STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
STATE TRAFFIC COMMISSION
Two Capitol Hill
Providence, R. I. 02903

October 22, 2026

The Honorable Mia A. Ackerman
Representative (District 45)
6 Shelter Lane
Cumberland, RI 02864

Dear Representative Ackerman,

The following request was considered at the State Traffic Commission's (STC) July 22, 2026 monthly meeting:

- Request from Representative Ackerman for the installation of a crosswalk in the vicinity of the Geddes Bowen Nature Preserve (69 Angell Rd) in Cumberland.

A traffic study was conducted to determine the feasibility of installing a crosswalk for the above location. A designated parking area/lot is not provided for the preserve. Additionally, a recent RIDOT construction project installed bike lanes along Angell Road so parking is no longer permitted along the roadway shoulder in the vicinity of the Geddes Bowen Nature Preserve.

The posted speed limit along Angell Road in the vicinity of the study area is 40 mph. The 85th percentile speeds ranged from 43-48 mph. The 85th percentile speed is the speed at or below which 85 percent of motorists are travelling under free-flow conditions. As part of the study, pedestrian activity was evaluated. During a 12-hr count 31 pedestrians crossed Angell Road in the vicinity of Cedar Way to access the preserve.

Due to the lack of parking, high pedestrian activity, and the higher speeds, the STC approved the installation of a crosswalk equipped with a Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon (RRFB) for the above location. An RRFB is a pedestrian-activated warning device that consists of yellow LED rectangular flashing lights that draw attention to the crosswalk and provide information to approaching traffic that a pedestrian is trying to cross the street. The installation of the crosswalk and RRFB will be programmed and implemented through the RIDOT project management division. An exact scheduling date is unavailable at this time.

Sincerely,

Sean Raymond

Sean Raymond, P.E.
Secretary
SR/MK

cc: The Honorable Jeffrey J. Mutter, Mayor (Town of Cumberland)
Matthew J. Benson, Chief of Police (Cumberland Police Department)
Romeo Mendes, P.E., Director, Department of Public Works (Town of Cumberland)
The Honorable Ryan W. Pearson, Senator (District 19)
The Honorable Brandon T. Voas, Representative (District 57)
Interim Director Rocchio, Sasso, St. Martin, Pristawa, Raymond, King, File