

> Roland J. Hebert
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 > Transportation Planning Manager
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 > SRPEDD
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 > City resident and former member of the Buttonwood Park Improvement
 > Committee
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 > ! Kempton Street (Route 6) / Route 140 / Brownell
 > Avenue,
 > New Bedford - Several studies of the Route 6 corridor in New Bedford
 > and
 > Dartmouth have focused on congestion and safety issues. Recent
 > improvements
 > have been have been made by area developers based on those studies. A
 > Walgreens Pharmacy made geometric improvements to the Route 6
 westbound
 > approach to Route 140 to improve capacity at the intersection. A Shaws
 > Supermarket made improvements to the eastbound approach to lengthen
 > the left
 > turn storage lane, and installed center median and traffic signals
 > adjacent
 > to their property.
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 > The developers' modifications have helped, but additional improvements
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 > are
 > needed to address the extreme congestion that occurs daily. Long
 > queues in
 > excess of 1000 feet, regularly occur on both the Route 140
 > (southbound) and
 > Brownell Avenue (northbound) approaches due to the need for protected
 > signal
 > phases. The added signal timing requires motorists to sit through
 > several
 > cycles before finally reaching the intersection. Further improvement
 > involves widening of the Brownell Avenue approach. The added capacity
 > would
 > shorten the queues to 200 feet and improve the overall operation of
 the
 > intersection.
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 > Safety problems are partially due to driver impatience from long waits
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 > for
 > the next green light. Additional capacity is needed to make the
 > intersection
 > operate more efficiently and reduce the long queues that must wait
 > through
 > two or more signal cycles. A minor widening of Brownell Avenue would
 > provide
 > that added capacity. Residents of Brownell Avenue have expressed their
 > desire to prohibit widening of the corridor. Further pursuit of this
 > project
 > is up to the City of New Bedford.
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 > Figure 5-4
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