

R-22-30A

Town of Cumberland

1
2 **RESOLUTION: AUTHORIZING AND EMPOWERING MAYOR JEFFREY**
3 **J. MUTTER TO PLACE SEVEN (7) SPEED HUMPS ALONG**
4 **RESERVOIR ROAD**

5
6 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CUMBERLAND TOWN COUNCIL AS FOLLOWS:**

7
8 **WHEREAS:** The residents of Reservoir Road completed the necessary paperwork to
9 begin the traffic calming procedure; and

10
11 **WHEREAS:** Over the course of the last year, the Traffic Management Group has
12 conducted several traffic studies and public meetings; and

13
14 **WHEREAS:** In the initial traffic studies it was determined that the average speed was
15 11MPH over the speed limit and the 85th percentile speed was 17MPH over the speed
16 limit; and

17
18 **WHEREAS:** The combination of a high volume of vehicular and pedestrian traffic as
19 well as the high rates of speed necessitated traffic calming measures to be pursued; and

20
21 **WHEREAS:** Traffic enforcement alone from the Cumberland Police Department was not
22 enough to reduce the level of speeding; and

23
24 **WHEREAS:** Temporary speed humps were placed along Reservoir Road which worked
25 to drastically reduce the levels of egregious speed violations; and

26
27 **WHEREAS:** The number of vehicles traveling 60-69MPH was reduced by 40% and the
28 number of vehicles traveling 80+ MPH was reduced by 100%; and

29
30 **WHEREAS:** In response to the success of the temporary speed humps, the Traffic
31 Management Group met on April 5th to vote on the finalized plan which was comprised
32 of seven (7) permanent speed humps along Reservoir Road; and

33
34 **WHEREAS:** All members (Traffic Officer Bannister, Superintendent Vadenais, and
35 Sarah King) were present and the plan passed 3-0; and

36
37 **WHEREAS:** All Public Safety Chiefs are aware of the proposal and have voiced no
38 objections.

39
40 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CUMBERLAND TOWN**
41 **COUNCIL OF CUMBERLAND, RHODE ISLAND AS FOLLOWS:**

42
43 **SECTION 1:** Mayor Jeffrey J. Mutter is hereby authorized to place seven (7) speed
44 humps along Reservoir Road to aid in traffic calming and management.

R-22-30A

Town of Cumberland

45
46 **SECTION 2:** THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY
47 UPON ITS PASSAGE BY THE CUMBERLAND TOWN COUNCIL.

48
49 DATE ADOPTED: _____

50
51 A TRUE COPY, ATTEST:

52
53 _____
54 Sandra M. Giovanelli, Town Clerk

Town of Cumberland

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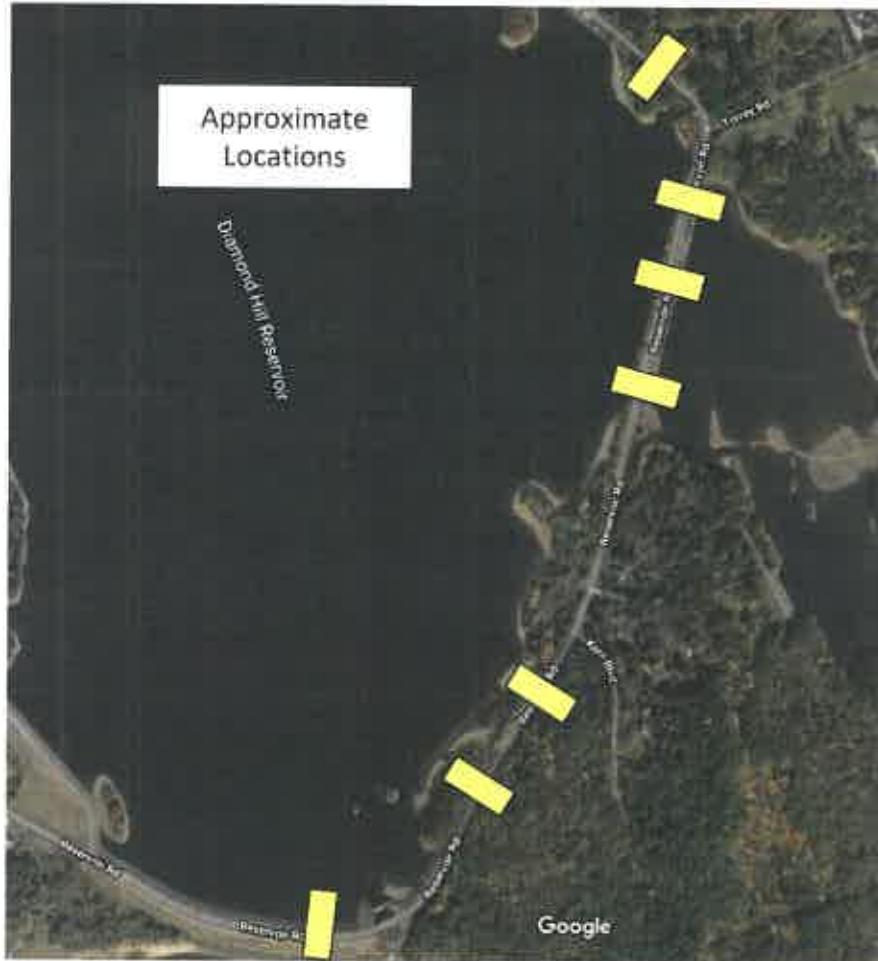
51 A TRUE COPY, ATTEST:

52

53

54

Sandra M. Giovanelli, Town Clerk



RECOMMENDATION GOING FORWARD:

Placement of 7 Speed Bumps
along Reservoir Road, permanently.

OVERALL FINDINGS

- An overall reduction in average speed, 85th percentile speed, and 99th percentile speed.
- An overall reduction in the volume of traffic traveling on Reservoir Road.
- Decrease in the amount of egregious speed violations:

 BEFORE	 AFTER
80+ MPH - 4 Vehicles	80+ MPH - 0 Vehicles
70-79 MPH - 18 Vehicles	70-79 MPH - 17 Vehicles
60-69 MPH - 100 Vehicles	60-69 MPH - 40 Vehicles

RESERVOIR @ TORREY - WITH SPEED HUMPS

After Placement of Temporary Speed

Data Collected: 10/29/2021 - 11/13/2021

Speed Limit: 25 MPH

Average Speed: 29 MPH

85th Percentile: 35 MPH

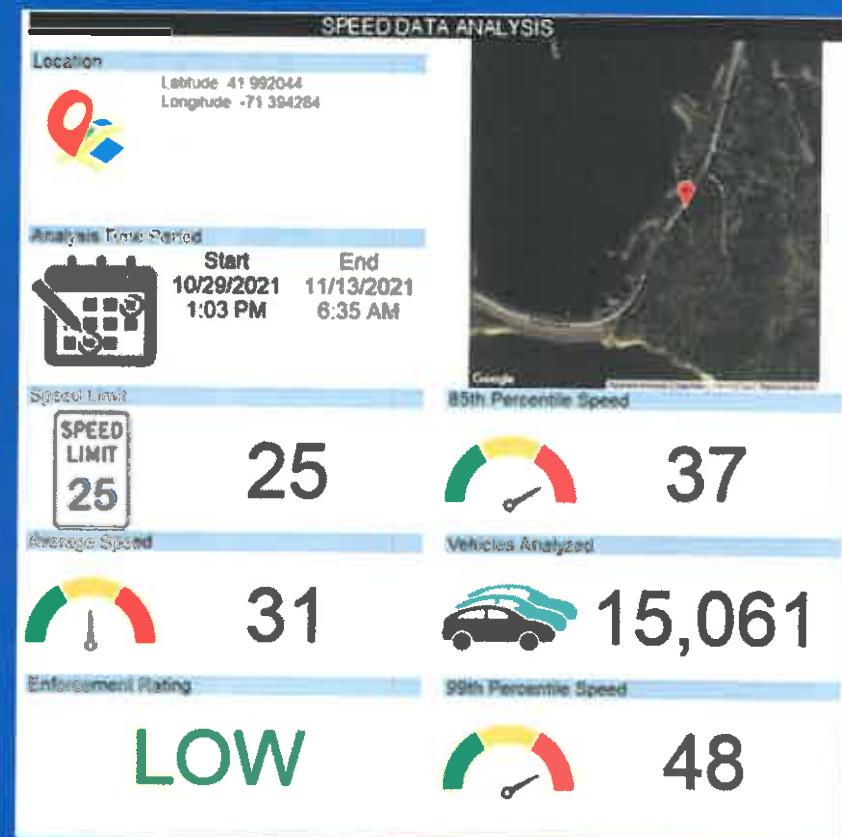
Traffic Speed (85%) - 10 Over - 3 Points

