

# Town of Belmont, MA

## Traffic Advisory Committee (T.A.C.)

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TOWN CLERK  
BELMONT, MA

2015 MAR 24 AM 8:24

### Minutes of Meeting June 20, 2013

**Members present:** Larry MacDonald (Vice Chair), Don Mercer, Dana Miller (Clerk), Linda Nickens (Chair), Tomasina Olsen, and Matt Sullivan

**Ex-Officio Members present:** Glenn Clancy, PE; Sgt. Benjamin Mailhot, BPD

**Also present:** Sheila Flewelling

Linda called the meeting to order at 7:14.

**Winter Street:** Sargent Mailhot discussed the results of speed studies with conflicting findings. The Sargent explained that high vehicle speeds might be due, at least in part, to the down-hill grade of the road coming from Country Club Lane towards the intersection of Mill Street and Concord Avenue. The highest speeds--between 40 and 50 mph--were observed at the intersection with Robinwood Road. Glenn pointed out that, because Winter Street is a windy road and is on an incline, some drivers don't recognize that the street runs through a residential area.

To help remedy problems, Glenn recommended that we:

1. replace the existing "Thickly Settled" sign at Country Club Lane (SB) with a new "Thickly Settled 30 MPH" sign;
2. add a "Thickly Settled 30 MPH" sign between Concord Avenue and Country Club Lane on both sides of Winter Street;
3. add a new crosswalk at Robinwood Road (Northerly) under the existing street light (which might require a brighter bulb);
4. install crosswalk-indicator signs at three Winter Street intersections (Country Club Lane, Robinwood Road, and Marsh Street--where brighter bulbs might be required at the two closest lights);
5. install advance-warning crosswalk signs (305 feet at 40 MPH) at the intersection with Robinwood Road (just before #148 Winter Street and near #97 Winter Street) and at the intersection with Marsh Street (in front of #112 Winter Street and P/L #51 & 59 Winter Street); and
6. install a "Turn Off Directional After Turning" sign at the intersection with Concord Avenue for those drivers coming from Concord Avenue onto Winter Street.

The TAC approved the recommendations, with the exception of the advance-warning crosswalk sign at the intersection with Marsh Street.

**Lexington Street-Sycamore Street Intersection:** Discussion focused on the limited visibility at this intersection.

# Town of Belmont, MA

## Traffic Advisory Committee (T.A.C.)

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Glenn recommended that the TAC adopt the recommendations listed below, which were put forth by the BSC Group in their report of May 1, 2013.

1. Replace the existing stop sign on Sycamore Street (westerly approach to Lexington Street) with a larger sign.
2. Send letters to the property owners at 61/63, 65/67, and 75 Lexington Street asking them to maintain their hedges at a height of no more than three feet (These letters have already been sent).
3. Determine if the existing flashing yellow/red beacon can be upgraded to a larger lens size.
4. Add "Dangerous Intersection Ahead" signage on Lexington Street (Northerly approach to Sycamore Street).

The TAC approved these recommendations.

In response to a question from Sheila Flewelling, Glenn indicated that he hopes these improvements can be made before the school year begins in September. In addition, Glenn hopes, in the near term, to review and implement State recommendations for school zones.

Ms. Flewelling commended Glenn for listening carefully to resident concerns, for his quick grasp of the problems presented, and for his thoughtfulness and creativity in devising remedies for traffic challenges in Belmont. She referenced his exemplary work and his excellent plans.

### Other Business

- Sargent Mailhot was contacted by a resident concerned about motor vehicle speed on Worcester Street. In response, Sargent Mailhot conducted a speed study, which demonstrated that the average speed on this road was 19 MPH. The highest speed recorded was 39 MPH and the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile (which would be used to establish a posted speed limit) was 24 MPH. Accordingly, 30 MPH is the appropriate speed limit for Worcester Street. Sargent Mailhot will provide the study information to the concerned resident.
- Glenn is going to review the crosswalk on Concord Avenue by the Underwood pool with an aim to improve signage.
- The Police Department has been awarded \$3000 for bicycle /pedestrian safety enforcement.
- The next TAC meeting will be held in September 2013.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.



