

To: The Vienna Town Council and Town Manager

From: Ed Somers, Chair, Transportation Safety Commission

Subject: TSC Motion #2 on Beulah Road NE

Date: March 21, 2016

### **June 30, 2015 Action**

During a meeting of the Transportation Safety Commission (TSC) on June 30, 2015, a public hearing was held on a citizens' petition stating that "the town needs to develop a coordinated plan to make Beulah Road more crossable for pedestrians and bicyclists, from the intersection of Church Street to the last connecting street in Vienna (Sideling Court)." Specifically, the petitioners requested that the TSC and Town Council consider the addition of:

- Painted crosswalks
- Painted crosswalks with bollards
- Painted crosswalk with flashing warning lights, or rectangular rapid flash beacon (RRFB) pedestrian signs
- Pedestrian-invoked stop light, with painted crosswalk
- Three way or four way stop sign, with painted crosswalk
- Stop light, with painted crosswalk

At the June 30 hearing, it was stated that the Department of Public Works (DPW) is doing a major review of the area in question, and requested three months to report back to the TSC.

In addition, at the June 30 TSC meeting, the following motion was approved on a vote of 7-0:

***"The Transportation Safety Commission recommends that Town Council direct the Department of Public Works to install a temporary bollard at the center of the crosswalk [on Beulah Road NE] that connects Creek Crossing Road NE to Glyndon Park, provided that it meets engineering guidelines and review from the fire department."***

### **February 23, 2016 Action**

During a TSC meeting on February 23, 2016, a second public discussion was held on the subject of Beulah Road NE.

At that meeting, DPW presented a traffic calming evaluation for the section of Beulah Road from Ayr Hill Avenue to Sideling Court located in the Town of Vienna. The evaluation was conducted by the firm of Gorove/Slade under the direction of DPW.

Following extensive public discussion, the following motion was made:

***“The Transportation Safety Commission accepts the report of the Department of Public Works (DPW) and its recommendations, with the caveat that if there is a continuous need to replace bollards on a too frequent basis, the use of bollards will be discontinued.”***

Below is the exact text of the referenced DPW report.

*The Town had traffic data collected on Beulah Road NE from Ayr Hill Avenue NE to Sideling Court NE. Beulah Road is a minor arterial and an emergency route for fire and rescue. The data, as shown in the Gorove/Slade Technical Memorandum, shows the following:*

*Road Classification: Minor Arterial*

*Traffic Volume: +/- 12,000 ADT*

*Average Speed: 28 – 30 MPH*

*85<sup>th</sup> Percentile: 31 - 34 MPH*

*Stop warrants: None of the cross street met the 3:1 warrant for stop signs.*

*Public Works recommends that crosswalk striping and pedestrian bollards be installed at the Ayr Hill Avenue, Creek Crossing Road, and MacArthur Avenue NE intersections at a cost of around \$6,000.00.*

*Public Works is not recommending pedestrian improvements at Cynthia Lane, Edwin Lane, Broadleaf Drive or Druid Hill Road NE due to lack of sight distance.*

*Fairfax County Public Schools and Public Works are not recommending pedestrian improvements at Sideling Court NE. FCPS wants students to cross at the crossing guard that is provided and not cross at Sideling Court.*

*The County is funding and the Town is administrating the design and construction of new sidewalk from Beulah Road NE to Old Courthouse Road along Creek Crossing Road. A request for the design bid should go out in February. The plan is to include an RRFB (rectangular rapid flashing beacon) at the Creek Crossing Road/Beulah Road NE intersection with this project.*

*The Town has asked the Fairfax County Safe Routes to Schools Representative about applying for a VDOT grant to upgrade the asphalt trail on the west side of Beulah to concrete sidewalk from Cynthia Lane NE to across the street from the school and the asphalt trail on the east side of Beulah Road NE from Sideling Court up to the school.*

The primary motion was made by Commissioner Beth Eachus, seconded by Commissioner Becky Allison, and approved on a vote of 7 to 0. Commissioner Len Ignatowski was present but abstained. Commissioner Andrew Meren was not in attendance at this meeting.