



City of Rochester, New Hampshire

CITY COUNCIL

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

31 Wakefield Street • Rochester, NH 03867

(603) 332-1167

www.RochesterNH.net

July 9, 2014

TO: Public Safety Committee

REGARDING: Public Safety Committee Meeting

There will be a Public Safety Committee meeting on **July 16, 2014** at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

AGENDA

1. Public Input
2. Cemetery Road – speed limit sign
3. Upham/May/Columbus and Granite/Myrtle/Charles – intersection improvement
4. “Deer Crossing” signage – Ten Rod Road
5. DOT response to Pickering Road request
6. New or revised lighting at the intersection of cross road and Milton Road
7. Other

Enclosures

cc: Mayor and City Council
Chief Michael Allen
Deputy Chief Scott Dumas
Mr. Peter Nourse
Ms. Gretchen Young
Ms. Laura Miller
Ms. Lisa Clark

From: Gretchen Young
Sent: Wednesday, July 02, 2014 4:07 PM
To: Samantha Rodgerson
Subject: FW: Public Safety Committee Agenda Item
Attachments: Scanned from Topsham Civil Xerox copier001.pdf; May Upham.pdf

Hi Samantha - could you add this to the Public Safety agenda?

Could you also make sure that the attachments are distributed to the members prior to the meeting.

Thanks!!

-----Original Message-----

From: Michael Bezanson
Sent: Wednesday, July 02, 2014 4:05 PM
To: Gretchen Young
Subject: Public Safety Committee Agenda Item

Gretchen,

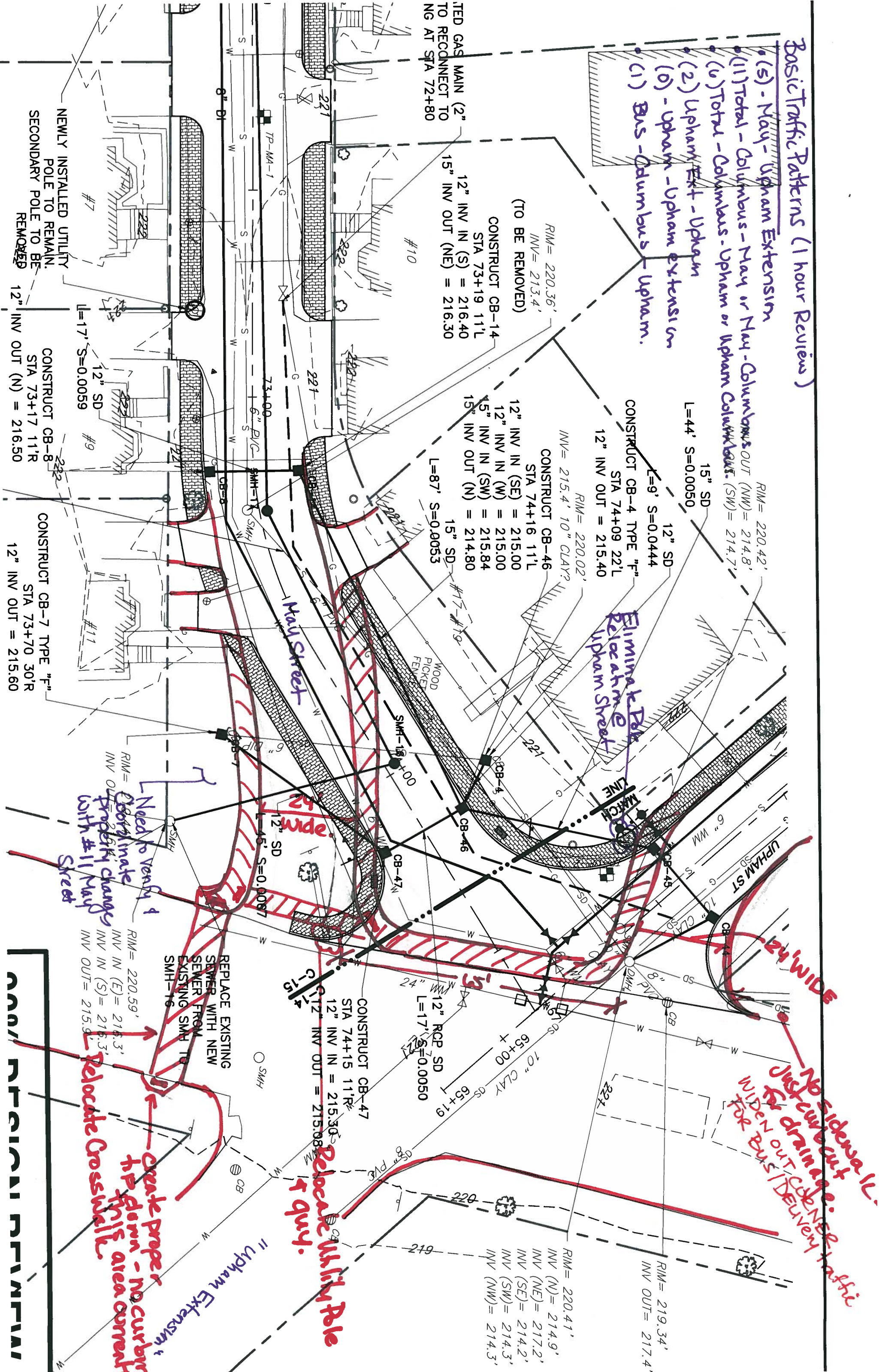
As discussed, attached are the initial sketches on how we can improve the intersections at Upham/May/Columbus and Granite/Myrtle/Charles. Wright-Pierce will be sending us CAD drawings to review next week. Can you please request that we be added to the agenda for the next Public Safety meeting (7/16)? Thank you.

