



ANNUAL REPORT

**Norfolk Road Safety Committee
1 Liberty Lane
Norfolk, Massachusetts 02056**

The Norfolk Road Safety Committee (RSC) currently consists of four Board of Selectmen appointed Norfolk residents and assigned town liaisons, plus an available NHSTA consultant.

Resident - Joe Sebastiano - Chairman

Resident - Beth Strubeck

Resident - William Crump

Resident - James Leonard

Liaison - Norfolk Highway Department – Butch Vito

Liaison - Norfolk Police Department – Chief Charles Stone

Liaison - Norfolk Board of Selectmen – Jack Mcfeeley

Liaison - Norfolk Capital Outlay Committee – Ed Melanson

Consultant/Resident - Mario Damiata [National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA)]

The committee meets monthly and also supports other board or committee meetings where its input is needed or requested. Minutes of our meetings are regularly posted on the Norfolk Town Web Page.

The RSC started the year by completing a report detailing School Related Road Safety Issues at our two Elementary Schools that detailed suggested short and long-term solutions. A new school zone for Freeman-Centennial was marked and signed during the summer of 2003. Thanks go out to the local NCL for helping fund the new school zone signs. A new streetlight for the intersection of Main Street and the entrance to H. Olive Day is still pending, but should be installed 1st Qtr 2004. Longer-term solutions of new traffic and speed controls, improved vehicle flow, and/or new school entranceways are still being developed. An ordered speed study was conducted for Boardman Street. And “Children at Play” signs were also acquired for the bus drive areas at the H. Olive Day school, needed to caution drivers during the children’s mid-day outdoor recreational time.

In 2003 - like previous years - the RSC brought general, as well as NHSTA sponsored road and pedestrian safety awareness information, plus updates on current and proposed RSC initiated projects here in Norfolk, to the Norfolk Lion’s sponsored annual Norfolk Community Day. Raffles, Bike Helmets and a Norfolk Fire Department sponsored child car safety seat inspection station were available too. A special road safety note to the Community is that the Fire Department does do child car safety seat inspections upon request throughout the year; and one can contact the station for more information. The RSC also uses local press, school flyer distribution and our position on the Norfolk Town Web Page to help increase Road Safety Awareness during the year.

The RSC also in 2003, continued to share the planning for expanding sidewalks here in Norfolk. The Capital Outlay Committee worked with us to try and secure additional “design funds” to compliment funds already secured by some adjoining subdivision development. Additional funding and/or recurring budget (to possibly coincide with the Highway Department Road Improvement Funds) continue to be sought as well. By year’s end, the RSC was also applying for some possible CPA funds (for sidewalks) in areas where applicable via CPA application criteria.

The RSC maintains a list of already ordered new streetlights and also lists recommended or requested new locations, needed for mainly non-lit intersections and tight/dangerous road curves along busier “through” roads here in Norfolk. In some cases simply moving an existing lamp to extend beyond the tree limbs, or moving an existing streetlight from pole to pole to better serve the road/pedestrian way is recommended.

The RSC also reviews and respond to resident’s road safety related inquiries made directly to us or through the Board of Selectmen. A formal RSC reply is typically prepared for the inquiring resident, the Board of Selectman and both the Highway and Police Departments. In many cases the RSC reply is able to cite a pending town/highway project already addressing the concern, or recommend/help the town plan new projects. Some resident inquiries we have received cite needing a specific new stop sign, streetlight, sidewalk, or roadway “line of sight” improvement. Requests made for police “speed checks” and formal speed surveys are and can be forwarded directly to our Police and/or Highway Department.

The RSC welcomes additional members of our community to request joining the committee and/or express your position on local road safety issues to our Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator.

Submitted by Joe Sebastiano – Chairman, Norfolk Road Safety Committee