

**TOWN OF WAREHAM  
ROAD COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2023**

1. Meeting was called to order by Mr. Buckland at 4:00 PM

2. **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Mr. Ken Buckland, Chair,; Ms. Marie Greig member; Mr. Joseph Cardoza member, Chief W. Correia.

Absent: Mr. D Menard, Municipal Maintenance

Also present: Ms. Judith Whiteside Chair Select Board, John Manuel, Marcia Joseph, Lindsay McNeil Morse, Donna Fox-Rubin, and Harbormaster G Buckminster.

3. **MINUTES:** no minutes were approved

4. **PRELIMINARY BUSINESS:** None.

5. **OLD BUSINESS:**

.A. As there was no one present to present the request for Parkwood Beach there was no discussion or vote.

B. Marcia Joseph, acting on behalf of Wareham Lake Shores Improvement Association, presented several documents supporting the request to lower the speed limit in that neighborhood. The traffic study completed by Wareham PD indicates that a speed of 25 MPH may be appropriate. Discussion ensued. The Commissioners will evaluate the documentation provided and add the request to a future agenda.

6. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Mr. John Manuel presented the need for a reduction of the posted Speed Limit on Plymouth Avenue. Discussion ensued. The Wareham PD will do a "traffic study" in a different location on Plymouth, near the Carey Street intersection.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

Donna Fox -Rubin expressed her concern that First Responders are having trouble finding Highland Shore Drive, a/k/a Highland Bay Shores. Chief Correia suggested stopping by the PD to give specific information, so that dispatchers may be more precise. That information will be shared with the EMS, and Wareham Fire Department.

Mr. Buckminster gave a preliminary report on the number of Parking Permits issued under the Onset Parking Program.

300 resident Onset

1285 Visitor Parking passes

121 Senior onset combination

49 Employee Parking

136 Resident Beach /parking combo

Discussion ensued regarding the need for better signage, and perhaps a revision of parking fines. No action was taken.

**9. ADJOURNEMENT:** Mr. Cardoza made the **MOTION** to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Greig at 5:08 PM.

**VOTE: 4-0-0**

Transcribed by J. Whiteside

Respectfully submitted:

Attest:

  
Ken Buckland, Chair

The foregoing minutes were submitted to the Commissioners on



Documents used or reviewed on the meeting.

1. A copy of MGL ch 90, section 18B
2. A copy of MGL ch 90 section 17C
3. A property map delineating the private beaches in Wareham Lake Shores
4. A copy of Traffic Study of Wareham Lake Shores, dated 2022-11-02 to 2022-11-09
5. Additional information regarding MGL ch 90 section 17c
6. A traffic study of Plymouth Avenue, dated 2023-08-29 to 2023-09-18

<b>Part I</b>	ADMINISTRATION OF THE GOVERNMENT
<b>Title XIV</b>	PUBLIC WAYS AND WORKS
<b>Chapter 90</b>	MOTOR VEHICLES AND AIRCRAFT
<b>Section 18B</b>	ESTABLISHMENT OF DESIGNATED SAFETY ZONES FOR WAYS IN CITY OR TOWN; VIOLATION

Section 18B. (a) Notwithstanding section 18 or any other general or special law to the contrary, the city council, the transportation commissioner of the city of Boston, the board of selectmen, park commissioners, a traffic commission or traffic director of a city or town that accepts this section in the manner provided in section 4 of chapter 4 may, in the interests of public safety and without further authority, establish designated safety zones on, at or near any way in the city or town which is not a state highway, and with the approval of the department if the same is a state highway. Such safety zones shall be posted as having a speed limit of 20 miles per hour.

(b) The operation of a motor vehicle in such zone at a speed exceeding the speed limit established under this section shall be a violation of section 17.

The following are tools to lower speed limits that work well when combined with roadway design changes communication, and enforcement. Visit the MassDOT [roadway treatment technical toolkit](#) ([/info-details/safe-speeds-roadway-treatment-technical-toolkit](#)) for more.

