

**BERRYVILLE TOWN COUNCIL POLICE AND SECURITY COMMITTEE  
MEETING AGENDA  
Berryville-Clarke County Government Center  
101 Chalmers Court, Second Floor  
A/B Meeting Room**

**Called Meeting  
September 9, 2015  
9:00 a.m.**

**Item**

**Attachment**

**1. Call To Order**

**2. Discussion**

**Citizen Concerns regarding traffic on  
South Buckmarsh Street**

**1**

**3. Closed Session**

**No Closed Session Scheduled**

**4. Adjourn**

↑ Denotes an item on where a motion for action is included in the packet

Staff was contacted by a citizen regarding his concerns about traffic on South Buckmarsh Street. The email from this gentleman is attached (John Senecal 8/24/15). Mr. Senecal's concerns include speeding, engine brakes, compliance with cross walk requirements, and the lack of BPD enforcement in the area.

Staff contacted Mike Johnson (another citizen who lives near Mr. Senecal) because he had spoken previously with staff about speeding concerns on South Buckmarsh Street. Mr. Johnson provided some information he would like discussed (email attached: Mike Johnson 9/2/15).

Both Mr. Senecal and Mr. Johnson have been informed of the Police and Security Committee meeting.

Mr. Ed Carter from VDOT will be in attendance at the meeting.

Chief White will of course be in attendance at the meeting and will be able to address speed study information, enforcement activity, and engine brake regulations.

## Keith Dalton

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**From:** John <johnsenecal100@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 24, 2015 9:55 AM  
**To:** Keith Dalton; Wilson Kirby (Mayor); Doug Shaffer (Council); Allen Kitselman III; Mary Daniel; David Tollett (Council)  
**Cc:** lawyers@visuallink.com  
**Subject:** The need for traffic signage in Berryville

Mr. Dalton:

Can you please help me understand the path to get a traffic sign established in Berryville?

What I am proposing is a sign similar to those in Leesburg and other Northern VA towns prohibiting the use of engine brakes within the town limits. I live on the corner of Buckmarsh and Taylor and due to speeding trucks, must endure the noise that trucks produce as they come through town day and night and having to use their engine brake from Taylor to the stop light at business Route 7 to slow down. Do we not have enough police units to do traffic patrols? If that is the case, perhaps engine brake signs warning the truckers would help quiet the streets possibly slow them to 25 miles per hour using just the air breaks so people can sleep at night and walk safely in town. Although this solution would slow trucks and would have no effect on other vehicle traffic.

I am open to other suggestions that would result in the slowing of traffic and this specific behavior within the town limits, as trucks traveling at 25 miles per hour would not need engine brakes to slow them down. Maybe we should take the example of Upperville and use speed bumps? I don't think the citizens of Berryville would like those very much but I also believe that the vehicular homicide of a Berryville citizen by a speeding motorist is even less tolerable. How long will it be before we endure that? How culpable will you and the Town Council, Mayor and Police Chief be if that happens, knowing FULLY of this problem? I know for a fact this is NOT the first time this has been brought to the attention of town officials. Our family has seen a number of close calls in the past couple of years and I think it is time to act.

Maybe ticketing speeding trucks and cars would help, I don't know but we need to act. I have been in the law enforcement and security for quite some time and am a decent judge of speed and know that most, not all trucks, and cars far too often are doing better than 35-40 Mph down Buckmarsh. Vehicles going south bound on Buckmarsh are traveling at up to 40 MPH by the time they reach Taylor. Vehicles going North on Buckmarsh pass Taylor at 35-40. The most frightening vehicles are the fully loaded dump trucks that could not stop if a Berryville residence on Buckmarsh was backing out of their driveway. Since Taylor is a designated school crossing, be advised that traffic DOES NOT STOP when people are in the cross walk. Why, because they are traveling too fast and cannot stop! I do see the Sheriff's dept. out doing traffic enforcement, but they are outside the town limits and by that time 35-40 is the posted speed.

I read the weekly Police Activity Log and do not see any traffic enforcement entries, I hope that is because those issues do not make the log. I have lived here going over three years and have only seen three traffic stops first hand, seems light considering the amount of traffic flying through here. Neither my wife nor I have never seen a truck stopped for traffic at all. Police actions are supposed to be proactive and not reactive, right now I see inactive, as far as Buckmarsh is concerned.

I urge you to speak with other residents along Buckmarsh to get further input. In fact, my wife and I would be more than happy to circulate a petition on this matter if that is what it takes to get you to act on this issue.

For the citizens and visitors to Berryville, I hope you take this letter seriously and serve your constituents in the manner in which we expect by being responsive, action oriented and committed to keeping Berryville a lovely place to work and live!

Kind Regards,

John Senecal  
100 Tylor Street  
Berryville, VA 22611

## Keith Dalton

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**From:** Mike Johnson <mikej@usa.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 02, 2015 7:30 AM  
**To:** Keith Dalton  
**Subject:** Re: RE: Traffic on South Buckmarsh Street

Keith - My wife and I traveled down US 17 from Paris south toward I66 this past Saturday. It's ~7 miles from Paris to Delaplane. It's ~ 1.5 miles from Rt 7 south to Hermitage. We marked down the frequent mileage signs. I don't understand how this short stretch can have so many signs and Berryville can only have a couple....and Berryville has a sidewalk along Buckmarsh where US 17 does not. Maybe VADOT could explain that? Thanks. Mike

Milage Sign Posted

Marker

1	45 mph strictly enforced
1.5	45 mph strictly enforced
1.7	Flashing speed light how fast going
2	45 mph strictly enforced
2.5	45 mph strictly enforced
3	45 mph strictly enforced
3.5	45 mph strictly enforced
4	45 mph strictly enforced
5.5	45 mph strictly enforced
6	45 mph strictly enforced
6.5	Flashing speed light how fast going
7	45 mph strictly enforced
7.5	45 mph strictly enforced

On 8/28/15 at 10:36 AM, Keith Dalton wrote:

> Mr. Johnson:

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> I will be putting a meeting packet together next week. The packet will include an agenda with the meeting room identified (my clerk has been tasked with confirming the room and I do not have that information yet).

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