

Kristin Alexander

From: Chapin . Chip [CChapin@drc.com]
Sent: Monday, April 04, 2005 2:24 PM
To: Roland Bartl
Cc: Planning Board; Tom.Lemire@hp.com; surprcj@rcn.com
Subject: Pope Rd photos heading south to Brabrook intersection/Proposed Ellsworth Village Project



Mar 02, 2005,



Mar 02, 2005,



Mar 02, 2005,



Mar 02, 2005,



Mar 02, 2005,



Mar 02, 2005,



Mar 02, 2005,

Brabrook Pope In... Brabrook Pope In...

Roland,

One of our neighbor's on Pope suggested I send photos looking at the Pope Brabrook intersection from the north. Photos are from Mar 2, 2005.

Photo 1: Taken from Wingate Lane entrance looking south down Pope toward Brabrook at my Jeep parked on Brabrook

Photo 2: Taken from center lane Pope opposite Wingate Lane entrance looking south down Pope toward Brabrook, Jeep no longer visible.

Photo 3: Taken from center lane Pope at driveway entrance to Emma Sarno's 50 Pope Rd residence looking south down Pope toward Brabrook, Jeep still not visible.

Photo 4: Taken from center lane Pope at large tree to the south of Emma Sarno's 50 Pope Rd residence looking south down Pope toward Brabrook, Jeep now visible.

Photo 5: View to the north of the large tree photo 4 was taken next to. Also observe the continuing slight curve leading to the hill people accelerate up when heading south from Stonymeade.

Photo 6: Taken from driveway entrance of Rita Spence's 42 Pope Rd residence looking south down Pope toward Brabrook, Jeep visible.

Photo 7: Taken from center lane Pope at driveway entrance to Rita Spence's 42 Pope Rd residence looking south down Pope toward Brabrook, Jeep visible.

Clearly, the Pope / Brabrook intersection is even more dangerous in the winter.

Best Regards,
Chip Chapin

-----Original Message-----

From: C. Surprise [mailto:surprcj@rcn.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 24, 2005 5:02 AM
To: Chapin . Chip
Subject: RE: Brabrook exiting...

Chip,

After looking at the pix, I wondered if there wasn't a way to show the problem from the other direction as well -- the view of the intersection from Pope with the distances indicated. What always takes me by surprise (no pun...) is how quickly the street appears as you round the slight turn coming up to Spence's house. The snow piles in the pictures were good to get, as they clearly make the situation even worse -- and in my car that's a lot lower than your up-in-the-air Jeep, things would be even worse.

Craig

-----Original Message-----

From: Roland Bartl [mailto:rbartl@acton-ma.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 25, 2005 10:56 AM
To: Chapin . Chip
Subject: RE: Brabrook exiting onto Pope photos/Proposed Ellsworth Village Project

Message received - thank you.

Roland Bartl, AICP
Town Planner, Town of Acton
472 Main Street
Acton, MA 01720
978-264-9636

-----Original Message-----

From: Chapin . Chip [mailto:CChapin@drc.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 24, 2005 3:03 PM
To: Roland Bartl
Subject: Brabrook exiting onto Pope photos/Proposed Ellsworth Village Project

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Chapin . Chip
> Sent: Wednesday, February 23, 2005 2:12 PM
> To: 'bartlus@acton-ma.com'
> Cc: Linda Chapin (E-mail); karu_ratnam@yahoo.com;
etighe@stadlerviega.com; shecannata@aol.com; levi@glozman.com; 'Lemire,
Tom (GSE)'; 'tom.lemire@comcast.net'; 'C.Surprise'; 'axeberos';
'Surprise, Craig'
> Subject: Brabrook exiting onto Pope photos/Proposed Ellsworth
Village Project
>
> Request that this email and attached photos be forwarded to the
> Planning Board.
>
> These photos show a typical winter view looking north onto Pope.
> Observe that this blind stretch of Pope is actually a curved portion
> of the road combined with the crest of a hilltop. The posted speed is

> 35. There is a long straight stretch (heading south on Pope after
> Stonymeade) with good visibility that can give a driver the confidence

> to exceed the 35 speed limit without fear of police radar or danger to

> other vehicles/pedestrians. Further, it is typical when one drives up

> a hill to depress the gas a little more to climb the hill. The
> vehicles then enter into the blind curve leading to Brabrook
> intersection.
>

Note: these photos were taken from the driver's seat of a 2000 Jeep Grand Cherokee. The view from a standard size car would even worse than what these picture show.

Photo 1-4 = approaching Brabrook / Pope intersection, note in photo 1 most of a passing SUV is obscured.

> Photo 5 = normal stopping point view. Note.. for reference with photo

> 6, note the line of ice across Brabrook. Front wheels of my Jeep Grand Cherokee are approx on this line. Photo 6 = need to inch out into Pope to here while prepared to immediately stop before one can actually commit to safely exiting. Note the line of ice is now behind

> the driver's seat. Photo 7 = view from near center of Pope looking north.

>
> > <<Feb 02, 2005, Acton Brabrook Pope Intersection North View
> > 001.jpg>> > > <<Feb 02, 2005, Acton Brabrook Pope Intersection
North View 002.jpg>> > > <<Feb 02, 2005, Acton Brabrook Pope
Intersection North View 003.jpg>> > > <<Feb 02, 2005, Acton Brabrook

Pope Intersection North View 004.jpg>> > > <<Feb 02, 2005, Acton
Brabrook Pope Intersection North View 005.jpg>> > > <<Feb 02, 2005,
Acton Brabrook Pope Intersection North View 006.jpg>> > > <<Feb 02,
2005, Acton Brabrook Pope Intersection North View 007.jpg>>
> Having put children on & off the bus at this intersection for 8 years,
it appears that many vehicles exceed this speed far more than indicated
in the traffic study estimate. I have stopped several times and talked
with Acton police that are manning radar traps in the East Acton Village
region and requested they set up routinely at Brabrook to help slow
traffic down during the bus pickup/dropoff times. Acton police when I
have stopped have asked me.... are you really sure you want to target
your neighbors on Pope? I replied of course for the children's
safety.... what's the difference to setting up the radar point at
Bursaw's targeting neighbors coming down Concord Rd? Their reply....
well one of the selectman lives in this house across from Ice House
Pond. They, to my knowledge, have never honored my repeated requests.
>
> To improve this intersection will require more than removal of a few
trees and taking a bit of the crest off the hilltop road portion. The
hillside that is the front of Rita Spence's 42 Pope Rd property (to the
west of Pope Rd) will have to be leveled to at least the stonewall if
not further. It will also take speed enforcement.
>
> Lauren requested accident reports for this intersection last night. I

> am aware of one recently.
>
> Another thing to be considered is the number of near misses involving
> Brabrook children getting on and off the bus. I know of one occasion
> several years ago where my son would have been run over exiting the
> bus if the bus driver hadn't nearly jumped out of the window of the
> bus to stop a car that was ignoring the flashing bus lights. I know
> there have been a least one or more similar incidents that happened
> within the past year to my neighbors' and their children as well.
>
>
> Chip
>
> =====
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