



**STAFF REPORT**

AGENDA ITEM #: 16-119  
 DPW STAFF REPORT #: 16-012  
 COUNCIL MTG OF: September 6, 2016  
 FROM: Highway Safety Committee  
 OFFERED BY: Scott Savard, Highway Safety Chair  
 PREPARED BY: Sharon Jensen, Highway Safety Recording Clerk  
 SUBJECT: Road Striping – Collector Roads with Fog Lines

**PURPOSE**

The Highway Safety Committee is seeking the Town Council’s approval to stripe collector roads with fog lines.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS**

I concur with the recommendation of the Highway Safety Committee and suggest that if the Council elects to implement this change, that it also adopt a policy regarding the application of all highway markings that sets out where, when and of what delineations and materials such markings will be applied. With a policy in hand, the Administration will have a guideline by which to budget and perform from year to year. In addition, the Town will be shielded from liabilities that may arise from claims that argue that the Town should or shouldn’t have set out markings in certain ways and locations.

**BACKGROUND**

At the June 2016 Highway Safety Committee meeting, a resident of Pingree Hill Rd in Derry requested that fog lines be painted on secondary roads leaving out historical roads. The Highway Safety Committee discussed the request at the June 2016, July 2016 and August 2016 meetings. The Highway Safety Committee expanded the discussion to consider all collector roads for both centerline and edge line pavement markings. After reviewing, the adjacent list of roadways was developed.

**DISCUSSION**

Centerline and edge line pavement markings increase the safety of roadways by making it easier to see the roadway at night and in rainy and foggy conditions. Recent research completed by Texas A&M University, in conjunction with the Federal Highway Administration,

Road Name	Length (Ft.)
Adams Pond Rd	6,998
Damren Rd	5,150
Drew Rd	3,940
English Range Rd	11,354
Fordway Ext	11,204
Goodhue Rd	10,950
Gulf Rd	11,535
Kilrea Rd	10,513
Lawrence Rd	5,385
Old Auburn Rd	10,368
Old Chester Rd	10,506
Old Manchester Rd	2,048
Pingree Hill Rd	5,016
Scobie Pond Rd	9,051
Walnut Hill Rd	10,666
Warner Hill Rd	16,980
Windham Depot Rd	5,914
Center Line Total	147,578
Fog Line Total	295,156

revealed that crashes due to lane departure were significantly decreased when centerline and edge line pavement markings were present. The study showed that there was a 12 percent decrease in nighttime crashes attributed to the placement of a centerline. Adding edge lines resulted in a 16 percent decrease in nighttime crashes and a 33 percent decrease in low-visibility nighttime crashes. Installation of pavement markings is one of several potential countermeasures designed to mitigate the number and severity of crashes on rural sections of road.

It should be noted that the installation of new centerline and/or fog lines, particularly on rural roads, has not been universally embraced by residents. Nationwide, some residents have expressed opposition to striping roadways because they feel that it detracts from the rural character of their roadway. Others have argued that striping roadways will increase the speed on those roadways. There was no evidence in the study which validated these concerns.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

If the Town Council decided to apply only fog lines on the proposed list of roads, the total length of striping would be \$9,740.15 (295,156 lf x \$0.033/lf). To add centerlines to the same roads would cost an additional \$9,444.99 (147,578 dsl x \$064/lf). To do both center and fog lines would cost \$19,185.14.

Despite the increase in hard costs, there is an indirect benefit to the population through reduction in loss of life and property. The study provided an estimated benefit to cost (B-C) ratio of 17:1 for low volume roads (500 vehicles per day). For all roadways the B-C ratio was 60:1.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION BY COUNCIL**

The Highway Safety Committee recommends that the Town Council approve the expansion of the pavement marking to allow for fog lines to be installed on collector roads throughout the Town of Derry and appropriate the funds in the FY 18 budget to complete the work.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION**

The Derry Town Council moves to accept the recommendation made by the Highway Safety Committee to expand the pavement striping program, subject to funding approval.

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