Traffic Volume - ~889 - 2 Points

Significant Pedestrian Traffic - 3 Points

No Sidewalk - 1 point

TOTAL: 9 Points



RESERVOIR @ KERN - WITH SPEED HUMPS

After Placement of Temporary Speed

Data Collected: 10/29/2021 - 11/13/2021

Speed Limit: 25 MPH

Average Speed: 31 MPH

85th Percentile: 37 MPH

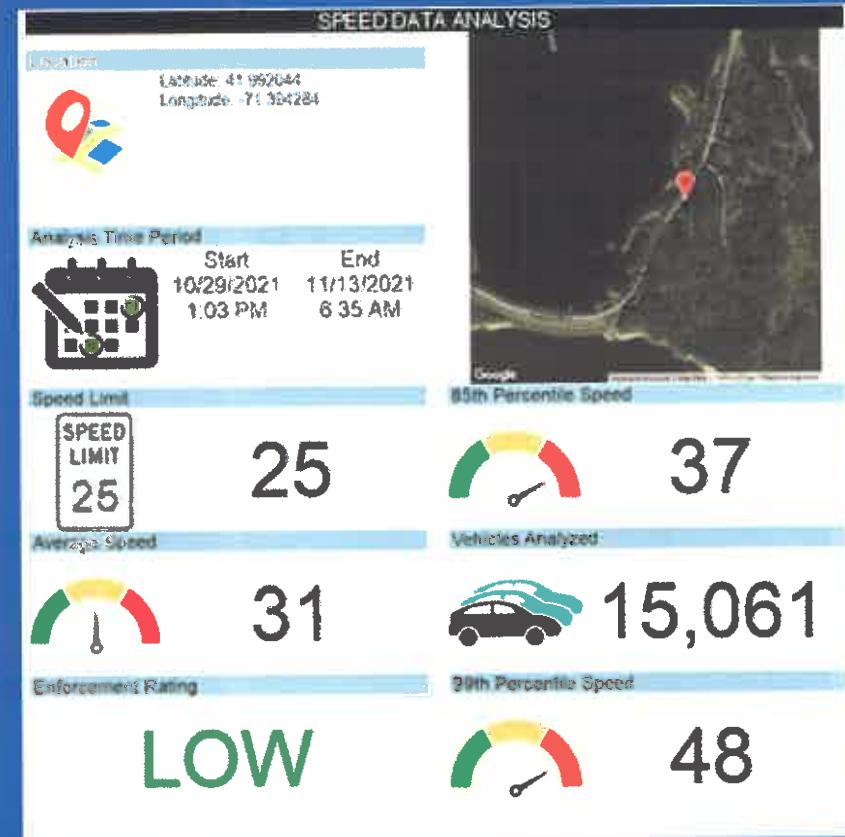
Traffic Speed (85%) - 12 Over - 5 Points

Traffic Volume - ~1004 - 4 Points

Significant Pedestrian Traffic - 3 Points

No Sidewalk - 1 point

TOTAL: 13 Points



PLACEMENT OF THREE TEMPORARY SPEED HUMPS



Temporary speed humps were placed in June to determine what impact they would have.

