

Durham Police Department  
86 Dover Road  
Durham, New Hampshire 03824  
868-2324

# MEMORANDUM

January 28, 2019

**TO:** Todd Selig, Town Administrator

**FROM:** Dave Kurz, Chief of Police

**RE:** Review of Pedestrian Accidents in the Downtown Area

The matrix below is an updated list of all reported pedestrian accidents in the downtown area between the railroad overpass on the westerly side of downtown and the intersection of Main Street and Route 108 to the east. The report includes public access parking lots in the immediate vicinity that have reported pedestrian events. In addition, the report identifies where the pedestrian was located at the time of collision and the factors that may have contributed to the event. All of the pedestrians were injured to varying degrees and transported by ambulance to Wentworth-Douglas. All vehicle operators were issued summons for failure to yield to a pedestrian if the pedestrian was in the crosswalk, unless subsequent investigation reveals that a summons is not justified. During this period there have been three pedestrian fatalities with one occurring each year in 2004, 2008 and 2015.

While this document was initially developed in 2003, it has been updated periodically to maintain an accurate portrayal of accidents involving pedestrians between the years of 1996 – 2018.

Date – Time	Location of Accident	Pedestrian Location	Cause of Accident
01/07/96 (9:02AM)	Main/Garrison	Crosswalk	Driver inattention
06/21/96 (4:20PM)	Main/Mill	Crosswalk	Driver fail to yield
10/17/96 (7:18PM)	Main/Park Ct.	Crosswalk	Driver inattention
01/22/97 (Noon)	Main/Madbury	No crosswalk	Vehicle changing lane
01/29/97 (1:00PM)	Main/Edgewood	Crosswalk	Driver inattention
07/15/98 (4:45PM)	Main/Edgewood	Crosswalk	Driver fail to yield
03/11/99	Main/Pette Brook	Crosswalk	Driver inattention

(1:30PM)			
07/01/99 (5:35PM)	Main/Madbury	Crosswalk	Driver fail to yield
09/10/99 (6:50PM)	Main/Garrison	Crosswalk	Vision obscured
10/25/99 (7:40AM)	Main/Edgewood	Crosswalk	Solar glare - vision obscured
11/10/99 (6:20PM)	Main/Park Ct.	Crosswalk	Vision obscured
11/10/99 (6:42PM)	Main/Edgewood	Crosswalk	Vision obscured
01/14/00 (12:57PM)	Main/Madbury	Crosswalk	Driver inattention
11/03/00 (4:45PM)	Main/Jenkins Ct.	Crosswalk	Driver fail to yield
09/05/01 (6:55PM)	Main/Jenkins Ct.	Crosswalk	Driver fail to yield
09/06/02 (3:17PM)	Main/Madbury	Crosswalk	Driver fail to yield
09/24/02 (1:15PM)	Main/Madbury	Crosswalk	Driver inattention
12/13/02 (9:26PM)	Main/Park Ct.	Crosswalk	Driver fail to yield
04/03/03 (2:03PM)	Main/College Rd	Not in Crosswalk	Pedestrian inattention
05/02/03 12:59PM)	Main/Pette Brook	Not in Crosswalk	Pedestrian inattention
11/23/03 (6:40PM)	Main/College Rd	Crosswalk	Driver Intoxicated
11/24/03 (5:20PM)	Madbury/Woodman	Crosswalk	Driver fail to yield
10/06/04 (11:13PM)	Main/Pettee Brook	Crosswalk	Driver fail to yield
11/21/04 (12:50AM)	Main/near Park Ct <b>Fatal</b>	Not in Crosswalk	Driver convicted of vehicular homicide
04/08/05 (10:43PM)	Main/College Rd.	Crosswalk	Driver fail to yield
11/16/05 (9:10PM)	Main/MUB access	Not in Crosswalk	Pedestrian Inattention
03/13/06 (12:30PM)	Main/Private drive	Not in Crosswalk	Driver backing out of drive-inattention
08/28/06 (12:04PM)	Main/College Ave	Crosswalk	Pedestrian fail to yield running into crosswalk
12/14/06 (4:08PM)	Main/Garrison Ave	Crosswalk	Rain-dark clothes/driver inattention

