

**DISCUSSION REGARDING GREGORY BOULEVARD & FIFTH STREET-NEIGHBORHOOD
TRAFFIC SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

**SPECIAL MEETING FAILED TO ACHIEVE A QUORUM AND WAS NOT CALLED TO
ORDER**

MAY 21, 2026

ATTENDANCE: Josh Goldstein; Anne Wennerstrand; Nicole' Eaddy; Jalin Sead

STAFF: Lamond Daniels, Chief of Staff, Jay Habansky, Chief of Economic and
Community Development; Dilene Byrd, Secretary; Marsha Elbourne, City Clerk

Mr. Goldstein provided an overview of the Gregory Boulevard & Fifth Street neighborhood traffic safety improvement project, noting that it is grant-funded and is only for design. The state funding also covers the cost of holding future public engagement sessions and will be voted on Tuesday. There will be a public forum about the project on June 22 from 6:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. at Marvin Elementary School.

Kelsey Townsend - Spoke in opposition to the project and questioned its need and current status. She does not want another issue like the recent one regarding Cemetery Street.

Michael Garvey - Spoke in opposition to the project and questioned why the design is necessary.

David McGoldrick- Spoke in opposition to the project and said there are other intersections that need more help, such as Cove Avenue. There are so many other things to do, and he would like to know if, in the planning process. He experiences more issues near Calf Pasture Beach while riding his bike and said the bike lane is very narrow.

Becca Stoll - Spoke in support of the project because there people would not be able to speed through a roundabout, and that would be good for traffic calming. She is in support of safety.

Jim Anderson- Spoke in opposition to the project and suggested installing traffic lights instead.

Karen Lehn- Stated she is against the roundabout. There will be non-stop traffic. She questioned the number of accidents and, based on the amount of traffic, there, of course, would be some.

Tricia Ciccone - Spoke in opposition to the project and questioned how we would know the cost would not overrun the amount allocated for the grant. She suggested installing better crosswalks and bike lanes. Safety is important, but this is extensive. There are easy fixes, such as coordinating traffic control with the police. Three-and-a-half million dollars is taxpayer money, and it is all of our money being spent on something the community does not want.

Betty Bono- Spoke in opposition to the project and stated that Fifth Street is more of an issue, especially with parking and the possible shared use for the NRVT. This project should be revisited, as she believes there are better traffic-calming measures that could be used, since this would be a tremendous burden on the area's residents.

Reed Auerbach- Spoke in opposition to the project and said that he has lived in the area for over 71 years, and it is not the hazard that people are saying it is. The grant funding should be used for something else. He hopes this is not a done deal.

Joe Pace- Questioned if the traffic study had already been done. He also said that installing a roundabout would require a lot of room, and the properties in the vicinity would lose some of their property to eminent domain.

Al Buccinfuso- Spoke in opposition to the project and asked how much different it would be than it currently is.

Tom Farrinton spoke in opposition to the project, said he hopes a decision has not already been made, and questioned why it would move forward given that so many people are not in support of it. He suggested putting it to a vote among the people.

Michael Garr- Spoke in opposition to the project and said that Calf Pasture Beach Road is more of an issue, and that there is no reason that it is two lanes in each direction.

Jo Boy- Spoke in opposition to the project and said that Norwalk is beginning to look like Stamford.

Carson Coyle- Spoke in opposition of the project and said that many of the 33 crashes occurred outside the circle, along Marvin Street, and in front of Marvin Elementary School. "The accidents in front of Marvin School have nothing to do with the roundabout," he said, calling on the city to look at problem spots individually rather than redesigning the whole intersection.

Diane Cece- Stated that the process is broken. She spoke out against the project and said that the East Norwalk Neighborhood Association recommended going back to the drawing board and considering alternatives. Timing is not of the essence, so there is no reason to rush this forward.

John Levin - Spoke in opposition to the project, asking where the traffic data came from. He stated that Calf Pasture Beach Road is more of the issue. Review the accident report and identify an alternative way to make the area safer. Enforcement can do this without changing the culture.

Charles Tomanek - Spoke in opposition to the project, and this issue was created for no reason. Speeding is more of an issue on Fifth Street. He asked that the project not go forward and that it be tabled.

Chris Fedore- Spoke in opposition to the project and stated that the issue is more on Fifth Street. He urged the council not to move forward with the project. He moved to this area of Norwalk to get away from the traffic, and he does not want that to change.

Jake Silver- Spoke in opposition to the project and asked why this meeting was not called beforehand.

Joe Gradia - Spoke in opposition to the project and said there are many other areas in Norwalk where the money can be used. He urged the council to spend the money where it is needed.

Robert Borst- Spoke in opposition to the project and said he moved to East Norwalk for peace and tranquility. If it is not broken, don't fix it.

Patty Wallace spoke in opposition to the project, and it is a complete waste of money.

Paul Fox- Spoke in support of the project, but agreed there are concerns with the process. He suggested there may be other options for the NRVT Trail and that he does not want to see one problem solved only to create another.

Tina Healy spoke in opposition to the project and suggested that speed bumps be installed, as they are on Pine Hill Avenue.

Matthew Silbert- Spoke in support of the project and said he thinks we all care about street safety, and he think experts at TMP want to improve streets for everybody, it's important we all share our views as we are now, but is in favor of doing something with it, if I'm hearing that this is an opportunity to prevent accidents from occurring, I'm in favor.

Lisa Pinto- Spoke in opposition to the project and said she witnessed an accident at the circle on her way to the meeting Thursday night, adding that the signage there is genuinely confusing and that, at a minimum, it needs to be made much clearer for drivers.

The discussion ended at 7:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd