

# TRAFFIC COMMITTEE AGENDA

# April 17, 2024 – 7:30 P.M.

# Lower Level Conference Room – Troy City Hall – 500 West Big Beaver

- 1. Roll Call
- 2. Approval of Minutes March 20, 2024 Traffic Committee

# **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

3. No Public Hearings

# **REGULAR BUSINESS**

- 4. Request for Traffic Control West Troy Meadows
- 5. Public Comment
- 6. Other Business Identification Badges
- 7. Adjourn

#### Copy to:

Traffic Committee Members; Sgt. Brian Warzecha, Police Department; Deputy Fire Chief, Michael Koehler, Fire Department;

#### TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

# **MESSAGE TO VISITORS, DELEGATIONS AND CITIZENS**

The Traffic Committee is composed of seven Troy citizens who have volunteered their time to the City to be involved in traffic and safety concerns. The stated role of this Committee is:

- a. To give first hearing to citizens' requests and obtain their input.
- b. To make recommendations to the City Council based on technical considerations, traffic surveys, established standards, and evaluation of citizen input.
- c. To identify hazardous locations and recommend improvements to reduce the potential for traffic crashes.

Final decisions on sidewalk waivers will be made by the Committee at this meeting.

The recommendations and conclusions arrived at on regular items this evening will be forwarded to the City Council for their final action. Any citizen can discuss these recommendations before City Council. The items discussed at the Traffic Committee meeting will be placed on the City Council Agenda by the City Manager. The earliest date these items might be considered by City Council would normally be 10 days to 2 weeks from the Traffic Committee meeting. If you are interested, you may wish to contact the City Manager's Office in order to determine when a particular item is on the Agenda.

Persons wishing to speak before this Committee should attempt to hold their remarks to no more than 5 minutes. Please try to keep your remarks relevant to the subject at hand. Please speak only when recognized by the Chair. These comments are made to keep this meeting moving along. Anyone wishing to be heard will be heard; we are here to listen and help in solving or resolving your particular concerns.

#### 2. Approval of Minutes – March 20, 2024 Traffic Committee

#### PUBLIC HEARING

#### 3. No Public Hearing

#### **REGULAR BUSINESS**

#### 4. Request for Traffic Control – West Troy Meadows

West Troy Meadows Site Condominiums has been completed. All intersections within this development were reviewed for intersection control. OHM provided a detailed study attached and makes to following recommendations: OHM recommends implementing STOP sign on the Harlow Dive approach at Blakely Court and YIELD signs on the Harlow Drive approach at Audley Court, the Webb Avenue approach at Virgilia Drive, and the Blakely Court approach at Virgilia Drive

#### **SUGGESTED RESOLUTIONS:**

- a. RESOLVED, that the Harlow Drive Approach at Blakely Court be modified from UNCONTROLLED, to STOP CONTROLLED.
- b. RESOLVED, that the Harlow Drive Approach at Audley Court be modified from UNCONTROLLED, to YEILD CONTROLLED
- c. RESOLVED, that the Webb Avenue Approach at Virgilia Drive be modified from UNCONTROLLED, to YEILD CONTROLLED
- d. RESOLVED, that the Blakely Court Approach at Virgilia Drive be modified from UNCONTROLLED, to YEILD CONTROLLED
- e. RESOLVED, that **NO CHANGE** be made to the intersections in Troy Meadows Site Condominiums

#### 5. Public Comment

#### 6. Other Business

Identification badges for Traffic Committee Members

#### 7. Adjourn

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A regular meeting of the Troy Traffic Committee was held Wednesday, March 20, 2024 in the Lower Level Conference Room at Troy City Hall. Pete Ziegenfelder called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

# 1. Roll Call

Present:	Shama Kenkre Cindy Nurak Abi Swaminathan Pete Ziegenfelder Angela Zhou, Student Representative
Absent:	Al Petrulis Deputy Fire Chief, Michael Koehler Sgt. Brian Warzecha, Police Department
Also present:	G. Scott Finlay, City Engineer

# 2. Minutes – February 21, 2023 Traffic Committee

Merissa Clark, Administrative Assistant

Resolution # 2024-03-05 Moved by Nurak Seconded by Swaminathan

To approve the February 21, 2023 minutes as printed.

