GREAT ROAD  
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Date: October 7, 2019

To: David Manugian, Public Works Director

Cc: Sarah Stanton, Town Manager

From: Jeanette Rebecchi, Transportation Program Manager

**Re: Reed Neighborhood Traffic Meeting Summary**

On Wednesday, September 25, 2019 the DPW hosted a neighborhood meeting to discuss traffic safety concerns on Kingsley Terrace, Reed Lane, Daniels Drive, and Francis Kelley Road. Approximately 28 residents attended the meeting. Staff present included Officer Tom Devine, Adrienne St. John, Town Engineer, and I.

The meeting kicked off with brief introductions by staff. It was noted that traffic calming efforts should focus on speeding and safety, not prohibiting traffic from using local roadways. The floor was opened up for comment. Resident concerns can be categorized as follows:

- Speeding and aggressive driving
- High volumes of cars during commuter hours; cut-through traffic
- Drivers turning around in the two dead ends on Francis Kelley and Reed Lane.
- The elementary school bus does not directly serve the entire neighborhood. The bus currently does a three point turn on Kingsley Terrace rather than continuing around on Reed Lane.
- Lack of pedestrian accommodations on Page Road.

The following remedies were discussed:

- No Through Traffic/Resident Only signs. Staff explained that the Town is not allowed to prohibit vehicular access to public ways. Such signs are also unenforceable by the Police Department since there is no way to know which drivers actually live in the neighborhood.
- Stop signs at Reed/Daniels and Francis Kelley/Daniels intersections
- Speed bumps or temporary speed bumps
- Crosswalk connecting the sidewalk on Francis Kelley to Daniels Drive.
- No Right Turn signs during evening rush hour, which would either prohibit cars from making a right turn from Page Road onto Francis Kelley, or a right turn from Kingsley Terrace onto Page Road. The majority of the residents present did not favor this solution, as it would require them to wait in the long line of traffic on Page Road.
- Staff suggested making Francis Kelley Road a one-way street heading toward Page Road. The residents present did not approve of the solution.

- Reduce the speed limit. Staff noted that posted speed limits require a formal speed study, which would set the new speed limit at the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile. This would likely raise the speed limit from the de-facto 25mph.
- Create a small traffic island or curb extension at the Reed/Daniels intersection to slow traffic making a left onto Reed Lane. If additional landscaping was introduced, residents would need to maintain the plantings.
- Park vehicles on the roadway to narrow the travel lane and slow cars down.
- More police enforcement is needed. Officer Devine stated that they do patrol the neighborhood, but the frequency is limited by staffing levels.
- The root cause of the neighborhood's traffic issues are cars cutting the que on Page Road. The four way intersection at Page/Springs/Pine Hill should be improved.
- Crosswalk needed across Page Road at Kingsley Terrace.
- The streets need to be repaved.

## Next Steps

At this time DPW is only able to provide basic treatments such as signage and line painting from our operating budget. More permanent physical changes to the roadway, if needed, require submitting a capital improvement request as part of the town-wide budget process. The earliest this could be done would be for the FY22 budget cycle. In the meantime, staff will pursue the following items.

- **Data Collection:** Speed and volume data will be collected to establish baseline conditions.
- **Stop Signs:** Are only permitted if they meet national criteria. Staff will conduct a stop sign warrant analysis at the Reed/Daniels and Francis Kelley/Daniels intersections.
- **Francis Kelley/Daniels Crosswalk:** Staff will request the Highway Division paint a crosswalk at this location.
- **Daniels/Reed Intersection Realignment:** Staff will examine the possibility of temporarily reducing the amount of paved surface area at this intersection through paint or traffic cones.
- **Kingsley Terrace/Page/Dunster Crosswalk:** In order to construct a sidewalk and crosswalk at this intersection, homeowners need to grant the Town a permanent easement as the Town-owned right-of-way is not sufficient at this location. A preliminary design had been created last year. Staff will continue discussions with the homeowners on this possibility.
- **School Bus Route:** Staff will connect neighborhood captains with the appropriate School Department staff to discuss bus routes.
- **Communication:** Staff will distribute the sign-in sheet to the neighborhood captains, and provide a status update in the late fall.