RESERVOIR @ TORREY

Before Placement of Temporary Speed Humps

Data Collected: 5/28/2021 - 6/8/2021

Speed Limit: 25 MPH

Average Speed: 35 MPH

85th Percentile: 41 MPH

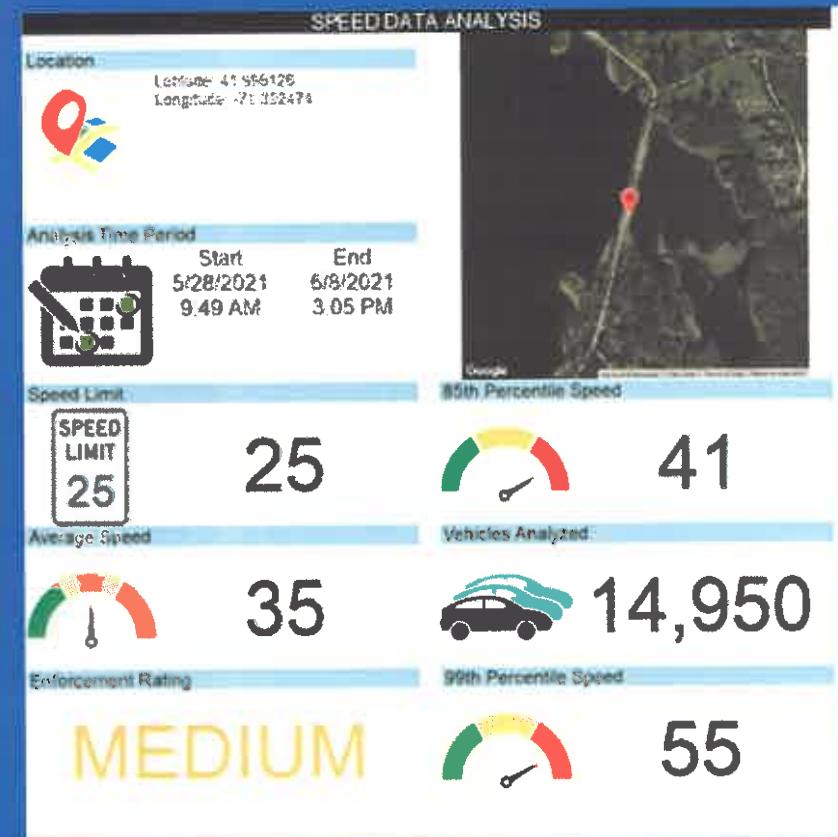
Traffic Speed (85%) - 16 Over - 7 Points

