

Traffic Management Advisory Committee
Wednesday, September 14, 2022
7:00 p.m.

Charles River Room
Public Services Administration Building
500 Dedham Ave
Needham, MA 02492

Also Livestreamed on Zoom
Meeting ID: 879-0218-5871
To join the meeting, click this link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87902185871>

Committee	
1	Justin McCullen, Chair
2	Rhain Hoyland
3	Tom Ryder
4	Lt. John McGrath
5	Rebecca Tarantino
6	Donna Mullin
7	Barry McNeilly
8	Bob Ciccolo
9	
Items To Be Discussed	
1	Introduction - Roll Call Attendance
2	Approve Minutes from August 10, 2022
3	Other Business/Status Report
4	Parking Along Broad Meadow Rd. During School – KumRae Lee
5	Crosswalk Across Greendale Ave. at Tower Ave. – Carolyn Walsh
6	Stop Sign at Country Way Split – Ted Ballard
7	Blind Driveway/Visibility Issues at Intersection of South St. and High Rock St. – Charlie Nascimben
8	Blind Driveway/Visibility Issues on Pickering St. by Stephen Palmers Apts. – Judith McIntyre
9	Crosswalk Safety and Short-Term Resolution for Maple St. at Great Plain Ave. – Rebecca Tarantino
10	Adjournment – Roll Call Vote
11	

Note: Each applicant or group of applicants will be allocated a maximum of 15 minutes to make a presentation. Groups should select a spokesperson. The presentation will be followed by discussion and/or questions by the Committee. In most cases, further information will be required, and a decision will not be made until the next meeting.

Minutes
Traffic Management Advisory Committee
Wednesday, August 10, 2022
7:00 P.M.
Charles River Room
Public Services Administration Building
500 Dedham Avenue
Needham, MA 02492
Livestreamed on Zoom Meeting ID #884-5257-4576

MEMBERS PRESENT: Justin McCullen, Chair; Donna Mullin; Barry McNeilly; Thomas Ryder, Town Engineer; Rebecca Tarantino; Rhain Hoyland, Highway Superintendent; Lt. John McGrath; Guus Driessen

STAFF PRESENT: Robert Wilson, Engineer; Tyler Gabrielski, Financial Analyst;

PUBLIC PRESENT: Erik Bakstran; Geoffrey Walker; Arianna Lechan.

1. INTRODUCTION AND ROLL CALL

Justin McCullen, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and Roll Call was taken.

2. MINUTES OF JULY 13, 2022

Vote: Ms. Tarantino moved to accept the Minutes of July 13, 2022 with minor edits. Ms. Mullin seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Guus Driessen, the newly appointed member, was introduced to the Committee. Formerly a long-time resident of Brookline prior to moving to Needham four years ago, Mr. Driessen is a retired engineering consultant.

3. STATUS REPORT UPDATE

Mr. Wilson reported the following project updates:

- **Bird Street between Broad Meadow Road and Petrini Road**—Signs were installed and the triangle pavement completed. The continental crossway pending.
- **Great Plain and Central Avenues** – Mr. Gabrielski reported that Tim Bulger submitted a citizen comment on the issue who offered multiple possible solutions. The Committee discussed options such as close the slip lane, move the crosswalk, and install advance notice signs. Mr. Gabrielski will forward the email to the Committee.
- **Event Parking at George Aggott Road**—Mr. Bakstran summarized the concerns he raised at the last meeting regarding overflow event parking at DeFazio Field in the George Aggott Road neighborhood creating a safety concern; and cars using his driveway to turn around degrading his

driveway. He wants the Park and Recreation Department's website instruction for participants not to park in adjacent neighborhoods during DeFazio Field events to be followed.

Lt. McGrath asked if Mr. Bakstran had contacted Stacey Mulroy, Director of Park and Recreation, as she is the responsible party who messages the DeFazio Field users about the rules. Lt. McGrath noted that "*No Parking During Events Only*" signs would be hard to enforce and would limit the residents as well. Mr. Bakstran was supportive of Park and Recreation messaging users. Mr. McCullen will raise the issue to the Director of Park and Recreation and will include the Minutes of July and August.

Mr. McCullen offered placing "No parking here to Corner" signs. Mr. Bakstran was in support and thought the neighbors would appreciate them. Mr. Bakstran suggested that the Committee get buy in from the neighbors.

Ms. Tarantino thought the real safety concern identified by Mr. Bakstran needed to be addressed. She was supportive of the "No parking here to Corner." She also suggested a sign stating "No parking between signs" be installed in the non-defined corner on George Aggott and Sutton Roads. Mr. McCullen asked if the resident at 17 George Aggott Road/Sutton Road, whose property is along the bend, parks on the street. Mr. Bakstran did not know the owner. Ms. Tarantino suggested that the Town notify the neighbor about the signs because it was a safety concern.

