



# **Greenwich Police Department Traffic Section**

## **Selective Traffic Enforcement Program**

**Year End Report**

**2006**

*Many residents over the years have urged that police step up enforcement to slow down traffic on town roads. Now that such an initiative seems to be paying off, we hope townspeople will show their appreciation. We also hope that the Police Department keeps the effort in place in coming months and years...we agree that the increase in traffic enforcement has an effect on the overall safety on town roads and highways.*

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Joy L. Haenlein, Editor

Compiled by: GPD Traffic Division  
Sergeant Timothy Berry

## Selective Traffic Enforcement Program

A S.T.E.P. plan is a comprehensive traffic management program used to address traffic related problems that exist with the Town of Greenwich utilizing whatever resources are available to the Department.

Overall, collisions Town wide are down **2416 in 2005 to 2145 for 2006**. That is a reduction of **271** collisions or a **10%** overall reduction in reported motor vehicle crashes

Specifically, the roads that were the focus of the STEP initiative for 2006:

1. Post Road from Dearfield Dr. to Maher Ave.
2. Greenwich Ave.
3. North St.
4. Sound Beach Ave.
5. Arch St.
6. Lake Ave.
7. Delavan Ave.
8. King St.
9. Field Point Rd.
10. Hamilton Ave.

Specifically, the following roads achieved results as follows:

<i>Location</i>	<i>2005 collisions</i>	<i>2006 collisions</i>	<i>Reduction</i>
Greenwich Ave	112	91	19 %
North Street	88	68	23 %
Sound Beach Avenue	53	42	21 %
Arch Street	66	49	26 %
Lake Avenue	51	35	32 %
Delavan Ave	32	14	57 %
King Street	18	20	+10 %
Field Point Road	19	23	+18 %
Hamilton Avenue	21	17	20 %
Post Rd. Dearfield –Maher	70	40	42 %

Accounting for an increase in two locations the overall reduction value is **21.2 %** for the targeted roads in the STEP initiative. An additional measure of the effectiveness of the program is the overall impression of the traffic problem in Town as reflected by the complaints that are called, mailed or otherwise transmitted to the police department or other Town officials. The experience for the last 6 months has been a marked decrease in complaints received.

King Street's increase in collisions is somewhat surprising considering that there was considerable effort in conducting traffic enforcement on King Street. King Street has

developed into a major thoroughfare for north/south travel along the western corridor of Greenwich. With the increase in private school populations and Westchester County Airport travelers the traffic volume infrastructure is reaching its maximum levels. Studies will be conducted going into the next year to identify methods to address this increase.

Field Point Road's increase is also surprising, as the levels of collisions did not seem to be significant as they were mostly minor in nature. However, closer reflection revealed that the road is used as an arterial road from US Route 1 to I-95 and experiences a considerable volume of traffic throughout the day. There also exists several pedestrian crossings that have been addressed by traffic enforcement efforts, however that will not likely effect the total volume of collisions experienced however imparts an general feeling of safety among the pedestrians that traverse the area.

In looking forward in the STEP process, attempts are underway to make better use of the in-house AS400 computer system and its query functions to better collate all the raw data that comes in. Additionally, with the use of the traffic data counters and a better management of their use, a project is underway to collect baseline data of all arterial roadways in Town so that requests for enforcement or information can be responded to more promptly.

A new survey for the last year 04/05 thru 04/06 revealed a new list of the to ten roads for collision experience. Following the list of the top ten is the next ten 11 through 20 for comparative purposes. New to the list for this year are Glenville Road, Mason Street, and Byram Road. They will now be incorporated into the overall STEP initiative.

#### Top Ten Roads for the year 2006

1. East Putnam Avenue	373
2. Greenwich Avenue	118
3. North Street	88
4. Arch Street	71
5. Sound Beach Avenue	63
6. Lake Avenue	51
7. Glenville Road	35
8. King Street	35
9. Mason Street	34
10. Byram Road	32

#### The Next Ten

11. Round Hill Road	32
12. Stanwich Road	31

13. Field Point ROAD	31
14. Hamilton Avenue	31
15. Riversville Road	24
16. Milbank Avenue	16
17. Riverside Avenue	16
18. Indian Field Road	16
19. Delavan Avenue	15
20. Pemberwick Road	13