

CSAC MINUTES JUNE 12, 2025

Members: John Prieto, Jane Remis, David Rosen, Elizabeth Rottinger, Marian Rutherford, Barbara Sacks

Liaisons: Frank Mortimer (Village Council)

Advisors: Chris Piersa (Engineering), James Bigos (RPD)

Visitors: Will Seiter, Ed Schleicher, Evan Weitz

A. CSAC MEETING PROTOCOL STATEMENT

B. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

A visitor expressed concerns regarding traffic safety on Van Emburgh Avenue. He noted that the increased presence of trucks and commercial traffic has resulted in higher speed, greater weight, increased volume, and more noise from vehicles in recent years. He stated that he believes these changes have made Van Emburgh Avenue more hazardous for pedestrians and resident drivers entering and exiting driveways. He also stated that the increased traffic has caused deterioration to the street surface. He requested a traffic study be performed, enhanced enforcement, and expressed concerns about weight limits on the road.

A visitor inquired about the procedures for identifying, notifying, and enforcing sight triangle violations for homeowners.

A resident has contacted the committee to express concerns regarding pedestrian safety at the intersection of North Maple Avenue and Franklin Avenue. The resident believed an additional "Walk/Don't Walk" signal was needed and claimed that there is never a moment when all traffic is halted, which would allow for safe crossing. This intersection is frequently used by RHS students as well as many other residents.

Committee Responses

1. Engineering indicated that the deterioration of the road surface on Van Emburgh is largely a result of the ongoing utility work in the area. The county plans to pave the road after the utility work is completed. The village will be constructing new ADA ramps along Van Emburgh Ave. prior to paving. The crosswalks will also be re-striped after paving. It was mentioned that Van Emburgh is a county road, and the results of a traffic study could lead to the county to potentially posting a higher speed limit. RPD stated that they do speed enforcement in the area and will continue to do so.

2. The Engineering Department responded to inquiries regarding sight triangle obstructions. Potential violations are identified by police officers, village employees, and through investigating resident residents. Upon identifying a potential violation, engineering evaluates the locations to determine the presence of safety hazards, and if deemed necessary a notice is sent to the property owner. If there is no response within 30 days, a second notice is sent, followed by a summons after an additional 30 days if the homeowner does not address the sight obstruction. Over the past two years, more than 130 property owners have received notices concerning sight obstructions, and about 100 of them have been satisfactorily addressed by the owners.
3. Engineering stated that the Village will be reconstructing the ADA ramps along Maple Avenue prior to the County re-paving the road. The County plans to re-pave Maple Avenue, possibly in late August 2025.

D. OLD BUSINESS

1. Updates on Sight Triangle Obstruction Locations (Engineering): Over the past month, two new first notices were issued, nine homeowners achieved compliance, and two summonses were served. One of these summonses was dismissed because the sight obstruction was addressed.

2. Oak/Glen/Maple update on county input/signal timing (Engineering, RPD): The village has received a response from the county. They will not permit a lead left turn signal without a dedicated turn lane. Drivers using Bryden Place as a cut-through cause backups at Oak and Glen, which experiences a high rate of accidents. The committee discussed the possibility of installing flashing light signs indicating “dangerous intersection ahead” on the eastbound and westbound sides of Glen Avenue near the railroad underpass and Oak St. This intersection will be discussed at the July 2nd Village Council meeting.

3. Incident/Accident Reporting: updates (RPD): Over the last month, there were two accidents involving motor vehicles and pedicyclists, one with injuries. The locations were Franklin Ave. at Cottage Place and Godwin Ave. at Clinton Ave.

4. CBDAC Updates (Rosen): During the recent CBDAC meeting, discussions were held regarding problematic intersections. A proposal was made for a joint meeting between CSAC and CBDAC, potentially in the autumn of 2025, to

address pedestrian safety concerns and explore possible solutions. It was suggested that a special improvement district be established to fund a crossing guard at Broad Street and East Ridgewood Avenue during specific days and hours.

5. Engineering and RPD - New thermoplastic Stops have been placed on Laurel Rd. at the intersection of Kenilworth Rd. Temporary pedestrian crossing signs have **been installed on East Ridgewood Avenue for Tatte Bakery & Café.**

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Bergen County held a public meeting to discuss ways to improve traffic and pedestrian safety in the short term and long term. It was suggested that Peter Cartwright, a county planner could be invited to visit CSAC to give advice and make suggestions.
2. E-bikes - the recreation department is hoping to implement a training program for e-bike riders, possibly starting in the fall. Members suggested that parents be given information about e-bike safety.
3. The village has included pedestrian safety news and information on their Facebook and Instagram pages and in the weekly news.
4. A Safe Routes to School informational meeting will be held on June 18th from 5:30 PM to 8 PM at Village Hall for residents to ask questions about the project. The Safe Routes to School project is being funded through a federal grant, and the scope of work has already been established. The Village's consultant will be there to answer questions. The project includes the construction of new sidewalks along North Monroe St., Franklin Turnpike, Northern Parkway, West Glen and East Glen Ave., and Bogert Ave.
5. Engineering and RPD stated that a driver feedback sign will be installed on East Glen near Northern Parkway.
6. The meeting protocol for the CSAC was reviewed. It was agreed that committee members and advisors will respond to public comments after all visitors have had the opportunity to speak.
7. Announcement of next scheduled CSAC meeting: September 18, 2025