



Due to the COVID-2019 State of Emergency, the City Council will be holding its meetings remotely using the web-based program, Zoom. City Councilors will be participating in this meeting remotely. Members of the public will be able to assess this public meeting through a variety of options, described below. If you encounter any issues accessing this meeting, please call 603-757-0622 during the meeting. To view this Municipal Services Facilities and Infrastructure Committee meeting, please navigate to www.zoom.us and enter the Meeting ID# 893 5886 7206. To listen via telephone call 877-853-5257 and enter the Meeting ID # 893 5886 7206.

City of Keene

New Hampshire

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES,
FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE
COMMITTEE
AGENDA
Council Chambers B
October 7, 2020
5:30 PM**

Janis O. Manwaring, Chair
Michael Giacomo, Vice Chair
Randy L. Filiault
Bettina A. Chadbourne
Robert C. Williams

1. Heather Servant - In Support of Lower Speed Limits on Eastern Avenue

2. Colonial Theatre Group, Inc. - Petition for Discontinuance
R-2020-38

MORE TIME ITEMS:

- A. Petition – Deteriorating Conditions on Thompson Road

- B. Councilor Philip Jones – Maintenance of the Wilson Pond Dam on Arch Street and
Communication from Robert Malay/Keene School District – Maintenance of the Wilson
Pond Dam

Non Public Session
Adjournment



City of Keene
Transmittal Form

September 21, 2020

TO: Mayor and Keene City Council

FROM: Heather Servant

THROUGH: Patricia A. Little, City Clerk

ITEM: 1.

SUBJECT: Heather Servant - In Support of Lower Speed Limits on Eastern Avenue

COUNCIL ACTION:

In City Council October 1, 2020.

Referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

ATTACHMENTS:


Description

Petition - Eastern Avenue

BACKGROUND:

Heather Servant has submitted an on-line petition in support of reducing the speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph due to safety concerns on Eastern Avenue. The on-line petition was signed by residents along Eastern Avenue as well as pedestrians who frequent the area.

In City Council October 1, 2020.
Referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities
and Infrastructure Committee.


Deputy City Clerk

September 21, 2020

Honorable Mayor and City Council,

I am writing to you with regards to a safety concern on Eastern Ave. My neighbors and I are in agreement that there are a few factors on our roadway that make it potentially dangerous for pedestrians.

Since Eastern Ave is a connector road, we have many motorists travelling through who do not live in the neighborhood. While of course that can't be prevented, some seem to forget that this is a thickly settled residential area -- many of us families with small children. Yet they speed well beyond the posted limit of 30 MPH.

Quite a few of us have homes that are close to the road with smaller front yards. 30 MPH is already too fast for our neighborhood. The residents of Eastern Ave hope you will consider lowering it to 25 MPH.

Another factor that presents potential hazards is our alleged sidewalk. There is only a sidewalk on one side of the road and what is there can hardly be considered such. There is no curb, it is not elevated from the roadway, it is rutted and bumpy, and there are several parts of it that I can't push a stroller on, thus making me walk in the road while traffic speeds by my baby and me.

We have many pedestrians on Eastern Ave. We're right near the Rail Trail so we've got all sorts of runners, cyclists, children on scooters, parents pushing strollers and people walking their dogs. There needs to be a real sidewalk for them, especially considering the excessive speeds at which the traffic is passing by.

Our hope for Eastern Ave is to calm the traffic, and make it safe not only for our families to enjoy but our visitors from nearby neighborhoods that like to use this road as well. We hope this can be attained by:

- Lowering the posted speed limit to 25 MPH.
- Conducting more directed patrol to target the excessive speeders.
- Installing a real sidewalk on both sides of the road. [I have read through many of your meeting notes to see what has been done in similar situations around Keene. I understand that merely lowering the speed will not deter all drivers from driving as fast as they feel comfortable. I read that making the road narrower helps to naturally lower driver speeds; having a sidewalk on both sides of the road would certainly seem the logical solution for that.]
- Installing a couple elevated crosswalks that would also help to naturally lower drivers' rate of speed.

I understand we are nearing the end of "construction season" so major projects as this one would take time to come to fruition. I hope in the meantime you will consider having KPD set up the speed monitor, as well as doing frequent direct patrol to target speeders. I am sure that the data collected will confirm what my neighbors and I already know to be a problem.

I noted that Councilor Bosley had requested a comprehensive review of neighborhood speed limits earlier this year, which seems to have taken a pause due to Covid concerns taking priority. I hope this review will resume and I would be happy for Eastern Ave to be a case in point, hopefully with a positive solution that could be a benchmark for future solutions to other neighborhoods' traffic issues.

Attached is our online petition for these requests. Due to social distancing, it didn't seem respectful to go door to door collecting signatures, so I hope this will be an accepted form. This also includes signatures from other area residents who use Eastern Ave as pedestrians.

I greatly appreciate your time and consideration. Thank you!

