

## Engineering Division of the Public Works Department

To: Chairperson Davis

From: Nathan R. Williams, Civil Engineer I

Date: July 30, 2026

Subject: Public Safety and Welfare Meeting of August 5, 2026

Review and take possible action: Oakwood Lane Traffic Study

### Background

Concerns were received regarding speed and signage on Oakwood Lane from area residents. The section of Oakwood Lane under consideration is between Milford Street and Deer Trail. Currently, Oakwood Lane operates as the through street and local collector in this segment and has a speed limit of 25 miles per hour. Engineering understands the requests to be as follows:

- Consider reducing the posted speed limit on Oakwood Lane
- Consider stop sign installation along the corridor

Bittersweet Lane stops for Oakwood Lane at a T-intersection, and Cobblestone Way stops for Oakwood Lane at a four-way intersection. There is an all-way stop at the intersection of Oakwood Lane and Deer Trail.

Under Wisconsin law and accepted traffic engineering practice, changes to posted speed limits and stop control should be supported by engineering studies. Requests to modify a speed limit are evaluated in accordance with the WisDOT Traffic Guidelines Manual, while requests to install or modify stop signs are evaluated using the criteria established in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). If the Committee wishes to pursue either request, it may direct staff to complete the appropriate engineering study and return with findings and recommendations for future Committee consideration.

### Budget Goal

1. Create a community where all can feel safe and strive for economic success.
4. Involve those who are impacted before making decisions.

## Financial Impact

A speed study could be performed by seasonal Engineering Division staff and take approximately 16 hours. Equipment would be provided by the Police Department.

A stop sign study could be performed by seasonal Engineering Division staff and take approximately 8-12 hours. Existing equipment would be used.

## Recommendation

A speed study could be performed along this street, and if the Committee would like to pursue this option, data collection would need to wait until this winter or next summer to align with seasonal staff availability. A speed study would follow applicable guidelines, and result in a recommendation for a speed limit based on collected vehicle speeds. Typically, a speed study is used to align a road's speed limit with its characteristics & collected user speed data.

A stop sign study could be performed at Oakwood Lane and Cobblestone Way. If the Committee would like to pursue this option, data collection would need to wait until this winter or next summer to align with seasonal staff availability. This study would determine if the intersection could be switched to an all-way stop, or if the stop direction could be switched to have Oakwood Lane stop for Cobblestone Way. Per MUTCD, adding a stop sign is not considered an effective means of slowing down traffic, and placement is determined based on intersection geometry and traffic load.

Attachments:

- Site Map