# Traffic Advisory Committee TOWN OF BELMONT

19 Moore Street  
Homer Municipal Building  
Belmont, Massachusetts 02478-0900  
Telephone: (617) 993-2650 Fax: (617) 993-2651

Linda Nickens, Chair  
Laurence Macdonald, Vice Chair  
Dana Miller, Clerk

Committee Members  
Peter Curro  
Donald Mercier  
Tommasina Olson  
Matt Sullivan

**Date:** June 13, 2013  
**To:** Members – Traffic Advisory Committee  
**From:** Linda Nickens, Chair  
**Subject:** Agenda for Meeting on **Thursday, June 20, 2013 at 7:00 PM** in **Town Hall Conference Room 2**. If you cannot attend the meeting, please contact Linda via e-mail.

**7:00** Call to Order  
**7:00 – 7:05** Minutes (5/9/2013)  
**7:05 – 7:30** Winter Street

- Discussion of Recommendations

**7:30 – 8:00** Lexington Street at Sycamore Street

- Discussion of Recommendations

**8:00 – 8:05** New Business

- No Known Items

**8:05 – 8:10** Old Business

- No Known Items

**8:10** Adjourn

**Cc:** Board of Selectmen – Andy Rojas  
David Kale, Town Administrator  
Glenn R. Clancy, Town Engineer  
Sgt Ben Mailhot, Belmont Police Department  
Richard McLaughlin, Belmont Police Chief  
Peter Castanino, Director, Department of Public Works  
Karl Haglund, Planning Board

6/20/13

John Puma SR 120 Winter St

Debra Puma 120 Winter St. Belmont,

Cindy Puma 109 Winter St

Sheila Jewelling 36 Sycamore St

David C Jewelling 36 Sycamore St

Sherril Lowery 123 Winter St

Tom Lowery 123 Winter St



## Winter Street

Replace existing Thickly Settled sign at Country Club Lane (SB) with a new Thickly Settled 30 MPH sign

Add Thickly Settled 30 MPH signs between Concord Avenue and Country Club Lane – both directions

Add new Crosswalk at Robin Wood Road (Northerly)  
Under existing street light (Brighter bulb?)

Add Crosswalk Indicator signs at:  
Winter Street at Country Club Lane  
Winter Street at Robin Wood Road  
Winter Street at Marsh Street (Brighter bulbs at two closest lights?)

Add Advance Warning Crosswalk Signs (305 feet at 40mph):  
Winter Street at Robin Wood Road (just before #148 Winter Street and near #97 Winter Street)  
Winter Street at Marsh Street (front #112 Winter Street and P/L #51 & 59 Winter Street)

Add sign at Concord Avenue right before the right turn onto Winter Street that states:  
Turn Off Directional After Turning



## TOWN OF BELMONT

460 CONCORD AVENUE  
P.O. BOX 130  
BELMONT, MASSACHUSETTS 02478-0002

### POLICE DEPARTMENT



TELEPHONE  
(617) 484-1215

RICHARD J. McLAUGHLIN  
CHIEF OF POLICE

June 20, 2013

Traffic Advisory Committee  
Homer Municipal Building  
19 Moore Street  
Belmont, MA 02478

Members of TAC,

Attached are two graphs that show the results of a speed study that I conducted on Worcester Street at request of area residents who were concerned about excessive speeding on their street. I conducted the study during the week of 06/17/2013. The results from the speed spy device show that it operated between Monday 06/17/2013 11:00 AM through Thursday 06/20/2013 2:00 PM. The speed spy device was placed on a telephone pole in front of 49/51 Worcester Street.