Sincerely,



Heather Servant
73 Eastern Ave
Keene NH 03431

(www.change.org/easternave)

Signatures Name Location Date

Heather Lynn Keene, NH 2020-09-07
matt williams Keene, NH 2020-09-07
Alexa Plewa Keene, NH 2020-09-12
Katy Luscombe Keene, NH 2020-09-12
Samantha Jacobs Keene, NH 2020-09-12
Christine Colby Keene, NH 2020-09-13
Faith Willette Keene, NH 2020-09-13
Amanda Bridges Stoddard, NH 2020-09-13
Shasta Schafer Stoddard, NH 2020-09-13
erin foster keene, NH 2020-09-13
Gail Connor Rindge, NH 2020-09-13
Tiffany Hardy Keene, NH 2020-09-13
Kathu Tracy Zachary, LA 2020-09-13
Shana Davis Keene, NH 2020-09-13
Jess Smith Westmoreland, NH 2020-09-13
Jessica White Keene, NH 2020-09-13
Eileen Perra Keene, NH 2020-09-13
Terri Herzog US 2020-09-13
Lisa Raymond Keene, NH 2020-09-13
Donna Keller Gilsum, NH 2020-09-13
Barbara Beaton Keene, NH 2020-09-13
Shannon LaFave Keene, NH 2020-09-13

Jaklynn White Rindge, NH 2020-09-13
Misty MartinezBohannon Keene, NH 2020-09-13
Nancy Bernier Keene, NH 2020-09-13
Henry Morell Keene, NH 2020-09-13
Denise Sault Keene, NH 2020-09-13
Julia Pineo Keene, NH 2020-09-13
Wendy Foster Keene, NH 2020-09-13
Lindsay Byrne Keene, NH 2020-09-13
Carol Paris Keene, NH 2020-09-13
Kathleen Koster Greenville, NH 2020-09-13
Elaine Helems Rindge, NH 2020-09-13
Melissa Fitts Yarmouth, ME 2020-09-13
Gerri Rubin Keene, NH 2020-09-13
Barb Williams Richmond, NH 2020-09-13
Stephanie Fullmer Keene, NH 2020-09-14
Erika Bardwell Keene, NH 2020-09-14
Miranda Hall Keene, NH 2020-09-15
Doug Harris Keene, NH 2020-09-15
Paul Croteau Keene, NH 2020-09-16
Maurice Marcotte Keene, NH 2020-09-16
Andrew Plewa Keene, NH 2020-09-16
Christina Webster Guyton, GA 2020-09-16
Hannah Roy Keene, NH 2020-09-16
Brittany Robles Keene, NH 2020-09-16
Diana Elfreich Swanzey, NH 2020-09-16
Andrea Burgoyne Keene, NH 2020-09-16
Elizabeth Barcomb Guyton, GA 2020-09-16
Alysia Lemelin Rochester, NH 2020-09-16
Joseph Thomas Keene, NH 2020-09-16
phyllis beauvais rindge, NH 2020-09-16
Alison Keay Exeter, NH 2020-09-16
Jennifer Beaudry Keene, NH 2020-09-16
Natasha Eleftheriou Manchester, NH 2020-09-16
Shaun hill Troy, NH 2020-09-16
Helen Jennings Ramsgate, UK 2020-09-16
Gregg Swift Keene, NH 2020-09-16
Michael Secore Keene, NH 2020-09-17
Lindsey Hildreth Winchester, NH 2020-09-17
Steve deschenes Swanzey, NH 2020-09-17
Bethany Witten Alstead, NH 2020-09-17

caitlin evans Keene, NH 2020-09-17
Elenor Helstein Peterborough, US 2020-09-17
Colleen Brophy Keene, NH 2020-09-17
Tammy Whiting Marlborough, NH 2020-09-17
Kristy Carey Dublin, PA 2020-09-17
Kelly Fontaine US 2020-09-17
Marla Evans Bronx, NY 2020-09-17
Becky Bashaw Charlestown, NH 2020-09-17
Meg O'Neil Jaffrey, NH 2020-09-17
David Swift Acworth, NH 2020-09-17
Amy Lehr Keene, NH 2020-09-17
Zach Middleton Kansas City, MO 2020-09-17
jaime henry Marlborough, NH 2020-09-17
Elizabeth Hamshaw Stowe, VT 2020-09-17
Taylor Roberts Brattleboro, VT 2020-09-17
Doug Hamshaw Keene, NH 2020-09-17
Edna LeClair Swanzey, NH 2020-09-18
Becky Sayan Jaffrey, NH 2020-09-18
Norman Thomas Springfield, MA 2020-09-18
Elizabeth Eleftheriou Concord, NH 2020-09-18
Cynthia Fisk West Springfield, MA 2020-09-18
William Eleftheriou Nashville, TN 2020-09-18
Elliott Glick Plummer, ID 2020-09-18
Giovanni Marino Providence, RI 2020-09-18
Mary Thomas New York, NY 2020-09-19
Delaney Oja Marlborough, NH 2020-09-20
David Luscombe Keene, NH 2020-09-20
Matthew Beauvais Keene, NH 2020-09-20



CITY OF KEENE

R-2020-38

Twenty

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and

A RESOLUTION Relating to the Complete Discontinuance of a Portion
of the Commercial Street Parking Area

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Keene, as follows:

That the Keene City Council is of the opinion that there is no further need to use a portion of the Commercial Street Parking Area for the accommodation of the public and that there is occasion for the complete discontinuance of said portion of the Commercial Street Parking Area, as described in the attached Description of Complete Discontinuance, subject to the following conditions:

1. All affected property owners associated and in connection with the discontinuance agree to the discontinuance and waive their rights to any damages and sign an agreement to such; and
2. That petitioners indemnify and defend the City of Keene from any claims or damages arising from said discontinuances; and
3. All documentation is in a content and form acceptable to the City Attorney, City Engineer, and Planning Director; and
4. All expenses, including any damages associated and in connection with the discontinuance, shall be borne by the petitioner.

In City Council October 1, 2020.
 Referred to the Municipal Services,
 Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.
 Site Visit set for November 5, 2020 at 5:15 PM.
 Public Hearing set for November 5, 2020 at 7:10 PM.

 Mayor George S. Hansel

William J. Egan
 Deputy City Clerk