Yes: Kenkre, Nurak, Swaminathan, Ziegenfelder No: None Absent: Petrulis

# **MOTION CARRIED**

# PUBLIC HEARINGS

# 3. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 727 Quill Creek (Sidwell # 88-20-03-252-029)

Syed Musa with Glance Homes requests a sidewalk waiver for the sidewalk at 727 Quill Creek (Sidwell # 88-20-03-252-029). Mr. Musa states:

a. There are no sidewalks on either side of the property, the sidewalk would be located next to a large deep ditch and floodplain.

The Department of Public Works (DPW) <u>does not recommend approving</u> the waiver request and requiring the installation of sidewalk "*Due to sidewalk currently at 775 Quill Creek and the ability to extend on Norton with future development*". If the sidewalk requirement is waived the approval be subject to the submission of a cash deposit for future construction to assure consent and participation in any future sidewalk installation.

The item was brought back to the table.

Pete Ziegenfelder stated he is in favor of sidewalk because eventually it will lead somewhere.

Cindy Nurak stated that she doesn't recall in her years on the committee that there has been a time the DPW has denied the waiver. She is in favor of the sidewalk being installed because either way it's going to be paid for.

Scott Finlay pointed out that the sidewalk could be installed on an easement to avoid the ditch and went on to explain the floodplain on that parcel. He did bring up a plot plan showing the purposed house with sidewalk for the board to see.

Abi Swaminathan asked if there was an elementary school nearby, Scott Finlay stated there is not one in that section of Troy.

Pete Ziegenfelder asked for a motion.

WHEREAS, the Traffic Committee has determined, after a public hearing, that Petitioner failed to establish the standards justifying the granting of a waiver, NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Traffic Committee **DENIES** a waiver of the sidewalk requirement for 727 Quill Creek (Sidwell # 88-20-03-252-029).

Resolution # 2024-03-06 Moved by Nurak Seconded by Swaminathan

Yes: Kenkre, Nurak, Swaminathan, Ziegenfelder No: None Absent: Petrulis

#### **REGULAR BUSINESS**

#### 4. Election of Officers

In accordance with the By-Laws of the City of Troy Traffic Committee, Article III, nomination of officers shall be made from the floor on the third Wednesday of February of each year for the purpose of electing a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson.

A candidate receiving a majority vote of the members present at the meeting shall be declared elected and shall serve for one year or until his or her successor shall take office. Vacancies in offices shall be filled immediately by regular election procedure.

Article II of the By-Laws speaks to the Officers and Their Duties, which states:

Section 1 - The officers of the Traffic Committee shall consist of a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson.

Section 2 - The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Traffic Committee and shall have the duties normally conferred by parliamentary usage on such officers.

Section 3 - The Chairperson shall be one of the citizen members of the Committee and shall have the privilege of discussing all matters before the Committee and voting thereon.

Section 4 - The Vice-Chairperson shall act for the Chairperson in his or her absence. The Vice-Chairperson shall be a citizen member of the Committee, with the rights and privileges of the Chairperson.

Resolution # 2024-03-07 Moved by Nurak Seconded by Swaminathan

RESOLVED, that Pete Ziegenfelder be elected Chairperson of the Traffic Committee for calendar year 2024.

Yes: Kenkre, Nurak, Swaminathan, Ziegenfelder No: None Absent: Petrulis

# **MOTION CARRIED**

RESOLVED, that AI Petrulis be elected Vice-Chairperson of the Traffic Committee for calendar year 2023.

Resolution # 2024-03-08 Moved by Nurak Seconded by Swaminathan

Yes: Kenkre, Nurak, Swaminathan, Ziegenfelder No: None Absent: Petrulis

#### MOTION CARRIED

#### 5. Public Comment

Alex Soullier received the letter from the sidewalk waiver request, wanted to stop in and see what the Traffic Committee did. He asked a few questions about the sidewalk waiver process, and had a few questions about some new homes being built near his home.

#### 6. Other Business

#### 7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Pete Ziegenfelder - Chairperson

G. Scott Finlay, City Engineer/Traffic Engineer

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# **TRAFFIC COMMITTEE REPORT**

April 1, 2024

TO:	Traffic Committee
FROM:	G. Scott Finlay, City Engineer/Traffic Engineer
SUBJECT:	Request for Traffic Control – West Trov Meadows

Background:

All intersections within the recently completed West Troy Meadows Site Condominiums were reviewed for traffic control recommendations.

The posted speed limit on all streets is 25 mph.

There are no signs at any of the 3-way intersection.

There is no clear major versus minor street, the study defines what assumptions were made.

There were no crashes recorded in the past full five (5) years within a 200' radius of the intersection.

The major potential sight distance obstruction at the intersections were house corners. These obstructions impact the calculated safe approach speeds for the intersections

OHM recommends implementing STOP sign on the Harlow Dive approach at Blakely Court and YIELD signs on the Harlow Drive approach at Audley Court, the Webb Avenue approach at Virgilia Drive, and the Blakely Court approach at Virgilia Drive.

The city requested that OHM review the intersection and provide their findings and recommendations (copy attached).

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ARCHITECTS. ENGINEERS. PLANNERS.



March 6, 2024

Mr. Scott G Finlay, PE City Engineer City of Troy 500 W. Big Beaver Rd Troy, MI 48084

RE: Traffic Control Recommendation for West Troy Meadows

Dear Mr. Finlay:

As requested, we have reviewed the intersections within the West Troy Meadows development to determine the proposed traffic control. These intersections include Blakely Court at Harlow Drive, Audley Court at Harlow Drive, Virgilia Drive at Webb Avenue, and Virgilia Drive at Blakely Court. All of these intersections are 3-legged intersections located in the City of Troy. The speed limit on all of these streets under investigation is 25 mph. The intersections currently do not have any controlled approaches. Attached are aerial and intersection photos.

#### Types of Roadways

Blakley Court, Harlow Drive, Audley Court, Virgilia Drive, and Webb Avenue are all considered local streets. Harlow Drive and Virgilia Drive run north to south providing access within the neighborhood. Blakely Court, Audley Court, and Webb Avenue run east to west. Webb Avenue offers access to the neighborhood off of Livernois Road.

The surrounding land use is mostly single-family residential with the Troy School District Transportation building nearby, to the east of the subject area. There are no evident parking restrictions on any of these streets. There is no clear major versus minor streets. However, for the purpose of analysis Audley Court, Virgilia Drive, and Blakely Court (at the intersection with Harlow Drive) are presumed to be the major roads, while Harlow Drive, Webb Avenue, and Blakely Drive (at the intersection with Virgilia Drive) are considered the minor roads. All roads serve as key routes throughout the neighborhood.

#### Traffic Control Analyses

Traffic control analyses described herein adheres to the requirements presented in the Michigan Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MMUTCD) that are considered mandates of state law. A reference document explaining the background behind the analyses is attached to this memo.

#### <u>Crash Analysis</u>

Based on information obtained through the Traffic Improvement Association of Michigan, there were no crashes recorded in the past full five (5) years within a 250' radius of the intersections. The crash history does not constitute a compelling case for modifying the existing controls.

# OHM Advisors

34000 PLYMOUTH ROAD LIVONIA, MICHIGAN 48150

T 734.522.6711F 734.522.6427

**OHM**-Advisors.com

#### Traffic Volumes

Traffic counts were not collected in the vicinity of the intersections. Traffic volumes in residential areas are predominantly driven by the number of single-family residential homes in the neighborhood. Based on the residential nature and the number of homes in the surrounding area it is highly improbable that this location would satisfy any of the minimum volume warrants for an all-way STOP (see attached Reference Guide).

It is therefore extremely unlikely that any of the defined major roads meet and sustain the 300 vehicles per hour threshold for a minimum of 8 hours. The combined vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle volumes entering from any of the defined minor roads is similarly unlikely to average at least 200 units for any 8 hours. Additionally, since the posted speed limit is only 25 mph, it is reasonable to assume that the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile approach speed does not exceed 40 mph on either road; thus, the minimum vehicular volume warrants cannot be discounted to 70 percent of the values described previously. Finally, the study intersections are likely to fall significantly shy even of the reduced 80 percent volumes, based on expected trip generation for this neighborhood. Therefore, the minimum volume criteria for an all-way STOP has not likely been met.

#### <u>Approach Speed Limits</u>

The approach speed limit on all study streets is 25 mph. Speed limits alone cannot be used in this case to determine which direction of traffic should be assigned the right-of-way.

