



GREENCASTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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09/06/2022

MEMORANDUM FROM:

John Phillippy
Chief of Police

Re: Traffic congestion at 705 E Baltimore St

The area of 705 E Baltimore St is aka SR 0016. It is adjacent to Eastern Ave a roadway maintained by the Borough of Greencastle. There is also a traffic signal at the adjacent Interstate 81 south bound off-ramp. SR 0016 is used by app. 12,000 vehicles per day.

From roughly 0700 to 0830 there is heavy traffic congestion on SR0016. In the morning this is primarily an east bound condition and it is repeated in the afternoon for those traveling west. This congestion is sometimes exacerbated by inconsiderate motorists attempting to enter the business at this location and blocking the roadway.

On 09/06/2022 the writer sat across from the location for an extended period of time (app. 1 hr). While the business was open and had a number of customers, none blocked the roadway. It was noted that SR 0016 was still backlogged to a point near Spring Grove Ave.

It is the opinion of the writer that:

- The property owner should be encouraged to make optimum use of the space available for traffic on his property.
- The Borough should engage in a public relations campaign to promote the use of alternative routes to attempt to alleviate some of the traffic. Education could encourage the use of I-81 Exit 3 or Exit 10 rather than Exit 5 which is known for design hazards and delays.
- Council may consider signage and roadway markings placed at the intersection of Eastern Ave for the intersection to be kept clear ("Don't Stop in the Box") as gridlock is a problem at this inherently dangerous intersection. This may require approval by PennDot.

Absent a total redesign of the area it is doubtful that a complete solution is available to keep the area void of traffic congestion given the high peak volumes of traffic that will continue to increase due to regional growth.