

CITY OF LACONIA - CITY COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
Public Works Committee
On-site: Intersection of Havenwood Drive and Pleasant St.
6:00 P.M.

9/3/2025 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Haynes called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM

2. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Not completed, Subcommittee meeting was out in the field.

3. RECORDING SECRETARY

Katie Gargano, City Clerk

4. ROLL CALL

All Committee members were present: Councilor Haynes, Councilor Hoffman and Councilor Soucy.

5. STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Kirk Beattie, City Manager; Wes Anderson, DPW Director

6. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

7. PUBLIC WORKS (Haynes, Soucy and Hoffman)

7.A. Request to improve the Do Not Enter controls at the intersection of Pleasant Street and North Main Street

The number of drivers ignoring the Do Not Enter signs has increased. This has resulted in Pleasant Street residents requesting improvements to traffic control at the intersection.

The Public Works Subcommittee at their August 14, 2025, meeting requested Public Works to coordinate an onsite meeting with the property owners that abut Pleasant Street between Havenwood Drive and North Main Street to obtain feedback on the four options to improve Do Not Enter controls at the intersection. The following are the four engineering options.

Option 1: Mill off the double yellow line striping between Havenwood Drive and North Main Street to its current transition to one-way traffic. Retain Pleasant Street as a two-way road up until its current transition to one-way traffic:

Analysis: Since most of the commuters live in the region, once they determine that it is still a two-way road the number of drivers who ignore the signs will return to their current levels.

Option 2: Make Pleasant Street one-way (northbound) from Havenwood Drive to North Main Street.

· Required modifications:

o Mill off the double yellow lines on the pavement in this area. o Add a one-way traffic sign to the posts with the Do Not Enter signs o Add one-way signs at the intersection of Pleasant and Havenwood Drive

· Impact:

o Residents of 10 houses will have to go north to Main Street to go south to another location in the City.

o Solid waste collection: All the containers will have to be placed on the odd side of the street as Casella will only be able to drive north in this area.

Analysis: This option will most likely have the desired effect on reducing the number of drivers ignoring the Do Not Enter signs.

Option 3. Put a large concrete structure in what is the southbound lane at the intersection of Pleasant and North Main Street

· Required modification

o Remove the double yellow lines on Pleasant Street from Havenwood Drive to North Main o Place a series of contract structures such that the length of the structures in the lane is sufficient to convince drivers to not take the chance of being caught or getting into an accident.

Analysis: May reduce the number of drivers who are ignoring the Do Not Enter signs. However, locals who know what we have done may just go around the structure. This increases the likelihood of an accident. The City could be found at fault.

Option 4: Remove one lane of pavement between the driveway of 456 Pleasant Street and the intersection of North Main Street

· Required modifications:

o Remove pavement and turn the area into grass. City would have to mow this area unless the property owner of 456 Pleasant Street agrees to mow the additional grass area adjacent to his property.

o May have to add curbing to the area where the pavement was removed.

o Add a one-way traffic sign to the posts with the Do Not Enter signs.

· Impact:

o Solid waste collection. All the containers will have to be placed on the odd side of the street as the collection contractor will only be able to drive north in this area.

o The one lane section of the road would become a no parking area.

Analysis: This option will most likely have the desired effect on reducing the number of drivers ignoring the Do Not Enter signs.

Analysis of options:

Option 2, one-way from Havenwood Drive to North Main Street and Option 4, removing one lane of road from the driveway of 456 Pleasant to North Main are most likely to have the desired effect. Option 4 will cost more than Option 2.

Discussion: Director Anderson reviewed the options listed above with the subcommittee and the subcommittee had conversations with the following neighbors: Dave Price and wife, Robert Daniels, Justin Barkley and John Berlied.

Mr. Price wanted the intersection modified so it only allowed Pleasant Street traffic to turn south at the intersections. Other attendees did not agree with that option.

None of the attendees wanted to change Pleasant Street between Havenwood and North Main to one way traffic going north.

The worst period when drivers violate the do not enter signs is at the start of Pleasant Street School pickup time through the period when the industrial plant workers on Lexington Drive are going home after the 3:00 pm shift change. The attendees stated that traffic is speeding.

Councilor Soucy suggested using temp barriers to close the south bound lane on Pleasant to traffic. Some of the attendees did not agree with that concept.

None of the attendees wanted any modification that would require the residents to put their solid waste containers on only one side of the street.

Manager Beattie stated based on the lack of consensus on the available engineer options stated that he would talk to the Police Chief to increase enforcement to determine what impact that would have on reducing drivers violating the do not enter signs.

8. **Any other business that may come before the Committee**

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Haynes adjourned the meeting at 6:19 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Gargano, City Clerk