Michael S. Bezanson, PE
City Engineer
City of Rochester
Department of Public Works
45 Old Dover Road
Rochester, NH 03867-3445

phone: 603.332.4096
fax: 603.335.4352
email: michael.bezanson@rochesternh.net

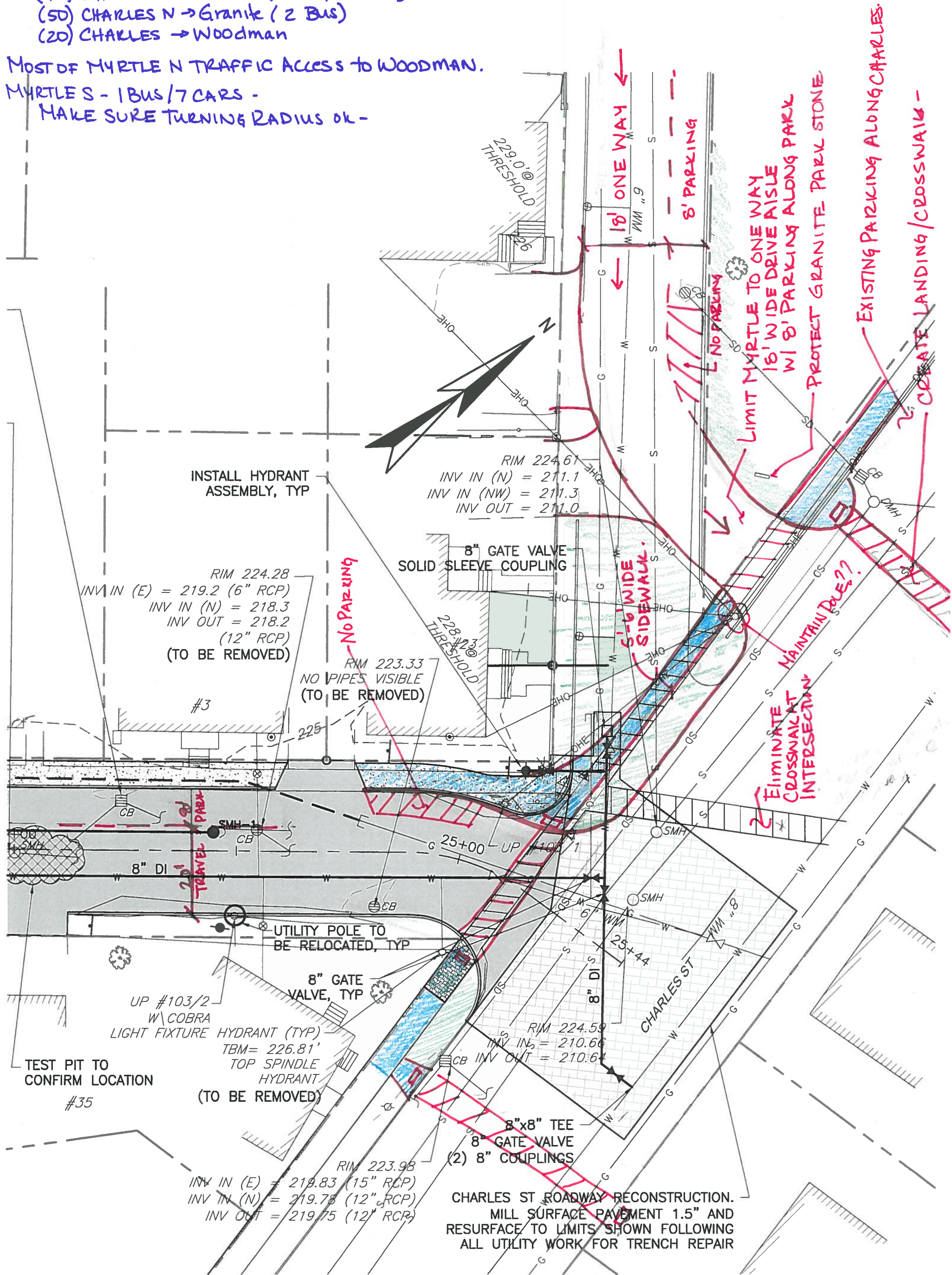
Basic Traffic Patterns (1 hour Review)

