

TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Arlington Planning Department, 730 Mass Ave, Arlington MA, c/o Laura Wiener

To: Board of Selectmen, Arlington, MA From: Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Subject: Traffic Calming on Brunswick Road

Date: November 21, 2011

The Board of Selectmen requested the TAC to respond to a resident's request to provide traffic calming measures to address speeding on Brunswick Road. Brunswick Road, which is a private street, has the following characteristics:

- One-way from Hillsdale Road to Pleasant Street (west to east)
- Located west of Pleasant Street close to, and parallel with, Route 2
- Has STOP control at Pleasant Street
- Has an overall downgrade from Hillsdale Road to Pleasant Street of almost 6 percent.
- Has an approximately 460-foot section of the roadway (60 percent of its length) with a downgrade of about 8 to 8.5 percent (based on GIS data)
- Is generally 24 feet wide but appears to be a few feet narrower midway down the hill
- Has a gentle s-curve
- Has parking on both sides of the street

Count and speed data were not available and could not be collected at this time because of utility work on the road.

Recommendation

Because Brunswick Road is a private street, the town cannot install any traffic calming devices. Therefore, the Town can only make the following comments regarding traffic calming measures for the residents of the street to consider.

- The downgrade is more than generally considered acceptable for the placement of vertical speed control measures such as speed humps and speed tables.
- The gradual s-curve and width of the street make it likely there are no suitable locations for horizontal control measures such as neck downs, chicanes or bulb outs.

A concern was expressed for pedestrians, particularly children in the area. There are partial sidewalks on the south side of the street, but no continuous sidewalks. It would be advantageous to complete the unfinished sidewalk sections and install curbing.

Respectfully submitted,

Howard Muise, Working Group Lead and TAC Co-Chair