Worcester Street is considered a "Thickly Settled" area which according to MGL Chapter 90, Section 17, has a speed limit of 30 MPH. The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed, which would be used to establish a posted speed limit, from the results of this study was 24 MPH. The average speed was 19 MPH during the time of this study. The highest speed recorded was 39 MPH. A total of fifteen (15) vehicles were traveling over the 30 MPH speed limit and zero (0) were above 40 MPH. The total number of vehicles which traveled on this roadway during the study was 873. This information tells me that the "Thickly Settled" area 30 MPH speed limit is appropriate for this roadway.

Based on this information I do not think that this segment Worcester Street has a speeding problem. From my training and experience I believe that the issue on Worcester Street is one of perception. Due to the narrow roadway and the trees that line the street it is common for people to think that vehicles are traveling faster than they really are. A search of our MV Crash records indicates that there have been two (2) reported MV Crashes on Worcester Street in the last ten (10) years; one in 2003 and one in 2008. Given this data I cannot justify additional traffic enforcement assignments for Worcester Street for speeding as they will likely result in no activity by the assigned Officer(s).

Respectfully Submitted,

Benjamin J. Mailhot  
Sergeant  
Traffic & Records Division

Date: 6/20/2013 03:10:12 pm

Start Date: 6/17/2013 11:00 am

End Date: 6/20/2013 02:00 pm

Time Interval: 60 minutes

Speed Interval: 5 mph

Posted Speed Limit: 30 mph

Average Speed: 19 mph

Highest Speed: 39 mph

50th Percentile: 19 mph

85th Percentile: 24 mph

Number Above Speed Limit: 15

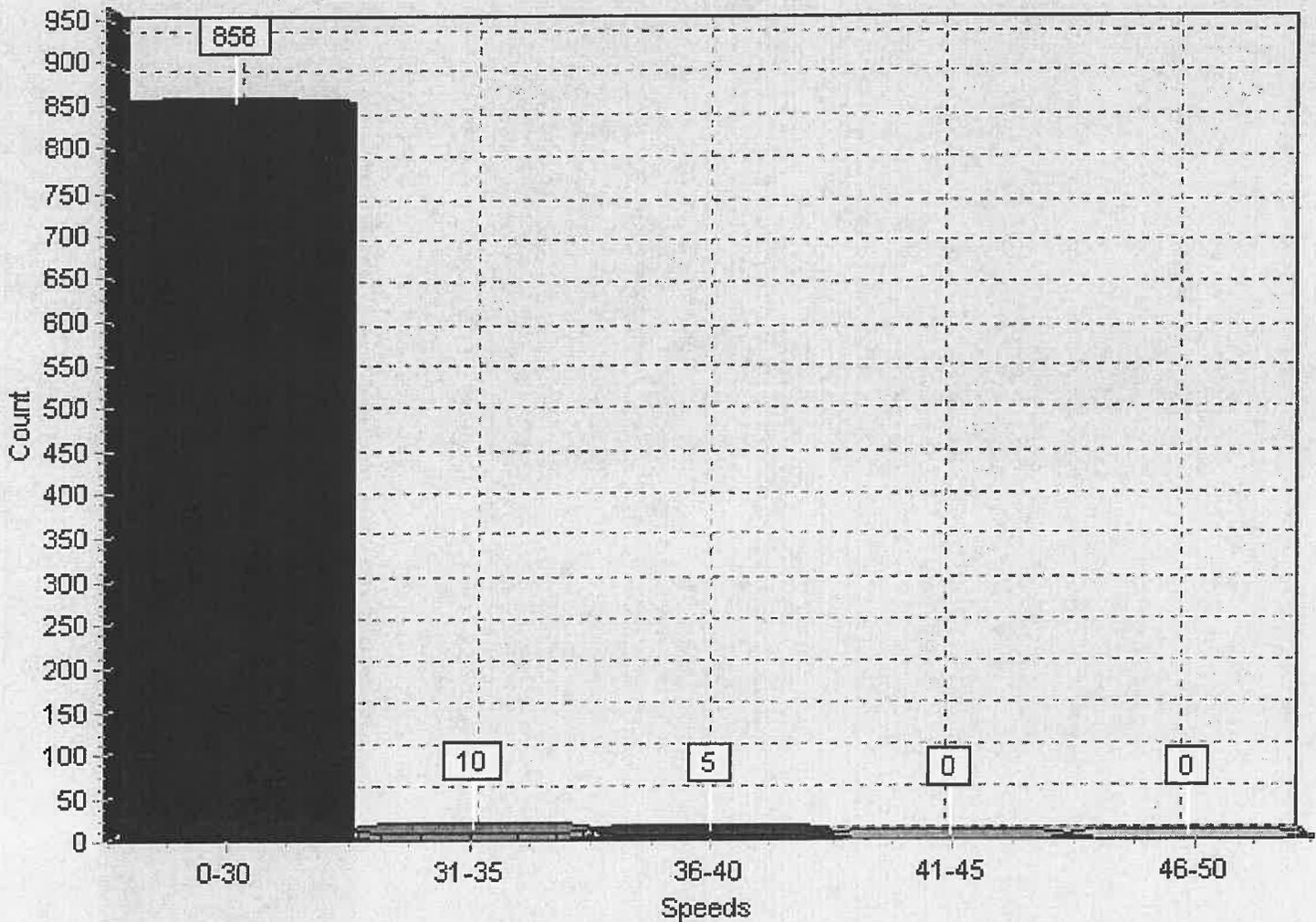
Total Number of Vehicles: 873

Comments:

Worcester Street, Belmont, MA

Count vs. Speed

6/17/2013 11:00 am - 6/20/2013 02:00 pm



Date: 6/20/2013 03:10:12 pm

Start Date: 6/17/2013 11:00 am

End Date: 6/20/2013 02:00 pm

Time Interval: 60 minutes

Speed Interval: 5 mph

Posted Speed Limit: 30 mph

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Highest Speed: 39 mph

50th Percentile: 19 mph

85th Percentile: 24 mph

Number Above Speed Limit: 15

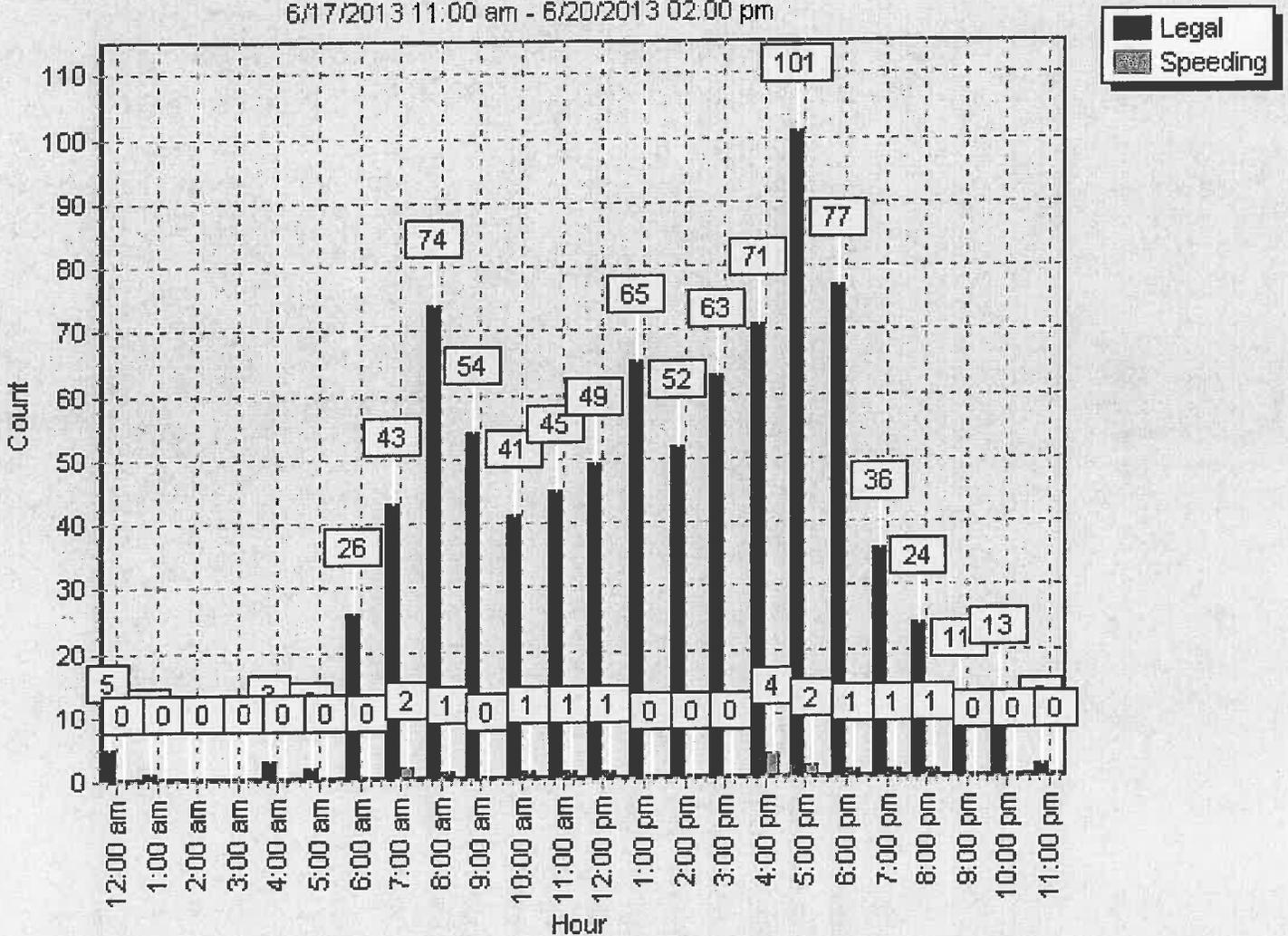
Total Number of Vehicles: 873

Comments:

Worcester Street, Belmont, MA

Count vs. Hour

6/17/2013 11:00 am - 6/20/2013 02:00 pm





BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT  
TRAFFIC DIVISION  
460 CONCORD AVENUE  
BELMONT, MASSACHUSETTS 02478



Date: May 30, 2013

To: Mr. Glenn Clancy, Office of Community Development

From: Sgt. Ben Mailhot

Re: Documents

Mr. Clancy,

Enclosed are the following:

1. Winter Street Speed Study Results from April 2013
2. Twenty-Seven (27) Police Crash Reports dating back to 2010 from crashes at the intersection of Lexington Street & Sycamore Street.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "B. Mailhot", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Sgt. Mailhot