## MGL Ch90s17C: Thickly Settled and Business District Speed limit Reduction

In 2016, legislation was passed allowing a municipality to opt-in to Section 17C of Chapter 90 of the MGL, thereby reducing the statutory speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph on any or all city- or town-owned roadways within a thickly settled\* or business district. The legislation also requires cities and towns to notify MassDOT of these changes. For more information on the list of [municipalities that have notified MassDOT of opt-in](#) ([/info-details/speed-limits-in-thickly-settled-or-business-districts](#)) for Ch90s17C.

## Safety zones

Safety zones are specially designated areas such as parks, playgrounds, senior citizen housing, hospitals, and childcare centers. Within these zones, speed limits must be set at 20 mph. Safety zone speed limits are the only regulatory speed limits that municipalities can adopt on city- and town-owned ways without approval from MassDOT; they cannot be placed on state highways without prior written approval by MassDOT. Safety zones should have roadway treatments that cue drivers to slow down.

## Where do safety zones apply?

- The street should be adjacent to a land use that is likely to be an origin or destination for vulnerable road users.
- The safety zone should contain one or more areas that have potential conflicts between motor vehicles and vulnerable road users that warrant a reduction in speeds such as crosswalks, driveways, or side streets.
- The minimum length of the safety zone should be at least ¼ of a mile and it should not extend more than 500' beyond a side street unless an applicable land use continues along the adjacent block.

Learn more about safety zones in Chapter 10.c of the [Procedures for Speed Zoning on State Highways and Municipal Roads](#) ([/doc/procedures-for-speed-zoning-on-state-and-municipal-roadways/download](#))

## School zones

Similar to safety zones, school zones are specially designated areas around schools where, once established, the speed limit must be set at 20 mph. The limit is only in effect, however, during specific times.

Where do school zones apply?



**WAREHAM LAKE SHORES**

LOTS 1-61 REC. PL. BK. 11 PG. 405  
LOTS 61-69 REC. PL. BK. 11 PG. 684  
81-107  
114-207  
LOTS 70-76 REC. BK. 2909 PG. 103  
79-81  
108-113  
LOTS 208-222 SECTION 3 SOUTH OF

108-113  
LOTS 208-222 SECTION 3 SOUTH OF THIS SHEET

THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES. IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION OR CONVEYANCE.

THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM, NAD83.

ORIGINAL MAPS PREPARED BY WALTER E. ROWLEY, TOWN ENGINEER. MODIFIED BY FULL CIRCLE TEC-NOLOGIES IN 2013.

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**CAI Technologies**  
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15 Hurontario Street, London, ON N6H 1B1

LEGEND	
RECORD DIMENSION	100'
LOCAL ID DIMENSION	100'S
WATER	

FEET  
180 0 30 60 90 120 150 180  
SCALE: 1" = 150'  
INCHES  
15 0 30 60 90 120 150 180  
REVISIONS  
REVISED TO: JANUARY 1, 2022

PROPERTY MAPS  
**WAREHAM**  
MASSACHUSETTS

MAP NO.  
120



Start: 2022-11-02

End: 2022-11-09

Times: 0:00-23:59

# Volume by Speed

Wareham Lake Shore Drive, NB

Speed Bins: Size 5, Range 1 to 150

Time View: By Hour (Total Volumes)

Time	1 to 5	6 to 10	11 to 15	16 to 20	21 to 25	26 to 30	31 to 35	36 to 40	41 to 45	46 to 50	51 to 55	56 to 60	61 to 65	66 to 70	71 to 75	76 to 80	81 to 85	86 to 90	91 to 95	96 to 100	101 to 150	Avg Speed	Total
10:00	0	0	0	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28.4	7
11:00	0	1	3	10	2	1	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22.3	24
12:00	1	1	1	5	5	1	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24.2	20
13:00	0	4	1	12	3	1	5	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21.5	28
14:00	0	3	8	6	2	5	3	2	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23.2	33
15:00	0	0	7	8	3	3	3	5	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25.5	32
16:00	0	1	3	21	3	2	3	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23.1	40
17:00	0	0	3	14	3	1	3	6	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25.9	34
18:00	1	1	2	8	3	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20.1	18
19:00	0	0	2	8	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22.3	13
20:00	0	0	1	8	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19.3	13
21:00	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21.5	4
22:00	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16.5	4
23:00	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17.0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>273</b>