#### <u>Sight Distance</u>

The major potential sight distance obstruction at the intersections were house corners. These obstructions impact the calculated safe approach speeds for the intersections. The safe approach speed is the speed at which a vehicle can approach an intersection and still stop in time to avoid a collision with a vehicle seen on the cross street.

When the safe approach speed is found to be 10 mph or less, a STOP sign is recommended. When the safe approach speed is found to be more than 10 mph, a YIELD sign is recommended. The safe approach speeds and results for each intersection are shown in Table 1 below.

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Intersection	Safe Approach Speed	Vehicle Direction	Result		
Blakely Ct at Harlow Dr	9.9 mph	Eastbound	STOP		
Audley Ct at Harlow Dr	13.1 mph	Northbound	YIELD		
Virgilia Dr at Webb Ave	12.1 mph	Westbound	YIELD		
Virgilia Dr at Blakely Cr	14.6 mph	Northbound	YIELD		

The safe approach speed calculation spreadsheets for the intersections are attached for reference.

#### **Recommendation**

The preceding analysis did not determine that any criteria were met for all-way STOP-control. The safe approach speed calculations suggested STOP-control would be appropriate for the minor street approach of Harlow Drive at Blakely Drive and YIELD-control would be appropriate for the minor street approaches of Harlow Drive at Audley Court, Webb Avenue at Virgilia Drive, and Blakely Court at Virgilia Drive.

**T** 734.522.6711 **F** 734.522.6427 Traffic Control Recommendations West Troy Meadows March 6, 2024 Page 3 of 3



OHM recommends implementing a STOP sign on the Harlow Dive approach at Blakely Court and YIELD signs on the Harlow Drive approach at Audley Court, the Webb Avenue approach at Virgilia Drive, and the Blakely Court approach at Virgilia Drive. These intersections should be reevaluated if traffic volumes increase, or crashes begin to occur.

Sincerely, OHM Advisors

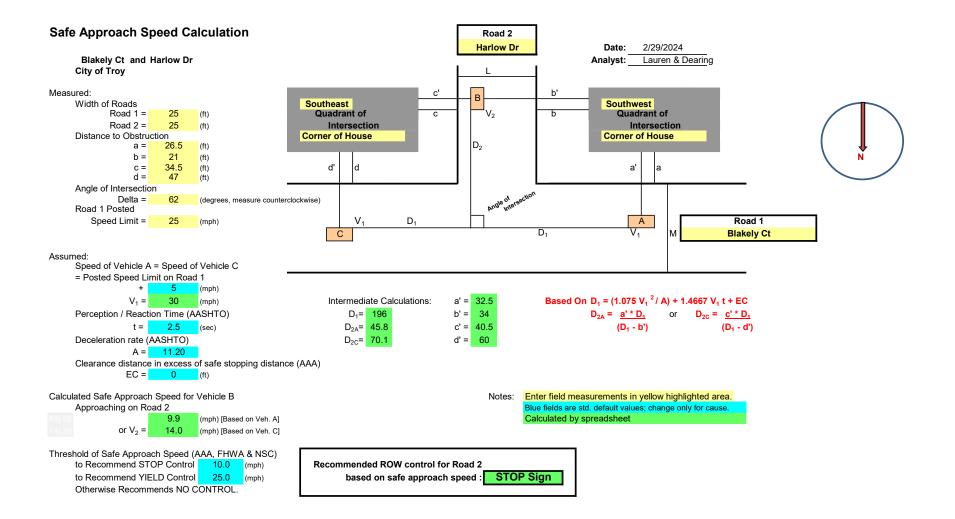
Lowren Hull

Lauren Hull, EIT Traffic Engineer

Attachments:

Aerial Photo Safe Approach Speed Calculation Spreadsheet Intersection Photos Traffic Control Determination Reference Guide Blakely Ct at Harlow Dr







Photograph No. 1: Blakely Ct - Heading West Looking Left Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 2: Blakely Ct - Heading West Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 3: Harlow Dr - Heading North Looking Left Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 4: Harlow Dr - Heading North Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 5: Harlow Dr - Heading North Looking Right Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



