

Fitchburg City Council President Udell: Statement safety on South Syene Road

Posted on Tuesday, Jan 17, 2023

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At a recent City Council meeting, we heard a heartfelt plea from our neighbors in the Uptown area along South Syene Road to do what we could to improve safety for motorists and pedestrians in that area.

I have asked both Police Chief Morales and City Staff to prioritize long term and short term responses. Two speed-boards have been placed in the area, and the Chief has informed me there is increased patrol and police visibility in that area. The Chief also informed me that plans are underway for a community meeting later this month.

Concerns about safety in this area have been expressed before and the City Council approved improvements to South Syene Road. The project is being implemented in two phases, with the Uptown Crossing area scheduled to be improved starting in 2024. I will continue to encourage City Staff to evaluate that timeline as well as evaluate all other measures that may be taken in the meantime, such as reducing the speed limit.

Our hearts go out to the family, friends, and the community affected by this tragedy. I am committed to working together to do all we can to prevent any other such tragedies from taking place.