Posting Weight Restrictions

4-9-24 Workshop with Newcastle Select Board

Survey Question to the Select Board

The list of items were shared in a memo at the February 26th Select Board meeting.

The ask was to rank the items in order of most important (1) to you to least important (14).

Rank Avg. Score Item for consideration

1 3.60 pushes the problem somewhere else

2 4.00 A small span or bridge was posted for weight, width, etc

3 5.40 curvy and winding road - especially if tree lined creating bad sight lines

Rank Avg. Score Item for consideration

- 5.60 Foundation base and subbase are not stable to carry legal heavy loads (minimal 15-18" inches of gravel and minimal 4" good bituminous surface)
 6.20 travel way road width (not including shoulders) should be adequate and safe (min 24 ft wide)
- 6 6.60 road budget is not able to support higher maintenance costs of this one road at the expense of all others

Rank Avg. Score Item for consideration

7 6.80 land use of abutting land? Presence of schools, day cares,

elder care, etc

- 8 7.00 highly residential area
 - 7.00 high crash history
- 10 8.80 businesses with property on the road that would be impacted
 - 8.80 pedestrian route or other types of users

Rank Avg. Score Item for consideration

12 11.20 extent longer route impact cost to companies

1312.00Detour route is not unreasonably longer

12.00 Impact on historic buildings/properties, etc

Survey Question to the Select Board

There are three Town of Newcastle Roads which could be considered cut throughs or short cuts. Academy Hill Road, North Newcastle Road, and Lewis Hill Road.

https://tinyurl.com/yxsvpvxw for a map of town roads.

Do you believe the Select Board should just develop a policy that either does or does not permanently post roads that are considered shortcuts?

Response 40% 60%

Develop a policy that states the Select Board DOES NOT permanently post Town Roads

Develop a policy that has a process to request to post a road (based on weighted criteria from above and the conversation planned for April 9th)

Survey Question to the Select Board

Any other questions or comments for the workshop?

Response

Because the town has no way to enforce weight limits it seems pointless to establish a policy of posting our roads.