To: Chief Glenn M. O’Reilly

Date: April 6, 2021

Subject: Speed Survey/Traffic Concerns on Washington Place

On Thursday, March 11, 2021, the Traffic Bureau was asked to conduct a speed survey on Washington Place. This request was prompted by a resident's email that claimed that there was a speeding problem and that vehicles were traveling the wrong way on a one-way street.

The resident stated in an email, “*Good evening, I am writing on behalf of myself and some neighbors regarding a severe concern on our street.  I live on Washington Place right off of Teaneck Rd and it starts off as a one-way street.  I love this neighbor because there are many young children and they love to play outside, ride their bikes etc. but drivers turn off of Teaneck Rd. and speed down the block making it incredibly dangerous for children to play.  We are urging the town to install speed bumps for the safety of our children.  As I understand it, this is not the first time this issue has been raised in Teaneck, which is disheartening because it just means that as serious as it has been for many years, the same concern continues to exist.  I raised this concern on Facebook and the stories shared by a mother, of her own as well as another child being hit by a car outside of their neighborhood was heartbreaking.  These children survived but what about the ones that didn’t survive? Or the ones that won’t in the future?  Drivers turn off of Teaneck Rd. on to Washington place and speed through not even considering that it is residential, a narrow street, and more importantly that there are children playing.  Just this afternoon a driver was speeding up Washington pl. driving the wrong direction up the one-way street. I grew up in Teaneck, but I moved to Washington Place only about a year ago.  My hope is that this matter will be taken seriously and thoroughly considered for the sake of our children.  Due to the pandemic of course, most children are home all day so their recess is not at the school playground, it is outside in front of their homes when they have a small break. We are approaching spring and summer with better weather and more free time, please make it safer for them. I look forward to an update/follow up regarding this very urgent matter”.*

A site survey determined that Washington Place is a 25 mile per hour one-way roadway that runs eastbound from Teaneck Road to Crescent Avenue. It then becomes a 25 mile per hour roadway that runs east and west between Crescent Avenue and the Englewood border. It is a residential neighborhood that typically sees a medium volume of vehicular traffic. Parking is allowed on both sides of the roadway, leaving the required space for vehicular traffic to travel safely.

On Tuesday, March 16, 2021, PO William Brittingham placed the Speed Sentry traffic analyzer in front of 163 Washington Place, to collect data from vehicles traveling eastbound towards Englewood. The analyzer was left in that location for 18 days. Due to several battery changes, a total of twelve analyzed days were recorded.

The results of the covert eastbound study, which spanned from 3/16/21 through 4/2/21, indicated that the average speed of vehicles detected was 19.7 MPH. Throughout the study, 5,737 vehicles were detected by the traffic analyzer, an average volume of 478 vehicles per day heading eastbound. The 85th percentile speed was recorded at 26 MPH. Of the 5,737 vehicles detected, 53 were exceeding the speed limit at speeds between 11 MPH and 19 MPH. 2 vehicles detected were exceeding the speed limit at speeds at or above 45 MPH.

After reviewing the data obtained by the traffic study, it does not appear that there is an excessive speeding problem on Washington Place. The average speed limit was revealed to be 19.7 MPH and the 85th percentile speed was 26 MPH. I believe that there are vehicles observed exceeding the speed limit at times, but that it is not a constant problem. The Traffic Bureau will place the radar trailer at several different locations on Washington Place, to educate motorists of the posted speed and their current speed. As a follow-up, we will conduct radar enforcement to ensure adherence to the posted speed limit. As for the request to install speed humps, it is recommended that the Township continue to adhere to its M.U.T.C.D. guided position of eliminating the use of speed humps unconditionally. To address the claim of wrong-way drivers, Sgt. Quinn did a site survey of the intersection of Washington Place and Crescent Avenue. He determined that the current “One Way Do Not Enter” signage was adequate and in good condition. The violators are most likely occasional inattentive drivers that fail to observe the signage. The Traffic Bureau will continue to monitor this area for any current and future problems that may arise.

If you require any further information or clarification, please let me know.

Respectfully submitted,

Lt. Douglas Alcott

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Traffic Bureau Commander