



Yovani Baez-Rose
Assistant City Manager/DPD Director

Camilo Espitia
Deputy Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Thomas A. Golden, Jr., City Manager 

FROM: Yovani Baez-Rose, Assistant City Manager/DPD Director

CC: Elizabeth Oltman, PE, Transportation Engineer

SUBJECT: MOTION RESPONSE: 5/30/2023 - Councilor Robinson – Request City Manager Have The Traffic Engineer Provide A Detailed Report On Potential Traffic Calming Measures At The Intersection Of Coburn And West 6th Streets; Including The Potential Implementation Of LED Stop Signs

The City Transportation Engineer conducted an evaluation of the intersection of West 6th Street and Coburn Street. The intersection currently operates with all-way stop control. City Staff obtained the crash data for the intersection of West 6th Street and Coburn Street for January 2018 through July 2023 as recorded within the MassDOT IMPACT Portal. We recognize that the most recent crash at the intersection has not been recorded. The following outlines the crash data:

Parameter		West 6 th Street /Coburn Street
Crash Year	2018	1
	2019	3
	2020	1
	2021	4
	2022	1
	Total	10
Crash Type	Angle	2
	Rear-End	2
	Sideswipe	2
	Single Vehicle	3
	Head-On	1
	Total	10
Crash Severity	Property Damage Only	8
	Non-Fatal Injury	2
	Total	10

The intersection of West 6th Street and Coburn Street experienced 10 crashes over the 5-year study period, an average of approximately 2 crashes per year. Two crashes involved a bicyclist. This intersection is not identified as a high crash location by NMCOG in the current 2018-2020 HSIP-eligibility period.

During the field visit, several vehicles on each approach were observed performing a “rolling stop” at the stop sign at the intersection. Non-compliance with the traffic control can indicate that the all-way stop condition is not fully warranted for vehicular traffic volumes and was installed primarily as a traffic calming measure. The Transportation Engineer does not recommend changing the traffic control at the intersection.

“Flashing” stop signs, or stop signs with LED flashing borders are not desirable adjacent to residences as they are bright and flash constantly all night. They are more appropriate in industrial or commercial areas.

Several items that can be immediately addressed that may aid in the effectiveness of the existing all-way stop control include:

- The stop bars and crosswalks will be repainted within the summer 2023 crosswalk painting contract.
- The Stop sign on the westbound (from Bridge Street) approach of West 6th Street will be removed from the utility pole and placed on a separate post at the back of curb to increase visibility.
- “STOP” pavement markings will be placed on all approaches to increase awareness of the all-way stop control.

In the short term, enforcement by LPD may help ensure vehicles comply with the all-way stop condition.

EMO