Traffic Volume - ~1359 - 4 Points

Significant Pedestrian Traffic - 3 Points

No Sidewalk - 1 point

TOTAL: 15 Points



RESERVOIR @ KERN

Before Placement of Temporary Speed

Data Collected: 5/28/2021 - 6/8/2021

Speed Limit: 25 MPH

Average Speed: 36 MPH

85th Percentile: 42 MPH

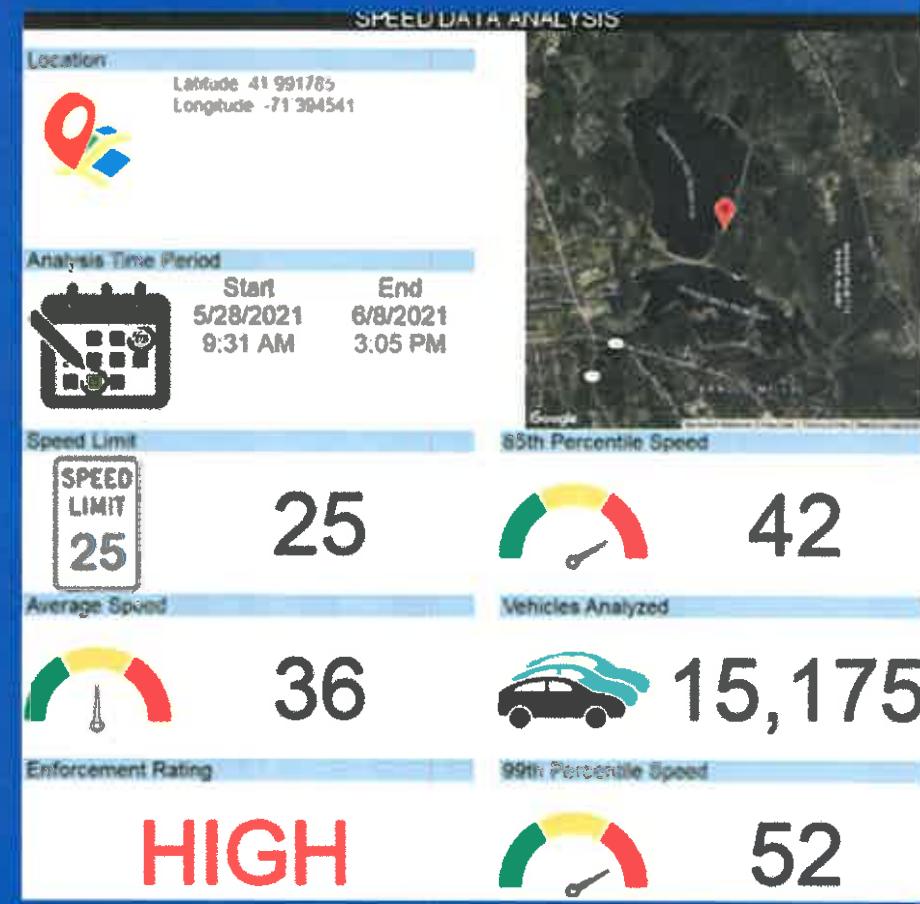
Traffic Speed (85%) - 17 Over - 7 Points

Traffic Volume - ~1379 - 4 Points

Significant Pedestrian Traffic - 3 Points

No Sidewalk - 1 point

TOTAL: 15 Points



CUMBERLAND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT GROUP

RESERVOIR ROAD

TRAFFIC DATA + RECOMMENDATIONS

Presented: April 2022



Memo

To: Mayor Mutter and Town Council
From: Detective Captain Matthew Alves *MA#4*
Date: 4/19/22
RE: Reservoir Rd

The Cumberland Police Department response time to calls will only be minimally affected by the emplacement of seven (7) speed bumps being emplaced on Reservoir Rd. Additionally the Department fully supports this traffic calming measure.

Sarah King

From: Chief Nicholas Anderson <nanderson@cumberlandfire.org>
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2022 9:45 AM
To: Sarah King
Cc: Jeffrey Mutter; John Pliakas; Matthew Alves; Chris Iozzi
Subject: Reservoir Road Traffic Calming

Good Morning Sarah,

The Cumberland Fire Department has no objections to traffic calming devices on Reservoir Road as proposed. The town's current traffic calming devices have not significantly increased our response times.

Thank you,
Nick

Rhode Island Fire Code:
NFPA 1: Fire Code, 2018 Edition - Chapter 18 Fire Department Access and Water Supply
18.2.3.5.7 Traffic Calming Devices.
The design and use of traffic calming devices shall be approved by the AHJ.