Date: 4/9/2013 10:00:54 am

Start Date: 4/1/2013 01:00 pm

End Date: 4/4/2013 02:00 pm

Time Interval: 60 minutes

Speed Interval: 5 mph

Posted Speed Limit: 30 mph

Average Speed: 36 mph

Highest Speed: 59 mph

50th Percentile: 36 mph

85th Percentile: 40 mph

Number Above Speed Limit: 5846

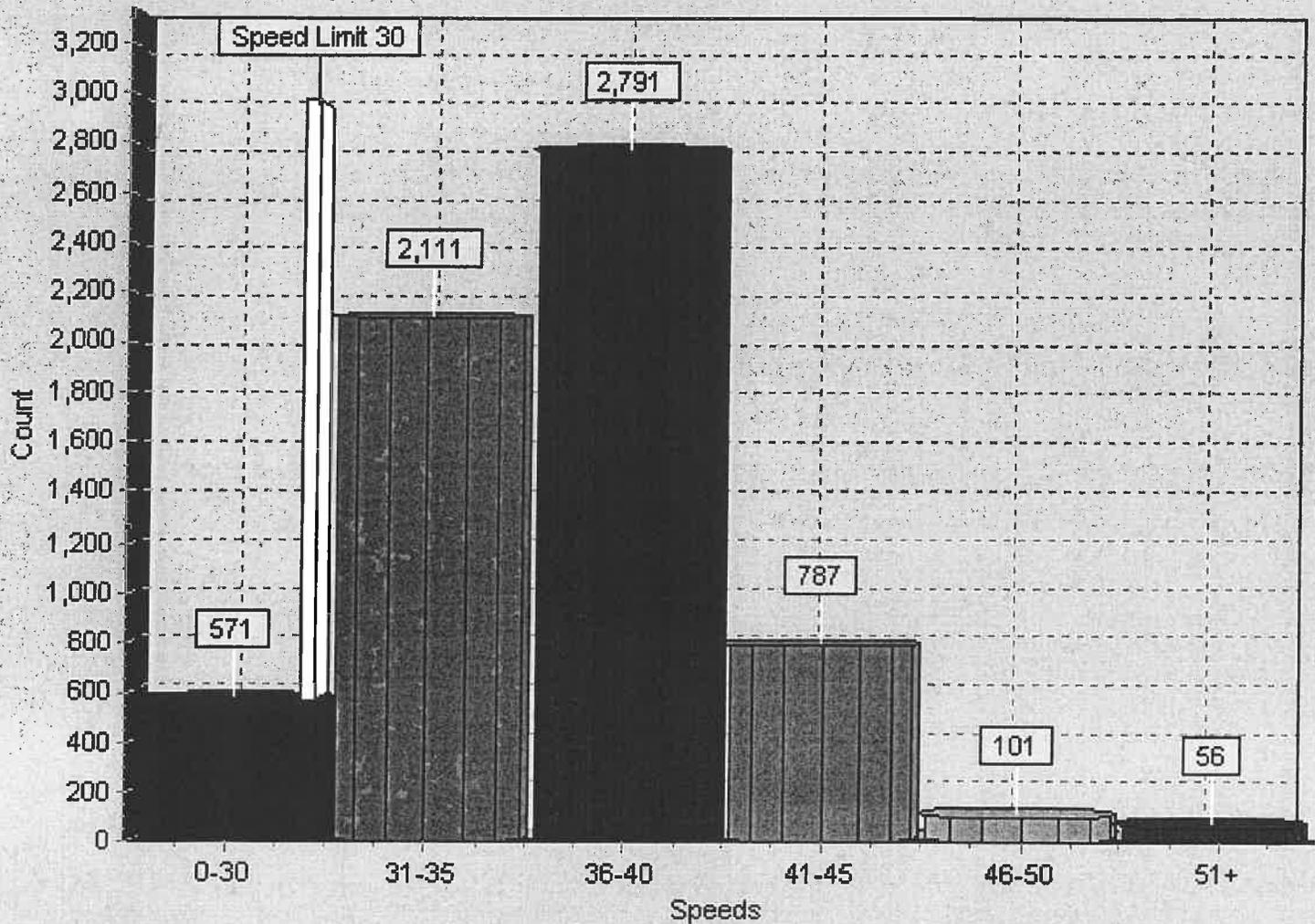
Total Number of Vehicles: 6417

Comments:

Winter Street, Belmont, MA

Count vs. Speed

4/1/2013 01:00 pm - 4/4/2013 02:00 pm



Date: 4/9/2013 10:00:54 am

Start Date: 4/1/2013 01:00 pm

End Date: 4/4/2013 02:00 pm

Time Interval: 60 minutes

Speed Interval: 5 mph

Posted Speed Limit: 30 mph

Average Speed: 36 mph

Highest Speed: 59 mph

50th Percentile: 36 mph

85th Percentile: 40 mph

Number Above Speed Limit: 5846

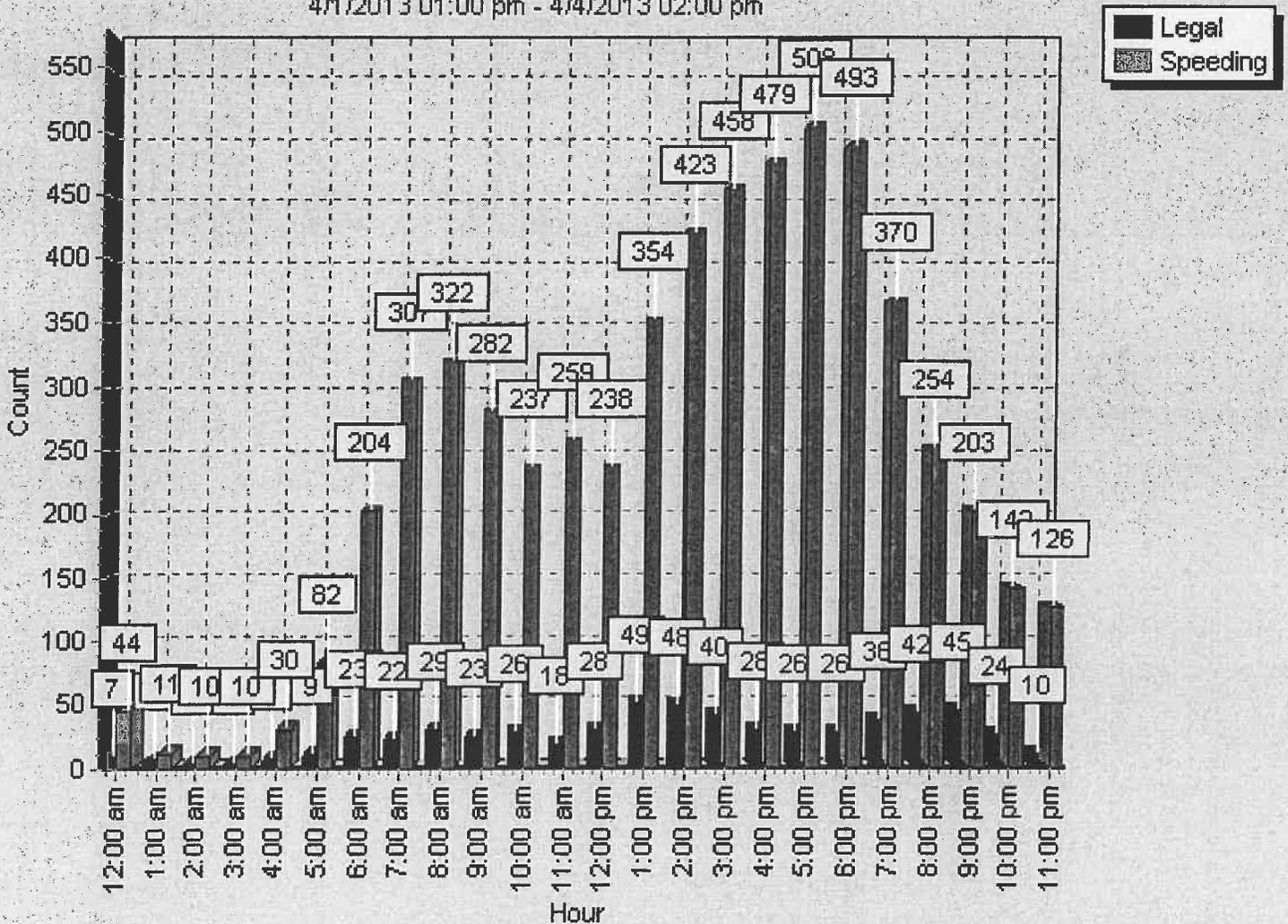
Total Number of Vehicles: 6417

Comments:

Winter Street, Belmont, MA

Count vs. Hour

4/1/2013 01:00 pm - 4/4/2013 02:00 pm



## **Lexington Street at Sycamore Street**

Adopt recommendations made by BSC Group in their report of May 1, 2013

Replace existing Stop Sign on Sycamore Street (westerly approach to Lexington Street) with a larger sign

Notify property owners at 61/63, 65/67 and 75 Lexington Street asking them to cut vegetation down to three feet in height

Determine if existing Flashing Yellow/Red Beacon can be upgraded to a larger lens size

Add signage on Lexington Street (southerly approach to Sycamore Street) indicating caution required, "Dangerous Intersection" ahead