



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: 4/15/2025 – Councilor Gitschier – Request City Manager have the Transportation Engineer look into traffic mitigation strategies for Starbird Street

The Transportation Engineer reviewed the concerns expressed by residents during the April 15, 2025 City Council meeting. Drivers using Woodward Avenue and Starbird Street as a cut-through route to bypass the intersection of Mammoth Road / Varnum Avenue is documented in traffic volume counts conducted by the Transportation Department in 2021. Restricting the right turn movement from Varnum Avenue onto Starbird Street during the morning and evening peak school drop-off and pick-up periods may help reduce cut through traffic and conflicts with school buses. However, the intersection of Starbird Street with Varnum Avenue is under MassDOT jurisdiction and any traffic control change requires their approval. A request has been sent to MassDOT District 4 to consider a right turn restriction between 7:30 and 9:30 AM and between 2:30 and 4:30 PM. Should a formal letter from the governing body be required, the Transportation Engineer will provide a letter for Council approval.

This summer, speed humps are planned for installation on Woodward Avenue. This may help discourage some drivers from using this cut through as well as reducing traffic speeds. Additional traffic calming efforts will be reviewed for Starbird Street.