Start: 2022-11-02

End: 2022-11-09

Times: 0:00-23:59

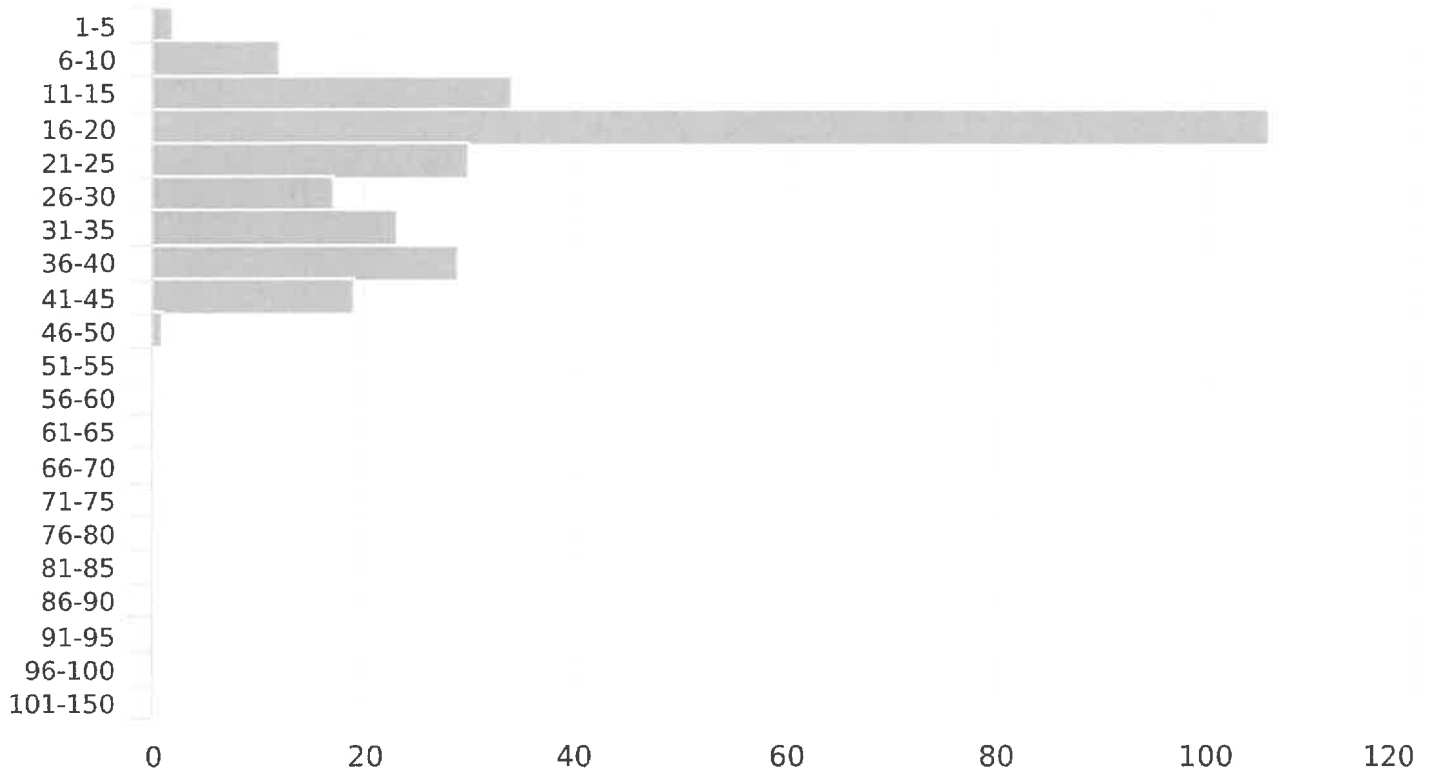
## Volume by Speed

Wareham Lake Shore Drive, NB

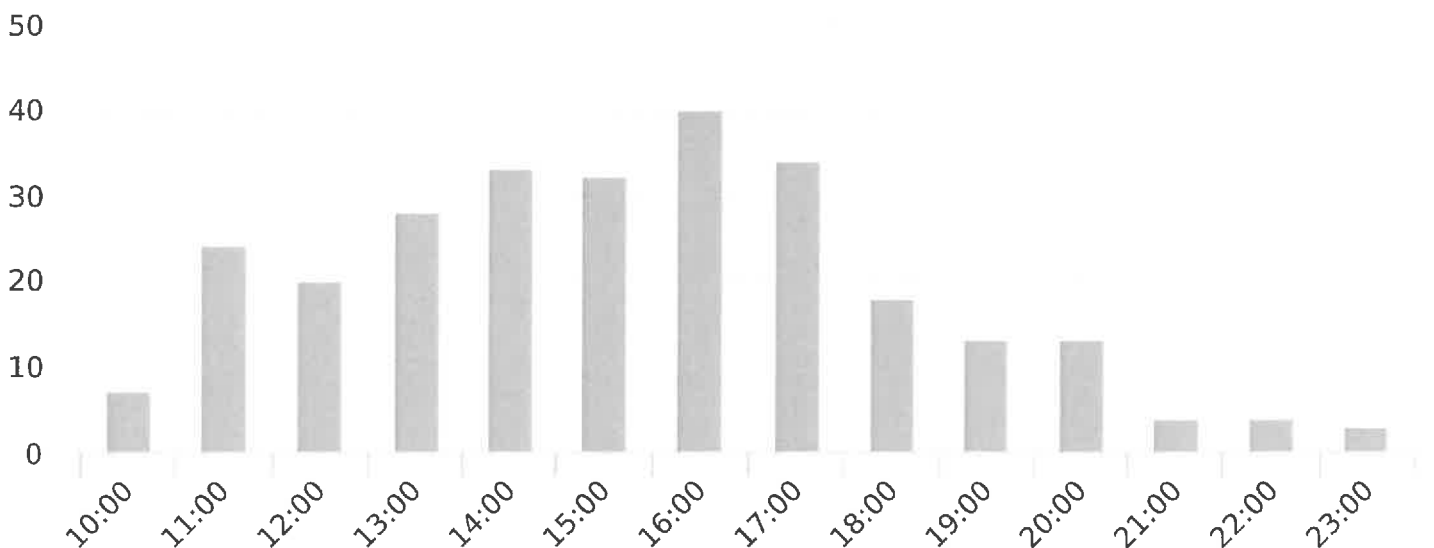
Speed Bins: Size 5, Range 1 to 150

Time View: By Hour (Total Volumes)

Total Volume by Speed Distribution



Volume over Time





# Speed limits in thickly settled or business districts

Cities and towns have the option to opt-in to MGL c. 90 § 17C, reducing the statutory speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph in thickly settled or business districts.

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## Overview

MGL c. 90 § 17C defines a thickly settled or business district as "the territory contiguous to any way which is built up with structures devoted to business, or the territory contiguous to any way where dwelling houses are situated at such distances as will average less than two hundred feet between them for a distance of a quarter of a mile or over."

In 2016, legislation was passed (Sections 193 and 194 of Chapter 218 of the Acts of 2016) to create two new sections to MGL c.90§17C.

- Section 193 allows a municipality to opt-in to Section 17C of Chapter 90 of the MGL, thereby reducing the statutory speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph on any or all city- or town-owned roadways within a thickly settled or business district. The legislation also requires cities and towns to notify MassDOT of these changes.



- Section 194 creates Section 18B of Chapter 90 of the MGL, allowing municipalities to establish regulatory 20 mph safety zones. Since this creates a regulatory speed limit, the MUTCD requires an engineering study prior to the establishment of the safety zone, and it should conform to the guidance found in the MassDOT Procedures for Speed Zoning.