--
Nicholas Anderson
Fire Chief
Cumberland Fire District
3502 Mendon RD
Cumberland, RI 02864
401-658-0544
401-658-2198 Fax

https://linkprotect.cudasvc.com/url?a=https%3a%2f%2fwww.cumberlandfire.org&c=E,1,-X_3eUZ23L7CGzAVMyerCX6S_9mSk6n_LtD66byxDoBzK99yqyUi2GjvhLXd_n_0HwuFCpEMzTgugKTuK4K3eUyGxnN9rxxF4Im125nXdW2aimq5RNSVIXx0jkG8,&typo=1

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Sarah King

From: John Pliakas
Sent: Tuesday, April 19, 2022 8:49 AM
To: Sarah King
Cc: nanderson@cumberlandfire.org; Jeffrey Mutter
Subject: Reservoir Road

Good morning Sarah,

I have spoken to Officer Banister regarding the proposed "speed bumps" for Reservoir Road. As currently proposed, they should not have a significant impact on the EMS response time to the affected area.

Please advise if you have any further questions or require additional information.

Respectfully,

John N. Pliakas, MSN, NP, NRP, TP-C
Chief, Cumberland EMS

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To: Cumberland Town Council

Re: Speed Bumps on Reservoir Road

Dear Town Council Members,

Our family has been in Cumberland for almost 2 years and really enjoying the town for all its beauty, history, people and services available. Unfortunately, we had to unexpectedly navigate the 3 non-permanent speed humps on Reservoir Rd last summer. As we learned of the new push to put 7 speed humps / bumps on the same roadway our concerns are heightened for many reasons.

First, we don't truly understand the full course of complaint or problem they are trying to solve. Is the challenge just speeding? Is the challenge those late-night people and cars that hang out by the reservoir? Is it the noise creating by spinning tires? If the answer is yes to any of these, we want to push the council to be more creative in the solution for any or all of these problems. In addition to re-evaluating efficacy of the current security vehicles that are patrolling the area. We would also ask for clear evidence of where and how speed humps / bumps have proven successful for all of these issues if any are accurate.

And here are 3 main reasons why the proposed solution to the unknown or underlying problem is not a good one.

1. Inconvenience – for any residents that use Reservoir Rd for a means of getting into town and other parts of RI, this causes a major obvious inconvenience, having to go over 7 speed humps of any variety (resulting in 14 bumps/humps per round trip). Additionally, we choose to drive this route to support our local businesses and state resources however, this now makes our choice much easier. We can travel more conveniently, more comfortably, and quickly to services such as shopping and eating at locations that may prove more convenient in Massachusetts. Any Cumberland or RI small business would be very disappointed about this outcome and loss in revenue.
2. Safety – We would like to see the safety study the Town Council is using to determine how this many speed humps would impact the important services the town offers and serves residents when putting in this many speed humps. Does the Fire Chief have a study they can share about response times for rescue and fire truck response for the all-critical seconds that matter in real emergency? Does the Police Chief have any evidence that can respond without any delays to residents in need? If there are any delays to my services what discounts will resident's be offered for taxes we pay after these humps / bumps are installed? In addition to retribution to loss of property or worse, life when seconds matter.
3. Wear and tear on vehicles – We know every time we head over a speed hump we consider the impact on my vehicle's suspension and for those resident's who have lower-riding cars even when slowly driving over cannot clear the humps without causing damage to their vehicles. It is also important to consider other larger vehicles that may choose not to service our area any longer due to the speed humps/bumps such as trash trucks.
4. Scenic – My family has always enjoyed riding to our home over the scenic reservoir road, which is one important reason we purchased here. However, last year when we had to traverse speed humps/bumps and look at the sign pollution on the way. Any further speed humps/bumps

would likely cause more signs and more sign pollution. This is a real shame as it reduces the beauty the reservoir provides our community.

Because of these reasons above, we urge the Council to work on a more creative solution to address the real underlying issues while keeping the Reservoir area the beautiful part of the community that everyone can enjoy and co-exist with all residents in the area.

Many thanks for your consideration and thoughtfulness!