04/28/07 (10:26PM)	Main/Garrison Ave	Crosswalk	Driver inattention
09/07/07 (11:15PM)	Main/Madbury Rd.	Crosswalk	Driver inattention
09/21/07 (10:28PM)	Main/Park Ct	Crosswalk	Driver/Pedestrian inattention
02/09/08 (11:27AM)	Irving Gas Station	Parking Lot	Driver inattention
02/28/08 (7:11PM)	Main/Madbury Rd.	Crosswalk	Driver/Pedestrian inattention
05/28/08 (8:36AM)	Garrison Ave	Not in Crosswalk	Pedestrian inattention
07/26/08 (7:16AM)	Croghan Lane	Not in Crosswalk	Driver inattention
09/19/08 (9:21AM)	Main/Quad Way	Crosswalk	Driver inattention
12/08/08 (12:04PM)	Mill Road/Mill Plaza <b>Fatal</b>	Crosswalk	Driver inattention
12/01/09 (12:12AM)	Strafford/Garrison Ave	Not in Crosswalk	Pedestrian inattention
02/24/10 (9:55AM)	Main/Pettee Brook	Crosswalk	Driver inattention
08/27/10 (10:26PM)	67 Mill Road	Not in Crosswalk	Driver inattention
09/20/10 (10:09AM)	Main/Quad Way	Crosswalk	Driver failure to yield
10/14/10 (7:49AM)	Main Street	Crosswalk	Driver failure to yield
12/11/10 (9:50PM)	Main/Garrison Ave	Crosswalk	Driver failure to yield
1/11/11 (5:23PM)	Mill Road	Crosswalk	Driver obstruction (snow bank)
09/08/11 (12:06AM)	Main Street	Not in Crosswalk	Suicide Attempt
11/20/11 (5:15PM)	Main/Depot Road	Crosswalk	Pedestrian inattention (pedestrian stepped backed into lane)
12/10/11 (9:53PM)	Main/Madbury	Crosswalk	Driver failure to yield
05/11/12 (8:12PM)	Madbury/Maple	Crosswalk	Pedestrian inattention (pedestrian stepped into raised table)
05/15/12 (7:47AM)	Pettee Brook/Main	Crosswalk	Solar glare- vision obscured
06/27/12	Madbury/Woodman	Crosswalk	Driver inattention

(7:45AM)			
09/04/12 (9:10PM)	Main/Garrison	Crosswalk	Driver failure to yield
11/06/12 (11:00AM)	Garrison/Ballard	Not in Crosswalk	Pedestrian Error
02/19/13 (5:57PM)	Dennison/Coe	Crosswalk	Pedestrian inattention (pedestrian waved vehicle on but walked into crosswalk)
05/16/13 (11:51PM)	Main/West Edge Rd.	Walking with traffic	Driver Intoxicated
10/31/13 (6:11PM)	Main/Pettee Brook	Crosswalk	Driver failure to yield
12/09/13 (6:05PM)	Madbury/Pettee Brook	Crosswalk	Driver failure to yield
04/16/14 (8:00AM)	Main/Pettee Brook	Crosswalk	Driver failure to yield (driver failed to stop and fled scene)
04/18/14 (8:55PM)	Main/Pettee Brook	Crosswalk	Driver failed to yield to person in wheel chair
10/04/14 (7:08PM)	Main/Pettee Brook	Crosswalk	Driver failed to yield
11/05/14 (12:38AM)	Bagdad/Madbury	Crosswalk	Driver failed to yield
12/09/14 (11:24AM)	Quad Way/Main St.	Not in Crosswalk	Pedestrian inattention
12/12/14 (10:16PM)	Main/Pettee Brook	Crosswalk	Pedestrian inattention
03/28/15 (1:25AM)	Main/Park Court	Not in Crosswalk	Pedestrian intoxicated
07/22/15 (3:28PM)	Madbury/Pettee Brook	Crosswalk	Driver failed to yield
09/11/15 (11:38PM)	Madbury/Woodman	Crosswalk	Driver failed to yield
09/12/15 (12:23AM)	Main/Mast Road	Not in Crosswalk (walking side of road in same direction as traffic)	Vehicle mirror struck pedestrian-fled scene
10/12/15 (11:35AM)	Main/Pettee Brook	Crosswalk	Driver failed to yield and fled scene
10/15/15 (10:31PM)	Main/Mill Road	Crosswalk	Driver failed to yield
10/16/15 (8:49AM)	Main/Technology Drive	Not in Crosswalk (walking side of road in same direction as traffic)	Vehicle mirror struck pedestrian-

