

CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE  
MEMORANDUM

TO: George A Flaherty, Director of Parks and Public Works

FROM: Bruce A. Bell, Superintendent Streets and Sanitation

SUBJECT: Report on Deering Avenue Hill (Verglimit)

DATE: 5/15/87

The following is a report of information concerning the use of Verglimit on a section of Deering Avenue between Cumberland Avenue and Park Avenue, known as Deering Avenue Hill, in the City of Portland, Maine.

During the summer of 1984, as a result of a bad storm, the pavement on Deering Avenue Hill had to be replaced. For some time prior to this storm we had been reading and gathering information concerning Verglimit. We at this time decided to use Verglimit on this section of City street as it is a highly traveled street and it has grades of up to 12%.

After much difficulty in acquiring cooperation with local contractors in the use of Verglimit, we, the City, decided to work with a local contractor in the mixing and the placement of the surface course ourselves. On October 13, 1984, we placed the surface course on Deering Avenue.

The following is information we have gathered concerning the accident rate within this section for the months of November, December, January, February, and March from 1981 to March of 1987. The accident rate listed for Snow and Ice on pavement could not be broken out as to whether it was the cause directly or not of the accident.

The information is as follows:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SNOW &amp; ICE ON PAVEMENT</u>	<u>TOTAL ACCIDENTS for WINTER</u>	<u>PERCENTAGE OF ACCIDENTS</u>
11/81 - 3/82	16	22	73%
11/82 - 3/83	7	12	58%
11/83 - 3/84	4	10	40%
11/84 - 3/85	6	17	35%
11/85 - 3/86	5	15	33%
11/86 - 3/87	5	18	28%

I have also included computer information we received from the Maine State Police records of accidents within this section. The State records are from 1981 to March of 1985. Information for 85/86 and 86/87 came from the Portland Police Department.

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I personally feel that the use of Verglimit on Deering Avenue Hill has improved the safety and improved the convenience of the traveling public who use this street as an access to the largest hospital in the State as well as to the intown area of Portland. On many occasions in the past this street had to be closed as a result of slippery-icy conditions; since the Verglimit pavement was installed, I do not recall the street ever being closed. We are now through our third winter with the material in place and are still receiving benefits from it.

If you need any further information concerning this project, please feel free to contact me.



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