

TOWNSHIP OF WEST WINDSOR

Community Development Department

Division of Engineering

MEMORANDUM

TO: Marlena Schmid, Business Administrator

FROM: Francis A. Guzik, PE, CME, Township Engineer

COPY: Sharon Young, Municipal Clerk
M. Patricia Ward, Director of Community Development

SUBJECT: Canal Pointe Blvd Traffic Study

DATE: April 9, 2015

I am pleased to transmit with this memorandum the final Canal Pointe Boulevard Traffic Study report prepared by The Burns Group (formerly Orth-Rodgers Associates). The goal of the study was to evaluate the existing and future conditions on Canal Pointe Boulevard, and to determine if any modifications to the roadway could be recommended to better serve all users, in accordance with the Township's Complete Streets Policy. The report evaluates the physical condition, existing volumes, vehicular delays, speeds, crash history, pedestrian and bicycle facilities and transit facilities along the boulevard. Finally, it discusses projected future traffic conditions along the roadway under existing conditions as well as with a "Road Diet" reconfiguration; i.e. conversion of the existing four-lane section of Canal Pointe Boulevard to a three-lane section (two through lanes and one center lane for left turns) plus bicycle lanes.

The report finds multiple benefits from the implementation of a road diet, some of which are:

- Providing a single through travel lane in each direction can be expected to calm overall travel speeds, and will address the pattern of same-direction sideswipe crashes.
- Providing a left turn lane at all intersections will allow turning vehicles to move out of the way of through vehicles, lessening the risk of rear-end crashes.
- Reduced exposure of pedestrians to moving traffic, and reduced length of pedestrian crossing times through active vehicle lanes.
- Provision of dedicated bicycle lanes will significantly improve conditions for cyclists on this roadway, and fill an important gap in West Windsor Township's bicycle network.

The study will be made available on the Township website, with hard copies available for public viewing through the Clerk's office or Engineering office. A hard copy will also be placed in Council's chambers for members of Township Council to review.

Next steps will be to hold a public meeting to present a general overview of the study and its findings, both positive and negative, and solicit feedback on the road diet concept. The results of the feedback received will be presented to Administration and to Township Council for appropriate action. Subsequent solicitation of a contract for professional services for engineering documents for the resurfacing of the roadway will need to include direction whether the road diet concept is to be implemented or not.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.