

Members of the Select Board,

We are here to present a community-driven proposal to improve safety along Quaker Ridge Road—one of Casco's most iconic and cherished corridors. The views from Hacker's Hill are part of this town's identity. But for many residents, the experience of traveling to or along Quaker Ridge—whether by car, on foot, or by bike—does not feel safe.

This project originated directly from the community, and what we are presenting today is a reflection of local voices.

What We Are Asking Of You

We respectfully request that the Select Board:

1. Review and approve the proposal as submitted
 2. Commit to a Spring/Summer 2026 rollout of the changes
 3. Allow the Safe Streets Committee to work with the Road Commissioner, Public Works, and other town staff to determine the next steps in the process i.e. developing a proposed budget, working with DOT to start their review process for speed limit reduction, starting the public notification process
 4. Continue to stay engaged in the process and support our work to reimagine Quaker Ridge Road
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Background: A Community-Identified Need

The Ad Hoc Committee's early survey and feedback sessions made this abundantly clear: people love this road, but they fear using it.

The first idea was focused narrowly on improving the Brown/Libby/New/Quaker Ridge intersection—an area repeatedly identified as particularly risky for drivers, walkers, and cyclists. But the more the committee listened, the more the community emphasized that the safety issues extended beyond that single location.

A Thorough, Iterative Process Involving Residents

We want to highlight the depth of public participation that shaped this proposal:

- The committee conducted multiple working sessions, including a full on-site walk of the intersection and a drive of the entire nearly 5-mile stretch to inventory existing conditions.
- Members also completed a detailed, "virtual walk" to generate safety recommendations point-by-point along the corridor.
- From that work, we developed an initial set of priority improvements and assembled a draft vision map.

But the most important step was the community feedback event held on September 17 at the South Casco Fire Station—a location chosen deliberately because residents in this area are the daily users of Quaker Ridge Road.

To ensure strong turnout, committee members went door-to-door inviting neighbors. The response was exceptional. Attendees reviewed our full proposal, provided comments using the now-familiar red and green dot system, and added dozens of thoughtful notes.

The result? Overwhelmingly positive support.

LELT attended and expressed full support for all recommendations near their lands, and they have offered to be active partners as the project moves forward.

This proposal is truly a product of local collaboration.

What We Are Proposing

Our vision is simple, cost-effective, and immediately achievable:

1. Moderate Speed Reductions:

- Reduce 35 mph zones to 25 mph.
- Reduce 45 mph zones to 35 mph.

These changes align the road's posted limits with the character of the corridor and significantly improve safety for all users. We understand this involves DOT permission and collaboration and are ready for that! We will work with the Road Commissioner to make the connections, have the discussions, and help move this forward.

2. Strategic Signage Improvements:

- "Give 3 Feet" reminders for safe passing.
- "Scenic Area Ahead" notices near viewing points.
- "Trail Crossing" alerts near recreational access points.

These signs are inexpensive but proven to increase driver awareness. (Refer to sign index)

3. Intersection Safety Enhancements:

- Add stop signs on Quaker Ridge Road at the Brown/Libby/New intersection—creating a safer environment for crossing, turning, and non-motorized users.

We understand the need for public notification and transparency, specifically regarding this change and will work with the Road Commissioner and other town officials to ensure proper notice!

4. Paint and Pavement Markings:

- A targeted approach using fresh paint and clearer delineation to guide drivers and protect pedestrians/cyclists.(refer to index of road paintings)

This is a "small-tools" project—signs, paint, and relatively simple installation. No major contracts. No heavy equipment. No lengthy procurement. And yet the community benefit would be substantial.

Why This Matters Now

Casco has many road needs—structural, long-term, and costly. But that's exactly why this project stands out:

- It is fast to implement.
- It is affordable.
- And it responds directly to what residents have asked for.

Improving Quaker Ridge Road is a chance to deliver visible, meaningful progress for the community while larger-scale road projects continue through their necessary planning cycles.

Again, What We Are Asking Of You

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Closing

The roads we share are part of our way of life. Quaker Ridge Road, with its views, its history, and its daily use, deserves to be safe for everyone.

This proposal is a chance to act quickly, affordably, and in partnership with the people who know this road best—your residents.

Index of suggested signs and paint

Summary of signs

List inventory of type and qty of the different signs along the route.

Signs

- 2 Stop signs
 - Placed on Quaker ridge at the intersection of Libby - Brown
- 4 - 3 Feet, It's the law
 - northbound near the 302 entrance
 - Southbound after RT 11 intersection
 - After Libby - Brown intersection, northbound and southbound
- 2 trail crossing signs
 - Placed northbound and southbound 100 ft before Rolf hill parking lot
- 2 Scenic view ahead
 - Placed 50ft before hackers hill entrance Northbound
 - Placed half way up the incline southbound
- 6 35mph speed limit signs
 - Replacing 45mph signs
- 4 25mph speed limit
 - Replacing 35mph signs
- New traffic pattern ahead signs (or 4-way stop ahead)
 - Placed at the approach of the Brown Ave/Libby Road intersection

Paint

List locations where we want things painted (stop bars, cross walk/trail crossing) etc.

11 total stop bars:

- (1) Stop sign at Quaker Ridge - 302 intersection
- (4) At each stop sign at the 4 way of Quaker Ridge - South Casco Village
- (5) At each stop sign at Brown Ave - New Rd - Libby Rd - Quaker Ridge
- (1) Stop sign at Quaker Ridge - RT 11

2 total crosswalks:

- (1) Connecting Brown Ave and Libby RD
- (1) In front on Rolfe Hill property connecting parking lot to trail across Quaker Ridge