Best Regards,

Leo and Ashley Phenix

7 Evans St.
Cumberland, RI 02864

From: Michael Kinch <mkinch@cumberlandri.org>

Date: May 1, 2022 at 8:02:10 PM EDT

To: Marsha <marshabush1@verizon.net>

Subject: Re: Reservoir Rd Town Council Meeting

Hi Marsha. Thank you for the email. I will add it to the record at the next meeting. I agree that something has to be done. Feel free to call me at +14016335148

Mike

Sent from my iPhone

On Apr 29, 2022, at 1:12 PM, Marsha <marshabush1@verizon.net> wrote:

I could not attend the Council meeting regarding Reservoir Rd. However, I did review the video of the meeting and would like to share my response and concerns with you. I have lived on the corner of Torrey Rd and Reservoir Rd for 39 years. Kids (mostly) and some adults partying and speeding have been an ongoing issue. As one person pointed out in the meeting, the problem was kept manageable by the Pawtucket security guards and Cumberland police for years. Since Pawtucket has stopped moving the kids/adults parked along Reservoir Rd, the problem has become worse to the point where it is intolerable. The noise from screeching tires, loud mufflers, and speeding motorcycles is to the point that living up here is misery. I can only speak for myself, but I can no longer eat dinner outside on my patio or keep my windows open because of the noise level. If I call the police, they do respond. However, by the time they respond the kids dragging etc are often gone. The police move the kids and adults illegally parked along the road. However, this does not solve the issue because they just circle around and come back as soon as the police presence is gone. The police have issued many fines for illegal parking and speeding. Still, many of the kids and adults are from out of state and have little to no respect for a RI ticket. They do not seem to be phased by ticketing.

Many of the people who spoke at the meeting seemed to feel that this is just a general speeding issue. Yes, people do speed on Reservoir Rd at all times of the day. This poses a risk to joggers/walkers/ and bikers. However, it is not the general users of the road that are the central issue. It is the large groups of kids and some adults who come up on a nightly basis to Reservoir Rd. This is when the egregious behavior occurs. We have a speeding, partying, and noise issue that is done by groups of kids a few adults from roughly 4 PM until 1 or 2 in the AM. Although this happens all through the year, "the Season" begins in May and goes until it gets cold in the fall. We get cars and motorcyclists lined up along the guard rail. They block traffic. When summer vacation is in full swing there can be 15+ cars and several motorcycles all lined up and usually out of their cars. They are not here to see the sunset. The kids are here to gather, drink or do whatever, and party. One of the main activities is to show off how fast their cars or motorcycles can go. They see how much rubber they can lay. They drag. They clock each other to see how much speed they can get on the ¼ mile straight away. Just for icing on the cake, they do donuts at the bottom of Torrey Road about 100 feet from my patio. Oh, and let us not forget the motorcycles who see how long they can do wheelies or show off how loud their mufflers can be. Imagine living near this. Night after Night after Night. It is incessant all summer long and into the fall. This is the crux of the speeding problem. This is the real threat to public safety. The discarded beer cans and nips attest to the fact that these risky behaviors may be generated by impaired drivers.

