



Transportation Committee - Board of Representatives

David Watkins, Chair

Terry Adams, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Tuesday, June 21, 2022
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: *This meeting was held remotely*

The Transportation Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Watkins, Vice Chair Adams and Committee Member Reps. Gilbride, Grunberger, Moore, and Sandford. Rep. Di Costanzo was excused. Also present were Reps. Boeger and Walston; SPD Sergeant Jeffrey Booth; Frank Petise, Transportation Bureau Chief; Luke Buttenwieser, Transportation Engineering; and four members of the public.

Chair Watkins called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
11. T31.013	REVIEW; Micromobility Devices- Updating Code of Ordinances Chapter 231 – Vehicles and Traffic, Article VI. to Allow Micromobility Devices (i.e Scooters and Ebikes). 04/06/22 – Submitted by Reps. Gilbride, Pollack and Boeger 04/11/22 – Held at Steering 05/09/22 – Moved to Pending	Held 6-0-0

Rep. Gilbride and Mr. Buttenwieser reviewed the attached [presentation](#) in detail, and there was discussion.

- Micromobility refers to any small or low speed human or electric assisted bicycle, scooter or wheeled conveyance.
- These were banned in Stamford in 2005, mostly due to the mini-motorbikes that were banned. Small mobility devices were grouped together.
- The current ordinance is out of date. There are new terms that should be put into new legislation.
- Connecticut Public Act 19-162 gives electric scooters the same privileges as bicycle riders. This Act allows municipalities the right to regulate scooters.
- Two key points to consider:
 - Changing the current ordinance to allow for micromobility devices,
 - Creating guidelines for safety, and guidelines to give the City oversight on share programs that will probably want to enter Stamford.
- The 30th BOR passed a resolution in support of shared mobility principles.
- Safety is a key issue for everyone on the roads and sidewalks.
- Scooters should not be allowed on sidewalks, but riders need to be safe on the roads.

¹ Video Time Stamp: 00:02:26

- Chair Watkins expressed his concern that scooters may be unsafe for pedestrians and especially disabled pedestrians. How well will scooter laws be enforced?
- Parking areas for scooters are needed.

The Committee agreed there needs to be further discussion on this item.

A motion to hold Item No. 1 was made, seconded, and approved by a vote of 6-0-0 (Reps. Watkins, Adams, Gilbride, Grunberger, Moore, and Sandford in favor.

²2. [T31.016](#) REVIEW; “Speed Bumps” as a method of speed control and traffic calming in City and neighborhood streets. **Report Made**
06/06/22 – Submitted by Rep. Watkins

Chair Watkins explained his reason for putting this item on the agenda. Speeding is one of the most frequent topics of complaints from his constituents. Many people think speed bumps are the best answer. However, the Traffic Department in the past has made it clear that speed bumps are a limited use item and should not be applied broadly.

Mr. Petise gave an overview of speed humps:

- Most residents want either speed humps or stop signs.
- There are many types of traffic calming measures.
- The Master Plan of 2020 states speed humps should not be used for various reasons: traffic is transferred to another road, reduced property values, increased noise and acceleration, and signage in front of properties.
- There are many requirements for speed humps: local roads only, cannot be on hills, intersections, or curves, and needs 65% of property owners in agreement.
- In addition, when Traffic Engineering determines the best location, the property owners where the speed hump will be placed need to agree to it. Many people want a speed hump, but do not want it front of their own house.

There was a brief discussion. Rep. Sanford stated speed bumps have been an asset to his neighborhood and they have helped with traffic calming.

Chair Watkins adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Watkins, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).

² Video Time Stamp: 01:04:00