			fled scene
10/21/15 (12:20PM)	Main/Mill Road	Crosswalk	Driver Failed to yield
12/17/15 (4:38PM)	Madbury/Cowell Dr.	Not in Crosswalk	Driver Failed to yield
12/17/15 (5:39PM)	Main/Garrison Ave	Crosswalk	Driver Failed to yield
05/04/16 (10:20PM)	Main/Garrison Ave	Crosswalk	Driver Failed to yield
09/30/16 (4:05AM)	Route 4 <b>Fatal</b>	No Crosswalk	Intoxicated pedestrian in middle of Rt. 4
10/06/16 (8:57PM)	Strafford Ave	Skateboarding by holding on to car	Numerous summons issued
10/27/16 (4:16PM)	Main/Pettee Brook	Crosswalk	Driver Failed to yield
11/17/16 (6:57PM)	Main/Garrison Ave	Crosswalk	Driver arrested for DWI
02/03/17 (7:30AM)	Emerson/Bagdad	Crosswalk	Driver failed to yield
03/03/17 (9:00AM)	Pettee Brook/Main	Crosswalk	Driver failed to yield
03/30/17 (1:55PM)	Pettee Brook/Main	Crosswalk	Driver failed to yield
06/06/17 (9:17AM)	Pettee Brook/Madbury	No Crosswalk	Pedestrian inattentive
11/07/17 (10:24PM)	Main/Garrison Ave	Crosswalk	Driver failed to yield
02/01/18 (1:41PM)	Pettee Brook/Main	Crosswalk	Driver failed to yield
04/06/18 (9:32PM)	Pettee Brook/Parking lot	Crosswalk	Driver looking right failed to observe pedestrian approaching from left
08/23/18 (10:56AM)	Pinecrest Lane	Foot propelled scooter	Child on scooter traversed roadway into vehicle
10/11/18 (6:26PM)	Main Street/Madbury Road	Crosswalk	Solar glare-vision obscured
10/16/18 (8:10AM)	Main Street/Madbury Road	Crosswalk	Driver failed to yield
11/02/18 (1:36PM)	Main Street/Madbury	Crosswalk	Driver failed to yield

	Road		
11/26/18 (6:02PM)	Main Street/Park Court	Crosswalk	Driver failed to yield

### Interesting Data

- Ninety (90) pedestrian accidents have been reported to the Durham Police within the calendar years of 1996-2018.
- Sixty-four (67) of the pedestrian accidents occurred while the pedestrian was within a crosswalk (74%).
- Fifty (51) of the accidents occurred in areas where two-way traffic existed (57%).
- There have been three (3) fatal pedestrian accidents during these years with two pedestrians not in a crosswalk and the one within.
- Forty-four (44) of the accidents occurred during daylight hours (48%)
- Seven (7) of the accidents were attributed to “solar blindness” during sunset or sunrise occurrences (8%).
- Sixty-nine (69) of the accidents occurred in **clear** weather (76%)
- Twenty-one (21) of the accidents occurred when the weather was **cloudy** with or without precipitation. (26%)
- Posted speed limit at all locations is 25 MPH, except one fatal on Route 4
- Each year there is an average of 3.75 pedestrian accidents. In 2015 there were more recorded accidents involving pedestrians with ten (10) than any other year in the study. Previous to this year, the years 1999, 2008, 2014 and this year, 2018 each had six (6) accidents. The years 1998, 2001, and 2009 had the least with only one (1) accident.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.