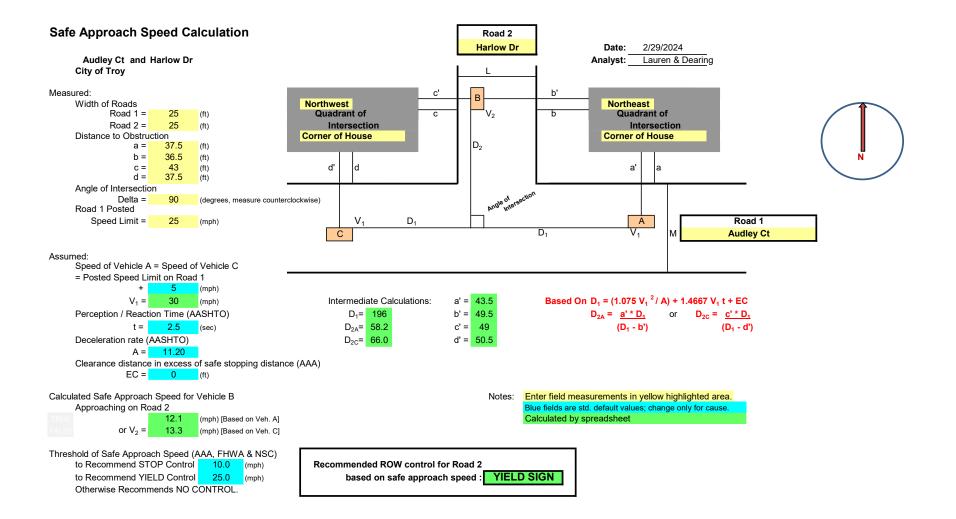
Photograph No. 6: Blakely Ct - Heading East Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 7: Blakely Ct - Heading East Looking Right Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull

Audley Ct at Harlow Dr







Photograph No. 1: Audley Ct - Heading East Looking Left Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 2: Audley Ct - Heading East Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 3: Harlow Dr - Heading South Looking Left Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 4: Harlow Dr - Heading South Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 5: Harlow Dr - Heading South Looking Right Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull

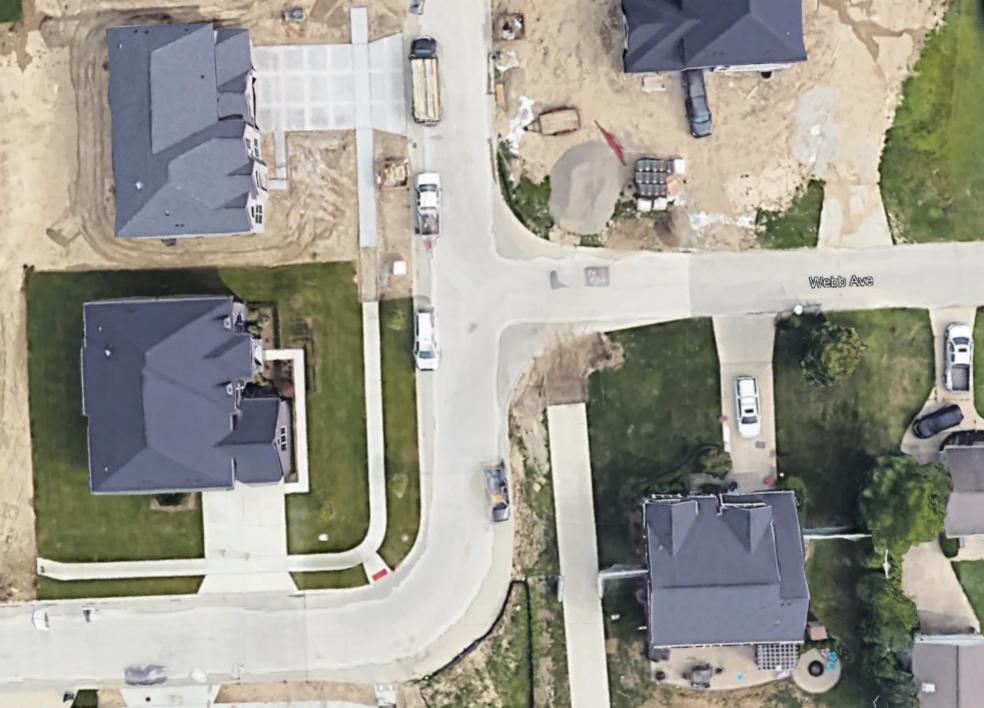


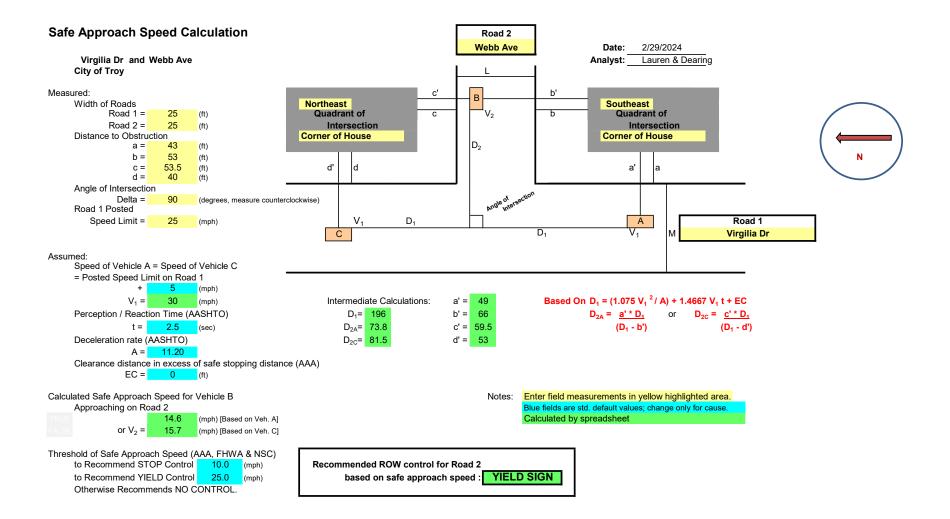
Photograph No. 6: Audley Ct - Heading West Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 7: Audley Ct - Heading West Looking Right Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull

Virgilia Dr at Webb Ave







Photograph No. 1: Virgilia Dr - Heading North Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 2: Virgilia Dr - Heading North Looking Right Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 3: Webb Ave - Heading West Looking Left Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 4: Webb Ave - Heading West Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 5: Webb Ave - Heading West Looking Right Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



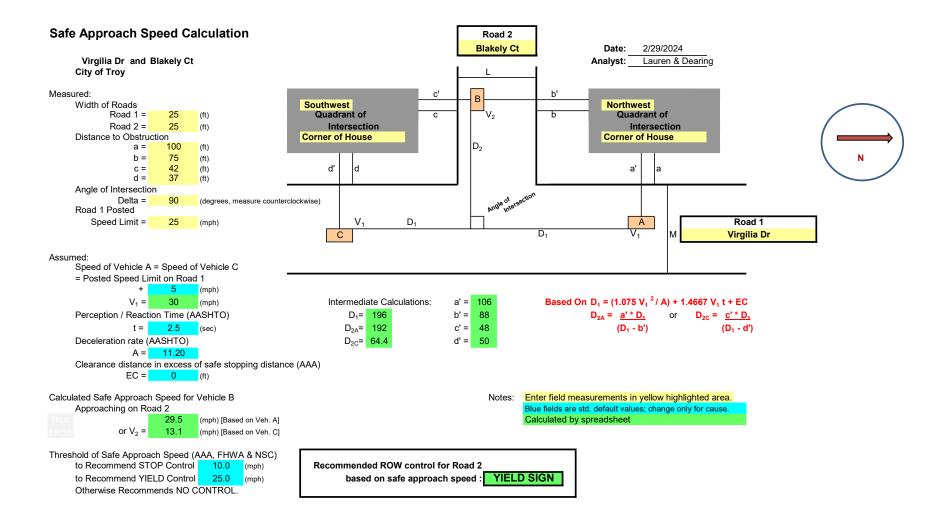
Photograph No. 6: Virgilia Dr - Heading South Looking Left Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 7: Virgilia Dr - Heading South Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull

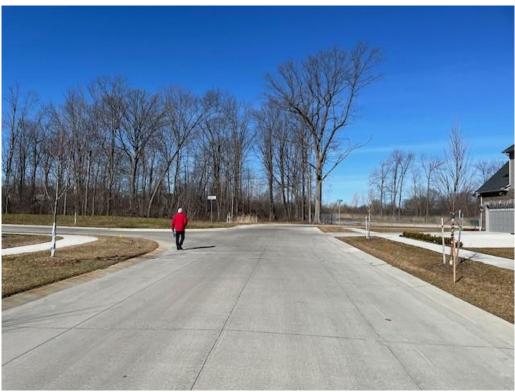
Virgilia Dr at Blakely Ct







Photograph No. 1: Virgilia Dr - Heading North Looking Left Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 2: Virgilia Dr - Heading North Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 3: Blakely Ct - Heading East Looking Left Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 4: Blakely Ct - Heading East Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 5: Blakely Ct - Heading East Looking Right Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 6: Virgilia Dr - Heading South Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull



Photograph No. 7: Virgilia Dr - Heading South Looking Right Date: 02/29/2024 Photographer: Lauren Hull

#### Reference Guide on Traffic Control Determination in the State of Michigan

#### <u>Background</u>

This document is intended to be used as a reference guide for performing intersection traffic control studies of intersections on public roadways in Michigan. The document explains the procedure and requirements necessary to implement traffic control at an intersection as stipulated by the Michigan Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MMUTCD). Act 300 of Public Acts of 1949 (as amended) requires the adoption of this Manual, and further requires conformance to the manual for all state highways, county roads and local streets open to public travel.

Generally, the starting premise is an uncontrolled intersection. The first step would then be to verify if the intersection should remain uncontrolled or if YIELD or STOP controls on the minor street approach(es) should be provided. For locations with higher traffic volumes and /or crash issues, then an evaluation of the location for all-way STOP warrants would be performed. The appropriate analysis for each level of control described below.

#### YIELD Traffic Control Guidance

The use of a YIELD sign is intended to assign the right-of-way at intersections where it is not usually necessary to stop before proceeding into the intersection. Conversely, the STOP sign is intended for use where it is usually necessary to stop before proceeding into the intersection.

The following conditions should be fully evaluated to determine how the right-of-way should be assigned:

- Traffic Volumes: Normally, the heavier volume of traffic should be given the right-of-way.
- Approach Speeds: The higher speed traffic should normally be given the right-of-way.
- Types of Highways: When a minor highway intersects a major highway, it is usually desirable to control the minor highway.
- Sight Distance: Sight distance across the corners of the intersection is the most important factor and is critical in determining safe approach speeds.

#### STOP Traffic Control Guidance

Based on the MMUTCD there are four conditions where STOP signs may be warranted:

- At the intersection of a less important road with a main road where application of the normal right-of-way rule is unduly hazardous.
- On a street entering a through highway or street.
- At an unsignalized intersection in a signalized area.
- At other intersections where a combination of high speed, restricted view, or crash records indicate a need for control by the STOP sign.

In many cases STOP signs are installed where they may not be warranted. Traffic experts agree that unnecessary STOP signs:

- Cause accidents they are designed to prevent.
- Breed contempt for other necessary STOP signs.
- Waste millions of gallons of gasoline annually.
- Create added noise and air pollution.
- Increase, rather than decrease, speeds between intersections.

There is also an explicit restriction in the MMUTCD that STOP signs are not to be used for speed control, in Section 2B.04.

#### Evaluation of All-Way STOP Traffic Control

Based on the MMUTCD there are four conditions where **all-way** STOP signs may be warranted:

- A. Where traffic control signals are justified, the multi-way stop is an interim measure that can be installed quickly to control traffic while arrangements are being made for the installation of the traffic control signal.
- B. Five or more reported crashes in a 12-month period that are susceptible to correction by a multi-way stop installation. Such crashes include right-turn and left-turn collisions as well as right-angle collisions.
- C. Minimum volumes:
  - 1. The vehicular volume entering the intersection from the major street approaches (total of both approaches) averages at least 300 vehicles per hour for any 8 hours of an average day; and
  - 2. The combined vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle volume entering the intersection from the minor street approaches (total of both approaches) averages at least 200 units per hour for the same 8 hours, with an average delay to minor-street vehicular traffic of at least 30 seconds per vehicle during the highest hour; but
  - 3. If the 85th-percentile approach speed of the major-street traffic exceeds 40 mph, the minimum vehicular volume warrants are 70 percent of the values provided in Items 1 and 2.
- D. Where no single criterion is satisfied, but where Criteria B, C.1, and C.2 are all satisfied to 80 percent of the minimum values. Criterion C.3 is excluded from this condition.