Vote: Ms. Tarantino moved to install "No parking between signs" signs along the corner of 17 George Aggott Road/Sutton Road subject to contacting the resident abutter by the Town. Mr. Driessen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Forrest Street – Mr. Hoyland noted that Solar Speed sign were cost effective at \$7,500 per sign. The vendor has several in stock. Hard wire speed signs are more expensive and take 30 days to install plus there is a backlog with Eversource. He suggested purchasing solar speed signs, observe them on Forrest Street. If they don't work because of poor solar source, the solar signs can be relocated elsewhere and hard wire signs can be purchased and installed on Forrest Street if needed.

Speed Sign Criteria – Mr. McCullen asked that a speed sign criteria be developed. Mr. Hoyland will check with other communities in developing a draft set of criteria for the Committee.

4. WEBSTER STREET AT MARK LEE ROAD AND PARK AVENUE - CROSSWALK

PETITIONER: Wes Soper, 32 Mark Lee Road

Petitioner was a no show. This was a continued item from July.

5. KENDRICK STREET AND FOURTH AVENUE INTERSECTION – POOR VISIBILITY AT INTERSECTION

PETITIONER: Geoffrey Walker

Mr. Walker reported that it was dangerous to take a left turn on Kendrick Street from Fourth Avenue. The speed on Kendrick coming off the highway and the overgrown vegetation add to the difficulty at the

intersection. Mr. Walker noted that the intersection is in proximity to a school and daycare. Mr. McCullen noted that this intersection has come before the Board previously. Mr. Wilson said the intersection has come up since 2006 and mitigation was put off because of construction on 128. A traffic count study was conducted in 2019 which identified 269 left turns during the morning commute hours; and 57 in the afternoon commute hours; from Fourth Street there were 55 left turns in the morning commute hours and 83 left turns in the afternoon. The accident data identified 24 accidents at the intersection.

Mr. Ryder noted that Kendrick and Third Street

Vote: Mr. McCullen moved that the DPW investigate possible traffic management options (intersection awareness signs, markings, sign heights, corner tightening). Mr. Ryder seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

6. GEORGE AGGOTT ROAD – EVENT PARKING FROM DEFAZIO FIELD

PETITIONER: Erick Bakstran, 26 George Aggott Road

Mr. Barkstran reported that on days of events at DeFazio field parking occurs on both sides of his narrow 24' wide street. Drivers use his recently improved driveway to turn around. He was concerned that the driveway usage will deteriorate his drive. He would like to see the police enforce the condition of the Park Department policy, highlighted on their website for the DeFazio Field, of no parking on neighborhood streets for park events. He suggested that no parking on event days signs be installed. He does not want to eliminate parking on the streets for neighborhood residents who park on the street.

It was suggested that the Park Department needs to be brought in to educate users not to park during events. The item was tabled and to be continued to get Lt. McGraths input.

Mr. McNeilly identified a basketball backboard on the block which prevents drivers from turning on the street and using Mr. Barkstran driveway. He suggested moving the basketball backboard.

Ms. Tarantino reported that the DeFazio field parking lot fills up during events. She suggested that parking be limited to one side of George Aggott Street.

Mr. Hoyland suggested that event goers be educated about further parking availability in the adjacent DPW parking area and that police detail be brought in for events.

7. INTERVAL ROAD AND NORWOOD ROAD-THROUGH TRAFFIC

PETITIONER: Paul Kench, 63 Norwich Road

Item tabled to next meeting.

8. BIRD STREET BETWEEN PETRINI CIRCLE AND BROAD MEADOW ROAD –SCHOOL ZONE AND SPEED

PETITIONER: Jason Brenner, 89 Bird Street

Mr. Brenner was concerned about the speed on Bird Street which is used as a cut through between Greendale and Great Plain Avenues and the lack of any signage to alert drivers that they are in proximity to the Broadmeadow Elementary School. He'd like to see a *Stop* sign on Bird Street and *School Zone* signs installed.

Mr. McNeilly agreed that it was a cut through however the speed limit was 30mph and he did not find anything unusual about the speed on the street or any near miss accidents to warrant a *Stop* sign. He lived in the neighborhood and was familiar with the street.

Mr. Ryder was not sure if a *School Zone* sign can be placed on any street other than the actual street where the school is located. He would review the Warrant guidelines for *School Zone* signs.

There was no speed data on Bird Street. If conducted it would have to be done during the school year. There was no interest in conducting a speed study.

Mr. Hoyland noted that the crosswalk lacked signage and needs proper signage. The crosswalk also needs to be brightened with high visibility continental stripping. He agreed that there should be signs that bring awareness about the proximity to a school. He believed there were small things that can be done.

