



Date of Work Session: September 22, 2014

**TOWN OF LEESBURG
TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION**

Subject: Analysis of Potential Crosswalk at Route 15 Bypass and Battlefield Parkway

Staff Contact: Thomas A. Mason, P.E., Director
Calvin K. Grow, Transportation Engineer

Short-Term Recommendation: It is our recommendation that crosswalks not be installed on Route 15 Bypass and Battlefield Parkway at this time. The addition of pedestrian clearance times would cause substantial delays on already congested roadways. Due to traffic volumes and speed limits, the Department of Public Works and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) assessment is that crosswalks on the Route 15 Bypass would create an unsafe condition for pedestrians. The Leesburg Police Department agrees with this assessment and supports the recommendation.

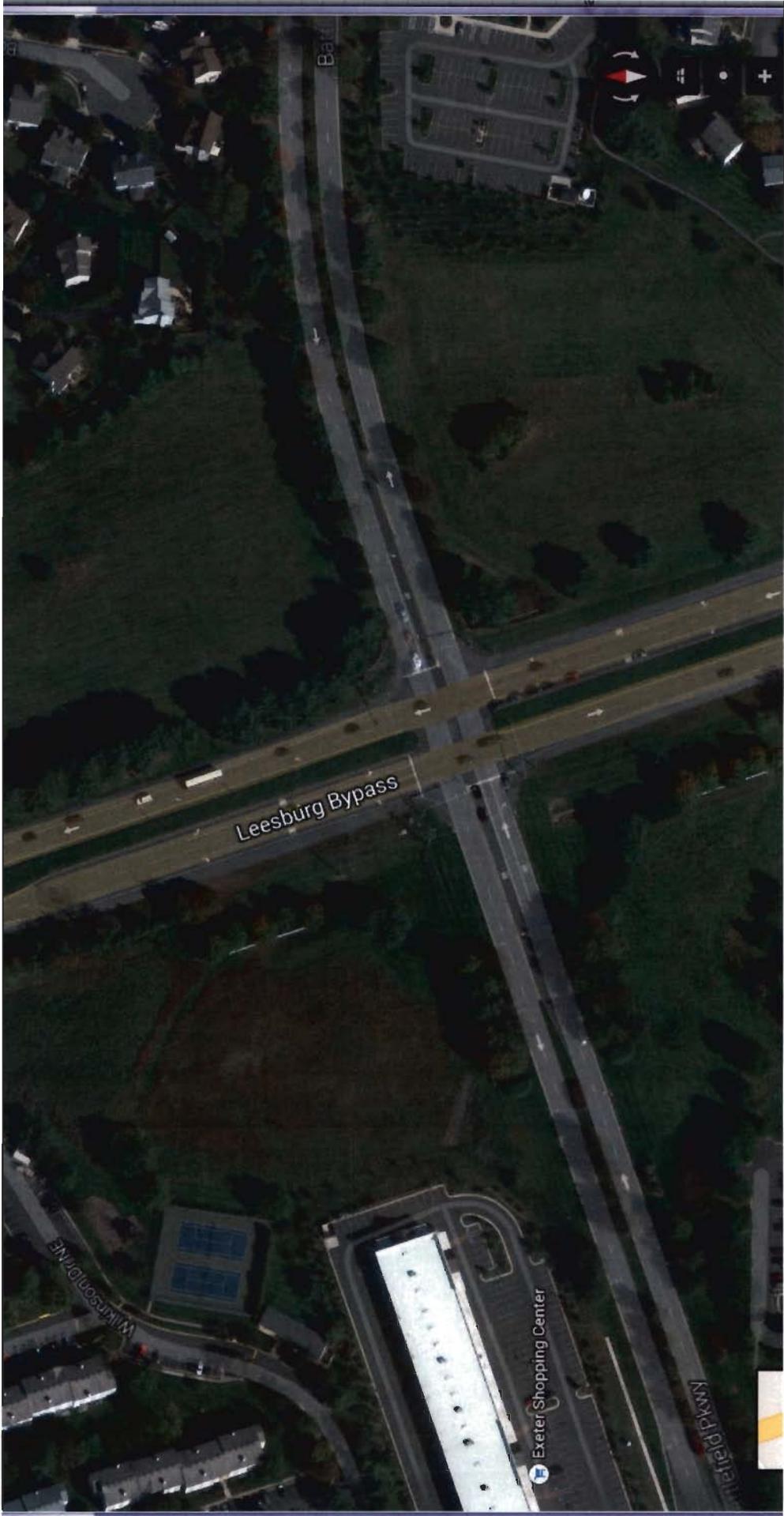
Long-Term Recommendation: It is our recommendation that grade-separated pedestrian access be provided in conjunction with the planned interchange for the Route 15 Bypass. The current Town Plan includes this recommendation, showing a grade-separated interchange on the Route 15 Bypass at Battlefield Parkway (see attached).

Issues: Would crosswalks on the Route 15 Bypass improve pedestrian safety?

Fiscal Analysis: The recommendations in this item would not impact the Department of Public Work's operating budget.

Background: The Department of Public Works received a request from Town Council to analyze and provide recommendation for installing crosswalks on the Route 15 Bypass at Battlefield Parkway. In order to provide sufficient pedestrian clearance time, approximately 40 seconds would have to be added to the existing signal timing. This amount of time would cause delays in the event that pedestrian signals were activated. Due to the nature of this section of roadway, pedestrians would likely come as a surprise to motorists. A pedestrian would have to cross six lanes of traffic with 33,000 vehicles per day (5,000 vehicles during the peak hour) and four percent truck traffic (1,320 trucks per day). The posted speed limit is 45 MPH and the Route 15 Bypass is classified as limited access. The VDOT Traffic Engineer for Loudoun County, Mr. Jerry Pauley, recommends against the installation of a pedestrian signal phase because of the number of turning movements, the existing speed limit over 40 MPH, the increased congestion, and the false sense of security that would occur if a pedestrian phase was added. Pedestrian counts performed from 11:15 AM to 1:15 PM and 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM on October 15, 2010 noted a total of 14 pedestrians crossing the Bypass in the vicinity of Battlefield Parkway. Pedestrian counts performed during the same time frame on September 16, 2014 noted a total of 17 pedestrians crossing the Bypass in the vicinity of Battlefield Parkway.

Attachment(s): Photograph
Town Plan (2012)



Roadway Network Policy Map

Interchange

-  Clover Leaf
-  As Built
-  Trumpet
-  Diamond
-  Collector Distributor
-  No Connection

Road Classification

-  Limited Access
-  Major Arterial
-  Minor Arterial
-  Through Collector
-  Local Collector

-  JLMA Boundary
-  Leesburg Town Limit
-  Roads
-  Culdesac



Map Created by: PZD
Map Date: June 26, 2012

