



# Teaneck Police Department

## Inter-Office Communication



To: Chief Glenn M. O'Reilly

Date: September 25, 2018

Subject: Larch Avenue Speeding

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On Wednesday, September 12, 2018, Lieutenant Christopher Kurschner forwarded a speeding complaint he received via Facebook. The complainant, Philip Moell, complained about speeding on Larch Avenue in the area of Terhune Street. Mr. Moell wrote that he had observed a D&M school bus speeding every morning at 8:35 AM. Mr. Moell provided a picture of the bus and what appeared to be a handheld radar gun style device.

In response to the complaint, we conducted a site study, reviewed the speed and volume study we had just completed, and conducted observation and enforcement.

This section of Larch Avenue is a 25 MPH residential street that serves as a cut through between Main Street in Bogota and Cedar Lane in Teaneck. Intersecting streets are controlled by stop signs, giving Larch Avenue traffic the right of way

On Friday, August 17, 2018 around 11:00 am, Officer William Brittingham placed the Speed Sentry traffic analyzer on Larch Avenue north of Terhune Street. The analyzer was positioned to detect vehicles traveling northbound. The traffic analyzer was retrieved by Officer Brittingham approximately one week later.

The results of the covert study which spanned from August 17, 2018 through August 23, 2018 indicated that the average speed of vehicles detected was 17 MPH. Over the seven days of the study 3,393 vehicles were detected by the traffic analyzer, an average volume of 485 vehicles per day. The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed was recorded at 22 MPH. Only 1 of the 3,933 vehicles detected was exceeding the 25 MPH speed by 11 MPH to 15 MPH or between 36 MPH and 40 MPH, at the top speed detected of 40 MPH.

The Traffic Bureau conducted enforcement on six school days between September 14, 2018 and September 21, 2018. Officer Rucker observed the D&M school bus on four instances at speeds of 26 MPH, 34 MPH, 42 MPH and 26 MPH respectively. Officer Rucker stopped the bus driver and issued a warning for speeding. In addition to the school bus driver, nine summonses and nine warnings were issued to drivers for violations including speeding.

Based on the investigation conducted, the Traffic Bureau will continue to conduct periodic monitoring and enforcement in this area. When available, the Traffic Bureau will place a speed display device on Larch Avenue for approximately one week.

If you require any further information, please advise.

Respectfully submitted,

Lieutenant Tanya Balser  
Lieutenant Tanya Balser  
Traffic Bureau Commander