If a municipality opts-in, it will not supersede any existing posted speed limit. The legislation only affects streets that are currently governed by a statutory speed limit. If an existing special speed regulation is in place, it will continue to govern.

MassDOT recommends that if a municipality opts-in to MGL c. 90 § 17C, that it does so on a city- or town-wide basis to avoid potential confusion for drivers. However, cities and towns do have the option to opt-in on a street-by-street basis. Once a municipality has opted-in to MGL c. 90 § 17C, it is required to notify MassDOT.

## Additional Resources

### Notify MassDOT of MGL Chapter 90, Section 17C adoption

([how-to/notify-massdot-of-mgl-chapter-90-section-17c-adoption](#))

## Municipalities that have notified MassDOT of opt-in

Municipality	Opt-In Date	Area(s) Covered
Acton	6/24/2021	Townwide
Amesbury	5/12/2021	Citywide
Arlington	5/1/2017	Townwide
Ayer	8/22/2022	Townwide
Bedford	4/20/2018	Townwide
Belmont	10/11/2017	Townwide
Beverly	3/17/2017	Citywide
Billerica	8/23/2017	Alpine Street from Brick Kiln Road to Boston Road
Billerica	9/6/2017	Old Elm Street from Franklin Street to Lowell Street Faulkner Street (entirety) Letchworth Avenue (entirety) Thickly settle district, bordered by the following streets: Cambridge Street (Route 3A), Wilmington Road (Route 62), Bucknell Road, and Cook Street. <a href="#">View complete</a>



Start: 2023-08-29

End: 2023-09-18

Times: 0:00:00-23:59:59

# Volume by Speed

Plymouth Ave, NB

Speed Bins: Size 5, Range 1 to 150

Time View: By Hour (Total Volumes)

Time	1 to 5	6 to 10	11 to 15	16 to 20	21 to 25	26 to 30	31 to 35	36 to 40	41 to 45	46 to 50	51 to 55	56 to 60	61 to 65	66 to 70	71 to 75	76 to 80	81 to 85	86 to 90	91 to 95	96 to 100	101 to 150	Avg Speed	Total
0:00	0	4	2	9	42	58	56	11	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28.0	183
1:00	0	3	2	3	14	24	19	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28.4	74
2:00	0	1	0	0	5	12	17	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29.7	36
3:00	0	2	0	4	9	12	14	14	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30.7	58
4:00	0	1	4	4	15	59	69	34	17	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32.0	206
5:00	2	3	5	11	96	135	171	34	15	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29.7	482
6:00	0	12	13	21	161	281	348	100	34	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30.0	971
7:00	13	34	28	42	252	563	572	200	27	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29.3	1735
8:00	12	40	32	57	226	589	519	146	12	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28.8	1639
9:00	4	35	24	53	237	542	463	135	23	3	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28.8	1521
10:00	6	38	41	45	201	514	442	149	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28.6	1452
11:00	9	36	41	67	237	557	545	121	12	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28.5	1626
12:00	7	30	43	45	252	616	487	151	19	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28.7	1655
13:00	17	49	45	58	239	597	503	155	26	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28.4	1693
14:00	6	41	34	48	274	620	571	172	25	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29.0	1797
15:00	12	67	66	79	334	711	611	149	22	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28.0	2057
16:00	8	51	44	56	232	728	651	156	21	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28.9	1951
17:00	7	38	25	50	258	722	654	166	18	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29.2	1948
18:00	5	38	46	38	156	517	541	165	28	6	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29.4	1541
19:00	4	31	26	52	252	561	347	65	10	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27.8	1350
20:00	8	23	19	44	196	386	261	68	12	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27.9	1021
21:00	1	8	10	26	92	232	186	64	10	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29.0	630
22:00	21	23	12	21	72	194	134	53	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27.5	540
23:00	18	26	12	22	53	88	78	33	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25.6	335
Total	160	634	574	855	3905	9318	8259	2346	368	71	6	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28.7	26501



