



North Topsail Beach Public Works Department

3315 Gray Street

North Topsail Beach, NC 28460

STAFF REPORT

Background

The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) are the authority for all of the roadways and highways in the State of North Carolina. The implementation and installation of all traffic control measures (signing, striping, signals and lighting) are also included under the authority and jurisdiction of NCDOT.

Recent concerns have been expressed to Town Hall Staff (Town Administration and Fire) for pedestrian safety for the current crosswalk at **790 New River Inlet Road**. This crosswalk together with the four-(4) other existing crosswalk locations were studied and authorized for installation by NCDOT.

In addition to this request, another recent request was sent to NCDOT by Onslow County Parks and Recreation Department. This request was for NCDOT support for the installation of lighted pedestrian devices at the existing crosswalk for **Beach Access #2** located at **2950 Island Drive**. That request was responded to by NCDOT Staff and is referenced as part of the concern previously mentioned to Town Hall Staff. That effort resulted in an estimate for "materials-only" for the crosswalk to have locations by adding lighted signs and advance warning signs.

Analysis

There are five(5) existing crosswalk locations. They are:

- 790 New River Inlet Road
- 465 New River Inlet Road
- 272 New River Inlet Road
- 4021 Island Drive
- 3632 Island Drive.

Town Administration direction to Staff has been to engage appropriate NCDOT Staff for both their technical and operational expertise. Another consideration for NCDOT's involvement is the possibility of State Funding for these devices. This was done via a TEAMS meeting held on Tuesday, November 14th, 2023 (see attached Discussion Agenda). As part of that discussion, Town Staff requested copies of NCDOT's technical and administrative documents for those existing crosswalk locations.



The request then led to Town Staff also asking NCDOT for consideration to conduct additional Pedestrian Safety studies for their respective corridors (i.e., Hwy. 210 AKA Island Drive and New River Inlet Road). NCDOT Staff agreed to compile and send over to Town Hall whatever documentation they still possess. Once that has been received and reviewed by Town Staff, a follow-up meeting would be conducted to review future direction of other potential locations as well as the options for enhancements to the existing crosswalk locations. Additionally, in the future NCDOT Staff have committed to attending a Town Board meeting to assist Town Staff in reporting this matter.

RECOMMENDATION

Receive and file status report and await further updates from Town Staff after receipt of NCDOT reports and recommendations.

Attachments

Email communication – Onslow County and NCDOT

Discussion Agenda - Town Staff and NCDOT