

CHESTERFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT

Business: 363-4233
FAX 363-4152

Duane M. Chickering
Chief of Police

May 18, 2020

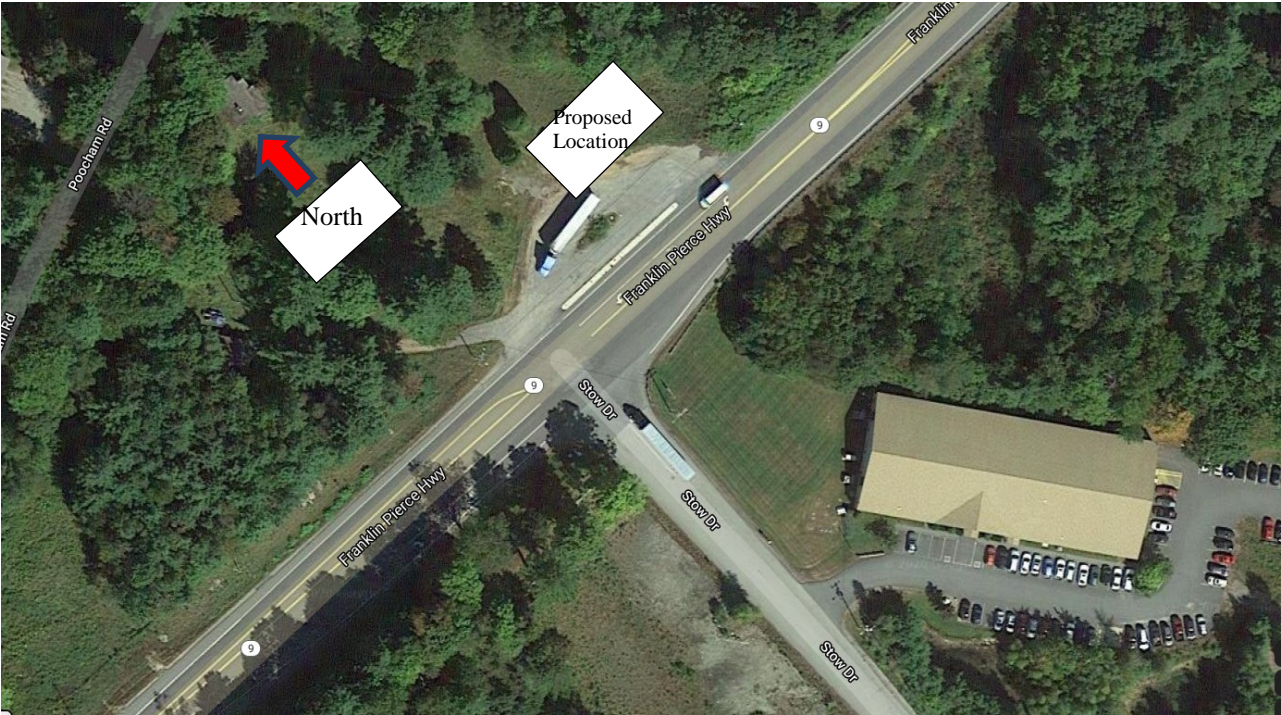
TO: Chesterfield Planning Board
FROM: Duane Chickering, Chief of Police, Chesterfield Police Department
RE: INTERSECTION OF ROUTE 9/STOW DRIVE/LONEY PROPERTY

Dear Members of the Chesterfield Planning Board:

I have been asked to provide any observations or concerns regarding an application submitted to the Chesterfield Planning Board for a Food Cart on James Loney's property at the Intersection of Route 9 and Stow Drive.

This specific intersection, is described as follows:

Route 9 is a paved asphalt roadway. When traveling east, there is a right turn lane to turn onto Stow Drive, a regular travel lane and a passing lane which ends just east of the intersection of Stowe Drive. When traveling west towards the intersection, there are guardrails on the northern portion of the road, and no breakdown lane. There is one regular travel lane and a left turn lane to turn onto Stow Drive.



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I am very familiar with this specific piece of property due to the Chesterfield Police Department consistently working with James Loney and UNFI with the ongoing issues of Tractor Trailer Units parking illegally on James' Property.

UNFI is a major distributor of goods throughout New England. Unfortunately, out of State Truck Driver's arrive on the grounds of UNFI early (even though they are told via their dispatch, copious amounts of signage and our repeated interventions that they are not allowed to arrive earlier than 15 minutes for drop off) and ultimately park wherever they want. This caused UNFI to hire security to deal with this issue and move them off of their property and Stow Drive. Because UNFI Security does not have any police authority, it is not uncommon to see numerous tractor trailer truck move from Stow Drive and onto the Loney Property or park on Route 9 in the westbound or eastbound breakdown lanes. This includes tractor trailer trucks being stuck in snowbanks trying to get onto the Loney property blocking the entire westbound lane causing traffic snarl ups and near misses.

Not only are these tractor trailer trucks (average length 53 feet) unsafely crossing this intersection and illegally parking on the property, they leave copious amounts of trash, fecal matter, and urine bottles strewn about. Even after the most recent cleaning of this property (within the past few weeks), a bag of trash, human fecal matter and a urine bottle (placed up into a tree) can be seen.

Proposed Food Cart location

When traveling west on Route 9 and as you approach the intersection of Route 9/Stow Drive/Loney Property, you travel up an incline and the breakdown lane ends and guardrails begin. As you crest the hill, there is no breakdown lane, a westbound travel lane and then a left turn lane to turn onto Stow Drive. Due to the *inability to pull into any breakdown lane* to turn right onto the Loney Property, there is a *potential* of rear end collisions as vehicles slow or stop to turn onto the Loney Property just past a hillcrest. Due to the Loney Property having two entrances (either side of the cement island) it could be *mitigated* by closing the first (easterly) entrance onto the property and only allowing access in the westerly entrance. This would increase the line of sight distance, but again the turning vehicle will still have to stay in the westbound traffic lane to turn onto the property and then make a sharp right turn after the island.

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When traveling east on Route 9 (and approaching the intersection of Route 9/Stow Drive/Loney Property, there is a breakdown lane, a right turning lane, an eastbound travel lane and an eastbound passing lane. This area is a location where we find very high speeds in the passing lane due to the passing lane ending just east of this intersection. The Chesterfield Police Department frequently park east of this intersection (after the hill crest) to address the high speeds.

Based upon the current design, I have serious concerns over high speed rear end accidents for vehicles traveling east and waiting to make a left hand turn onto the Loney Property.

It appears from the photos that I have taken, as well as the overview (Google Maps) photo that a left turn lane could be made at this intersection. It appears that when the state made the left hand turn lane to turn left onto Stow Drive (when traveling west), there is space that is present to also allow a left turn lane onto the Loney Property (when traveling east). At this time, there are double solid lines that is currently prohibiting this from happening. My concern for a potential high speed rear end collision would be mitigated if a left turn lane was established for eastbound traffic to turn left onto the Loney property.



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View from Loney's westerly entrance facing Stow Drive



View from travel lane on Stow Drive facing Loney's westerly entrance



Another risk factor consideration should also be made in regards for pedestrian traffic on Stow Drive wanting to cross Route 9 to get to the Loney Property. I don't believe that pedestrian traffic would be the majority of the traffic but all options should be considered at this time.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at (603) 363-4233 or dchickering@pd.chesterfield.nh.gov.

Best Regards;

Duane Chickering

Duane Chickering
Police Chief

Chesterfield Police Department