

INTERNAL TRAFFIC PATTERNS

April 22, 2024

Michele M. Lipe, AICP
Director of Planning
Town of South Windsor
1540 Sullivan Ave.
South Windsor, CT 06074

Re: South Windsor High School Internal Traffic Patterns

Dear Ms. Lipe,

This letter has been prepared in support of the application to describe the internal traffic patterns during pick up and drop off operations of the site and to expand upon information provided through the traffic study that was submitted as part of the application.

The main reasons that these improvements are being proposed is to improve safety, traffic flow, emergency access and parking. We recognize that these improvements may not completely eradicate all traffic issues in the area, however these improvements will make a positive impact.

The existing internal traffic patterns all share the existing driveway to the School that runs from Ayers Road to Nevers Road. This driveway acts as a one way in from Ayers Road from 6:30 - 8:00 am. From 8:00 am on traffic may leave the site onto either Ayers Road or Nevers Road. Morning traffic begins to peak at 7:00 am and is completed by 7:30 am. Traffic pick up operations typically begin at 1:45 and end at 2:15. Teachers typically arrive 15 minutes before students and leave after students have departed. The designated student pick up area is the existing Annex Building parking lot. Faculty and staff park in the lot adjacent to the existing track. Student parking is designated in the front parking lot or at the Annex Building. Student parking passes are distributed on a first come first serve basis and the current site has been able to accommodate the student parking demand. Due to the School only having one access drive to the site, there are a multitude of queuing issues in and around the site and limited availability for the School to alleviate those issues.

The proposed driveway will allow pick up and drop off operations to be reconfigured and spread out the existing traffic flows on site.

Under the currently proposed plan, during morning drop off operations, the busses will drop off from the existing driveway in front of the School. Access to the student parking lot will remain from the shared existing driveway. The new driveway will provide additional access from Ayers Road into the site. Cars will queue along the new driveway, drop off students adjacent to the existing track, and then loop back towards Ayers Road through the new driveway. The large existing parking lot adjacent to the operations will be designated for teacher parking to limit any conflict between arrival and dismissal times. Additionally, new sidewalks and crosswalks have

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been added to the plan to allow students to have a safe access path to the School. The new configuration will allow up to 30 cars to queue internal to the site before exiting onto Ayers Road and approximately 55 cars can queue for the drop off. This will help to mitigate the existing traffic delays on Town roads during the morning drop off operations.

During the afternoon pick up operations the new driveway configuration will allow cars to queue internally in the site, pick up students from the School, and exit back towards Ayers Road. The new driveway will allow approximately 50 cars to queue internally to the site. This will help to alleviate the existing traffic queues on Ayers and Nevers Roads by removing many of the cars from the Town roadways and moving them internally to the site. The site will have new sidewalks to allow safe passage of students to vehicle or parking spaces.

The proposed improvements will help to alleviate the traffic back up on the existing roadways by increasing the amount of available queuing space internal to the site and having multiple points of exit/entry. By keeping less cars queued on the Town roadways, the overall traffic patterns will be improved on those Town roads. The proposed improvements have been designed to allow safe travel routes by sidewalks for pedestrians around the internal queued vehicles. The addition of sidewalks by the Town along Ayers Road will allow students to have a safe access path from all Town roads. The proposed plan is intended to give the School flexibility in developing the safest and most efficient pick up and drop off operations. It is the intent of this proposal that the School will continue to work with the South Winsor Police Department on any alterations to the pick up and drop off operation plans.

Lastly, the traffic study provided describes existing and proposed levels of service (LOS). For clarity, the approximate wait time difference between a LOS D and LOS F is 10-15 seconds. While the models show the LOS under proposed conditions to remain as poor, the inclusion of the new driveway and available queuing space on site will help to alleviate the traffic on the Town roads.

If you have any comments or concerns regarding the responses to these comments, please feel free to reach out.

Sincerely,



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