- (5) - May - Upham Extension
- (11) Total - Columbus - May or May - Columbus
- (6) Total - Columbus - Upham or Upham - Columbus
- (2) Upham Ext - Upham
- (6) - Upham - Upham Extension
- (1) Bus - Columbus - Upham.



TRAFFIC REVIEW (AM PEAK)

- MAJORITY OF TRAFFIC FROM CHARLES → GRANITE OR WOODMAN
 (95) CHARLES S → Granite (2 BUS/1 TRUCK)
 (50) CHARLES N → Granite (2 BUS)
 (20) CHARLES → Woodman
- MOST OF MYRTLE N TRAFFIC ACCESS TO WOODMAN.
- MYRTLE S - 1 BUS/7 CARS -
 MAKE SURE TURNING RADIUS OK -





THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

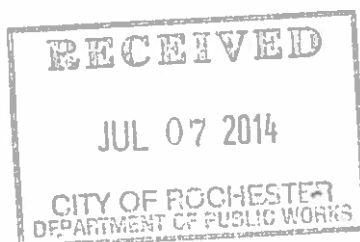


CHRISTOPHER D. CLEMENT, SR.
COMMISSIONER

JEFF BRILLHART, P.E.
ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

July 2, 2014

Gretchen Young, PE
Director of Public Works
City of Rochester
45 Old Dover Road
Rochester, NH 03867



Re: Pickering Road, request to reduce speed limit

Dear Ms. Young:

I was able to review the speed limits along Pickering Road with regard to your request to reduce the speed limit to 35 mph from Railroad Avenue to the Dover line.

By statute, establishing state speed zones (other than those describe in the Basic Speed Law (RSA 265:60)) requires that an engineering and traffic investigation be performed, which must include a speed study. I have not requested formal speed studies along this area, but suspect that they would demonstrate that the prevailing speed for Pickering Road within the state maintained limits would be considerably higher than the 35 mph speed limit recommended by the city. This is based on an informal study conducted by driving the corridor and on experience having performed speed studies on similar corridors throughout the state.

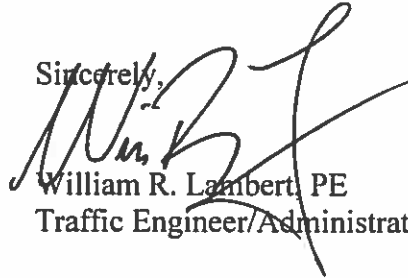
Based on a cursory review of the conditions, I cannot support reducing the speed limit as requested. I found the subject length of Pickering Road to be comfortable at 40 mph. We have been collecting data throughout the state that reducing, or even increasing, posted speed limits rarely has an effect on the actual operating speeds of traffic on a particular road.

If the city can provide speed data that supports a reduced speed limit, I would be happy to consider that data, along with other features of this corridor, in a more comprehensive speed limit evaluation. In addition to the speed data, I would ask that any crash records be provided as that is also information considered in evaluating speed limits. Please understand that if the data indicates that the current prevailing speed (namely the 85th percentile) exceeds the posted speed, the appropriate measure would be to increase the posted speed limit to match the measured 85th percentile speed.

Lastly, I would be remiss if I did not note that Pickering Road serves primarily as a local arterial with limited value as a regional highway route. Should the city wish to assume year round maintenance responsibility for this road, you would have much broader authority for regulating it. The Department would certainly support such a request.

Should you have any additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



William R. Lambert, PE
Traffic Engineer/Administrator

cc: B. Janelle, Dir. of Operations
D. DePorter, District 6 Engineer
Track It # 2346

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