

From: LeeAnn, Matt and Nate
DelMonte April 5, 2021
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To: Allenstown NH, Board of Selectmen
Re Deerfield Road Hazards

Concerns and issues with Deerfield Road:
Facts and Concerns about Deerfield Road:

We are a family with dogs and horses. We moved into 266 Deerfield Road July of 2019. We moved here to be further away from encroaching roads and buildings, and to be near the Park and a quiet road for access to horse riding. I give riding lessons to kids and we love to ride through the Park. However, the cars and trucks drive so fast, without regard to people or animals, that we rarely even try to walk briefly down the road to the other end of the property. At night in the summer we have to close our windows due to the heavy trucks that fly by early in the am and sometimes late at night. The reality about Deerfield Rd between Podunk Road and Rye Road:

1. It is a residential area and goes right through a park; in spite of this:
 - a. Since Covid, park visitor traffic has increased greatly, along with increased bike and pedestrian traffic (I am sure they only try it once) who have to deal with speeding trucks.
 - b. We live 7 tenths of a mile from the park entrance but would not consider walking, biking or riding a horse down the road.
2. **It also is clearly a cut-through for industrial traffic**
 - a. Large trucks that are clearly industrial (dump trucks, tow trucks, others) go at increased speed through the stretch between Podunk Road and the bottom of the hill (near Catamount Pond); they are cutting through to get to Rt. 28;
 - b. This traffic starts at about 4-5 am year round, disturbing quiet enjoyment of the property by waking us up from sleep in the am and often late at night. There is also a lot of anxiety about an accident happening by not slowing down for wildlife which cross there every am and dusk, or if our animals should accidentally get out of our fences.
3. The speed limit going eastbound from Podunk Road is 25

mph; yet higher going West through the Park area and going past our farm.

4. This is also one of the last wildlife corridors in this area; but there is no signage to remind people to slow down for wildlife. Moose, deer and turkeys cross regularly as they pass through our horse field at dawn and dusk.
5. The police presence at Catamount is great but people speed up after passing the Police cruiser;
6. There is no shoulder on the road, which increases the danger;
7. New construction in the region will further increase traffic, which will further increase the possibility of an accident.
8. It is only a matter of time before there is a serious accident with a pedestrian or cyclist, or an animal.
9. This causes:
 - a. Loud traffic during early morning hours, disturbing sleep;
 - b. This is also the same time most wildlife is crossing, causing great anxiety;
 - c. Having to construct serious and expensive fencing to try to protect our children and animals; but can become a hazard for wildlife, which we do not intend to do.
 - d. Further, when we try to carefully drive 30 or 35 to turn into our driveway, we are often beeped at and then sped around as they fly down the road.

Hopefully, something can be done to regain the quiet nature of this section of Town and help avoid a serious accident. We are hoping for one or more of the following which could help:

- a. Reduce the speed limit of this section to 25 mph
- b. Restrict large industrial truck traffic, or through traffic;
- c. Post signs to remind drivers of the speed limit and to slow for wildlife; horses and pedestrians.
- d. Increase enforcement of speeding and reckless driving east of New Rye Road.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this issue. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need further information, or have any questions.

Stay safe,

LeeAnn DelMonte