

July 25, 2022

#22-09 – Scenic Road Rescinding - Stachowiak

Location: North School Road

Intent: Rescind Scenic Road designation

Application Received: June 13, 2022

Application Acknowledged: June 13, 2022

Public Hearing Opened: July 11, 2022

Review: The public hearing on the subject application was opened at the July 11 meeting and a volume of testimony was provided that both supported the proposal and was opposed to it from residents on the road.

It was agreed that Planning Staff would seek input and guidance from the Director of Public Works and Town Engineer on the matter for the upcoming meeting. Staff has discussed the matter in detail and has decided it would be prudent to seek additional professional engineering involvement on the project from the Transportation Institute of the University of Connecticut. This agency is able to provide detailed engineering and planning opinions on the status of North School Road as well as a menu of solutions that can be considered by the Town at no cost to the Town. It is Staff's understanding that the Institute can begin work in August. A completion date has not been confirmed at this time.

The Commission may recall that Planning and Engineering Staff requested the assistance of the Institute when the Town acquired the Coventry Farmers' Market several years ago. They evaluated the parking, traffic, and vehicle movement issues associated with the Market and provided viable solutions that were successfully implemented by the Town. These solutions alleviated the congestion and safety concerns that existed previously.

Planning Staff recommends that the Commission continue the hearing on this matter in order to allow Town Staff to work with the Institute to gain this important guidance that will assist not only the Staff but the Commission on the most appropriate path to address the safety and maintenance issues associated with North School Road.