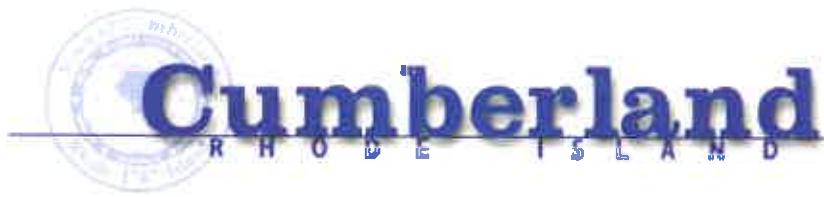
Last summer, the temporary speed bumps discouraged some of the kids etc. from coming up to the Reservoir. It cut down the numbers. Therefore, the noise and speeding lessened. The bumps worked to some extent. It would have been better if there were a few more because the kids still put down rubber in between. Also, the bumps had an opening in the middle where the motorcycles could race through. Therefore, it had little effect on them. I understand the objection to bumps from my neighbors who are not affected by the problem. They just see the kids lined up on Reservoir every night and are not awakened at all hours by screeching tires and dragging cars. Yes, there are probably alternatives to speed bumps, but I have been told the town does not have the resources to add police to the payroll and one police officer for northern Cumberland cannot control this problem. They have tried. Fancy speed cameras might work, but I was told that they were too expensive. The ideas expressed by those opposed to speed bumps such as putting up signs that show a motorist how fast they are going over the speed limit is laughable. That would work for you and I but the kids would use them to see who can go the fastest. Increasing the speed limit to 35 does nothing to solve the issue of partying, dragging, speeding kids for several hours EACH DAY in the summer. It will just mean less speeding tickets for residents. Pawtucket security does not want any part of kicking the kids off. Fines have been issued, but they do not seem to deter the kids from coming back. The police would have to make regular sweeps for several hours each day and evening to solve the problem. Of course, the very best way to solve the problem is a consistent and strong police presence would keep things under control. Next might be well place cameras that issue tickets. Neither of these options seem feasible.

That leaves speed bumps as the best alternative. The speed bumps on Lonesome Pine which ours would be like do not seem to adversely affect response time.

I would urge the Town Council to approve the recommendation for enough speed bumps on Reservoir Rd to solve the issue sooner rather than later. For residents on or close to Reservoir Rd. the situation is a crisis. No resident of Cumberland should have to put up with what happens in our neighborhood. Maybe with the bumps the road would be a quieter place so that more town residents can come up and enjoy the sunset and the pretty scenery. When Reservoir Rd stops becoming such a popular "hang out" many of the speeding issues will be resolved. Maybe this year Reservoir Rd will not get a dedication in the North Attleboro yearbook for being the "Fun Place" to hang out.

Thank you,

Marsha Bush



Town of Cumberland Routing Sheet for Legislation to Appear Before the Cumberland Town Council

Ordinance Resolution Relating to: **AUTHORIZING AND EMPOWERING MAYOR JEFFREY J. MUTTER TO PLACE SEVEN (7) SPEED BUMPS ALONG RESERVOIR ROAD**

Author of Legislation: Kelley Morris Salvatore

Department: Solicitor

(1) This legislation has been approved, and the language is acceptable for publication, by Kelley Morris Salvatore, Town Solicitor

Signed: Kelley M Salvatore Date and Time: 4/14/2022 @ 11:16AM

*Please send an electronic copy of this legislation to Tracey Methot-Legal Assistant
Solicitor's Office when complete: tmethot@cumberlandri.org & sgiovanelli@cumberlandri.org*

(2) This legislation and all attached information, specifically all proposed funding sources, has been approved by Gene Fellau of the Town Finance Department, certifying that all financial notes and other financial documentation has been attached.

Check if no Fiscal Note is required.

Signed: Gene Fellau Date and Time: 4/14/22 11:40 AM

(3) This legislation has been approved by Jeff Mutter of the Mayor's Office.

Signed: Jeff Mutter Date and Time: 4/14/2022 @ 2:15pm
Mayor Jeffrey J. Mutter

(4) This legislation has been accepted for placement on the Town Council Agenda for the meeting to be held on APRIL 20, 2022 by JANE H. CHRISTOPHER of the Town Clerk's Office. This authorization confirms that all four copies of the necessary document, including a copy in an electronic format, has been attached and signed by the designated department and has been received prior to the designated 3:30 p.m. deadline.

The Town Clerk's Office will issue a Legislation number.

Signed: Jeffrey J. Mutter Date and Time: 4/14/22 2:30pm

This routing sheet must be completed in the order detailed above to ensure complete and timely acceptance for the next scheduled Town Council Meeting.

**Should a given piece of legislation prove to be extremely time sensitive, the Mayor's signature and only the Mayor's signature below authorizes said legislation to be exempt from the necessary route described above.*

Jeffrey J. Mutter, Mayor