Start: 2023-08-29

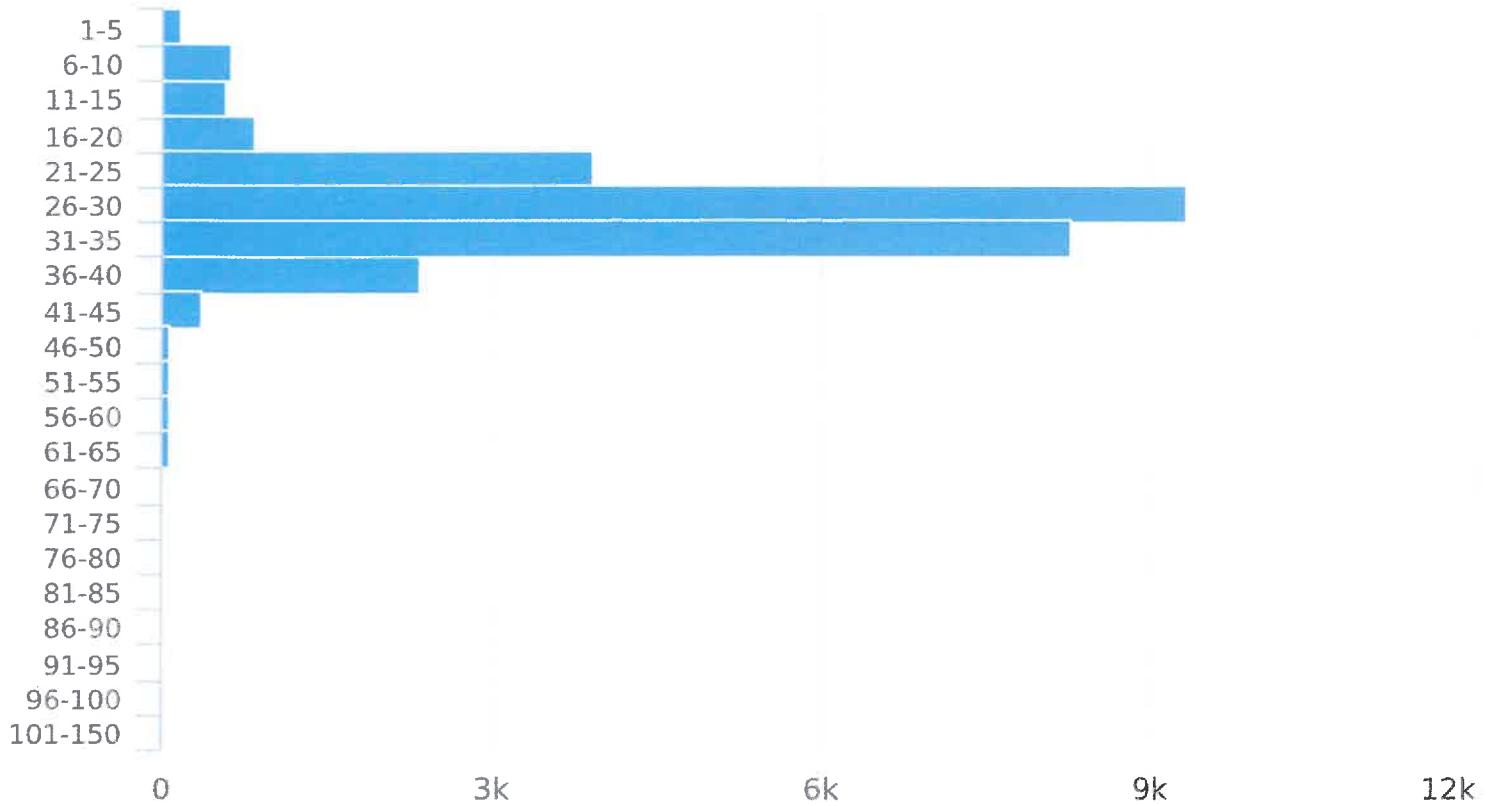
End: 2023-09-18

Times: 0:00:00-23:59:59

Speed Bins: Size 5, Range 1 to 150

Time View: By Hour (Total Volumes)

### Total Volume by Speed Distribution



### Volume over Time

