



Office of the Town Manager
Frank Cassidy

Warrenton Town Council
Carter Nevill, Mayor
Heather Sutphin, Ward 1
William Semple, Ward 2
Brett Hamby, Ward 3
James Hartman, Ward 4 Vice Mayor
Eric Gagnon, Ward 5
Paul Mooney, At Large
David McGuire, At Large

STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date:	March 12 th , 2024
Agenda Title:	Courthouse Square Traffic Pattern Update
Requested Action:	Receive the information.
Department / Agency Lead:	Town Manager
Staff Lead:	Frank Cassidy, Town Manager

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Throughout 2023, staff has been addressing pedestrian and vehicle traffic concerns at the Intersection of Main St., Waterloo, Alexandria Pike, and Winchester. This intersection is known as “Courthouse Square.” This is a complicated intersection with several conflict points which create many opportunities of concern especially focused on pedestrian and vehicle safety.

Over the last several months, staff have been exploring options at this intersection to address these issues. One temporary traffic pattern was implemented the week of January 9, 2024. Staff assessed the traffic flow and reviewed all of the input they received from other agencies, emails, phone calls, and social media posts. Based on their assessment, we have decided to conduct another traffic pattern assessment. This will have a three-way stop sign configuration at this intersection. We will assess and provide additional information to the Council.

BACKGROUND

An ongoing initiative to address pedestrian and vehicle traffic safety at the intersection known as “Courthouse Square” has been being worked on since mid-2023. This has involved consulting with traffic engineers, assessments of the conflict points at the intersection, historical research of the design of the intersection, and the review of several previous third-party assessments of this intersection.

After discussion, staff implemented a temporary traffic pattern that eliminated all left turns at the intersection. This was set up on January 9, 2023, and ran until Friday, January 12, 2023. Staff assessed the intersection during the setup and requested input from a variety of sources for public input. After compiling their observations and input, a report was produced, and it was decided a second temporary traffic pattern was warranted. This will involve a three-way stop sign approach. This requires the tailoring of the lanes to one lane at the intersection and implementing the three-way stop signs. This is planned for the week of March 18, 2024. Staff will assess the traffic, receive input, monitor, and then produce a report. Staff will provide another report once completed and provide suggestions for the next steps.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Receive the information provided. I encourage all constructive feedback.

Service Level/Collaborative Impact

This is a large-scale collaborative effort involving multiple internal departments as well as external stakeholders including: The Town Project Manager, The Town Traffic Task Force Team, Town Police, VDOT, Fauquier County Public Schools, Fauquier County Departments, Warrenton Volunteer Fire Department, and all other affected agencies.

Policy Direction/Warrenton Plan 2040

Transportation and Circulation Goals:

T-1: Improve multi-modal capacity and safety that encourage trips by walking, bicycling, and transit.

T-2: Enhance the traveling experience by creating great streets.

T-3: Promote livability in the Town by creating great places where residents and visitors feel welcome and safe.

T-4: Provide an equitable and connected multi-modal network

Fiscal Impact

No additional fiscal impact is expected at this time.

Legal Impact

No additional Legal impact is expected at this time.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Courthouse Square Traffic Study Report March 2024
2. Main St. Proposed Three-way stop sign concept.