

Boat Tracks on Beach
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September 1, 2015

SCA Police and Traffic Report

Please excuse my attendance but I have to work tonight!

Christine and I have been reviewing several traffic situations going on in town. The first issue was the beach crosswalks (cars blocking the sight line). We have received several E-Mails concerning buses, vans and crosswalk signs. Two complaints on the bicycle rack, one request to remove the crosswalk sign at Sachem road. Linda Reeds request for crosswalk re-striping and signage on School Street. Many complaints on commercial parking at the dock, mostly in the 4 hour slots. And Handicap vehicles parking in the 15 minute parking all day or all week.

First the Crosswalks:

First of all our crosswalk signage does a great job in controlling flow and speed thru the village. How ever there are times and mostly it has been residents in a hurry who go past the beach that should slow down. At this point at the beach people are looking for directions, to the dock, to eat, to beach or to park. They slow up, especially if they are using the church parking lot. In my opinion the crosswalk signs do work.

With that said. Connecticut Code -section 14-251 states: (No vehicle shall be permitted to remain parked with twenty-five feet of an intersection or a marked crosswalk thereat, or within twenty-five feet of a stop sign.....)

Should we take this course we will lose approximately eight parking spots from Thimbleberries to Willoughby Wallace Library which would effect all of us.

My suggestion is, that at the beach or it could be all the crosswalk signs, that they be changed to a stop instead of yield . New signs cost, as I found on line, \$829.50 per sign. However, we can retrofit the signs we have with a stop vinyl decal that would cost much less. This would force the vehicles going past the beach to make a full stop or slow down even more.

Buses at the Green:

I have had someone watching the parking at the green since the last meeting. I also asked Christine to monitor. We have two complaints from that area. One is a full time resident. We received E-mail from Amy who stated there were multiple buses there every day. As I was told, most of those buses were senior vans or small buses of 14-to 18-passenger capacity. Some were the school buses with kids from the rec. department.

Our suggestion is to put in lined parking for cars and mark for cars only or compact only to eliminate the standing of any type of bus or van. And find a place where they can go.

Removal of Crosswalk sign:

Would like to discuss what the problem is! If its going around it that's difficult from Sachem Road go behind it. Again it not only provides safety it also slows the traffic down.

Suggestion. Leave the sign!

School Street Crosswalk:

I contacted public works that came down with crosswalk signage but were unable to post due to the size of the signs. I was also told they could not put any signs on the utility pole as it is not permitted. I also asked to have that particular crosswalk painted ASAP as that would also help as a visual. I will follow up...

Suggestion: find small crosswalk signs and attach to pole. Re: Sachem crosswalk pole.

Commercial Parking at the dock:

I personally talked to all the commercial companies as they parked their vehicles and asked them to move into a 12-hour spot or back street spot and they did. So far so good. I did not approach kayakers and beach goers who park there all day also.

Suggestion: everything is in place for enforcement. As I was told by the police and to quote, if we start ticketing it will be across the board. No tickets will be torn up. It will be enforced throughout the village, no exceptions. This may affect residents more than outsiders.

Handicap Parking in the 15 minute spots at the beach.

Suggestion: change the two 15 minute parking areas / replace two signs with Load unload only.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Infantino Jr.