Vote: Mr. Hoyland moved to install a crosswalk with high visibility continental stripping and to install signs identifying the proximity to a school zone. Ms. Mullin seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

9. GREAT PLAIN AVENUE AND CENTRAL AVENUE– CROSSWALK
PETITIONER: Brooke Glass, 1453 Great Plain Avenue

Ms. Glass was concerned about the safety of crossing the crosswalk located at the northwest corner of Great Plain Avenue at Central Avenue and the center island. Traffic turning right ignore the crosswalk. Right turning drivers are looking left for oncoming easterly traffic from Great Plain Avenue. She'd like to see blinking lights; a traffic light to turn right; a yield for pedestrian sign; and a crosswalk to be located further down on Great Plain Avenue.

Mr. McCullen reported that Town Meeting voted to redesign the intersection. Currently the Engineering Department is reviewing the scope with the contractor which should be completed in two months. The intersection is scheduled to undergo a total reconstruction within a year.

Ms. Tarantino inquired if there are any short-term solutions that can be implemented to improve the safety of the crosswalk such as a *Stop* sign, remove the corner bush, move the crosswalk further away from the intersection, *Crosswalk Ahead* sign or brighten the crosswalk.

Mr. McCullen suggested a high visibility green warning sign about the crosswalk ahead with blinking lights.

Mr. Hoyland reported that the intersection is an outdated one and he will investigate whether a *Stop* sign could be placed at the intersection.

Vote: Mr. McCullen moved that a study of short-term options for the intersection be conducted to improve the corner and the safety of the crosswalk. Ms. Tarantino seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Tyler Gabrielski

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 10:38 AM
To: Tyler Gabrielski
Subject: Online Form Submittal: TMAC Concern Form

Categories: TMAC Petitions

The following form was submitted via your website: TMAC Concern Form

Last Name: Lee

First Name: KumRae

Street : 349 Great Plain Ave

City: Needham

Zip: 02492

Phone : 917-257-9204

E-Mail: helbigk@gmail.com

Type of concern (check all that apply): Signage

Location of concern: Broad Meadow Rd in the blocks closest to Broadmeadow Elementary School.

Details of concern: There is concern amongst many parents (who approached me as a Town Meeting Member for H) that parked vehicles along the stretch right in front of Broadmeadow Elementary are creating unsafe conditions for walkers, bikers, and drivers during drop off (8-8:30am) and pick up (2:30-3pm). The street becomes very narrow with cars and trucks (or landscape vehicles) parked on one side, and visibility for everyone is impeded. Frequent new construction adds an extra element of danger as the sidewalk becomes unsafe - and kids being kids, they often decide to go around the trucks rather than cross the street and then cross back. There have been times when at least 6 cars and trucks have been parked in a row along Broad Meadow Road directly in front of the school.

Specific times that make this condition worse (if applicable): Monday through Friday during the school year, 8-8:30am and 2:30-3pm.

What solutions do you feel would address your concerns?: No Parking signs on both sides of Broad Meadow Rd between Dawson Dr/Grosvenor Rd and the entrance to Broadmeadow Elementary for a limited time during the beginning and end of the school day.

Additional Information:

Form submitted on: 6/2/2022 10:37:38 AM

Submitted from IP Address: 173.76.243.96

Tyler Gabrielski

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Monday, August 15, 2022 9:44 PM
To: TMAC
Subject: Online Form Submittal: TMAC Concern Form

Categories: Petitions

The following form was submitted via your website: TMAC Concern Form

Last Name: Walsh

First Name: Carolyn

Street : 202 Greendale Ave

City: Needham

Zip: 02494

Phone : 9782732813

E-Mail: carolyn.o.walsh@gmail.com

Type of concern (check all that apply): Intersection,Crosswalk,Speed,Signage,Street Light

Location of concern: Greendale Ave at Tower Ave

Details of concern: I live at 202 Greendale Ave. To walk to and from Mitchell School, we have to cross Greendale Ave. Our house is on a curve with poor visibility, and drivers go very fast and don't stop when we are trying to cross. This is very unsafe. I previously asked if the bus route could be altered to have a stop on Greendale so that the bus stop sign could provide safety for my children and was told the route would not be changing.

Specific times that make this condition worse (if applicable): Walking to and from school

What solutions do you feel would address your concerns?: A crosswalk with blinking lights at the bottom of Tower Ave to cross Greendale, similar to what was installed where students from Broadmeadow cross Greendale to get home.

Additional Information:

Form submitted on: 8/15/2022 9:43:39 PM

Submitted from IP Address: 216.130.236.209

Referrer Page: No Referrer - Direct Link

Form Address:

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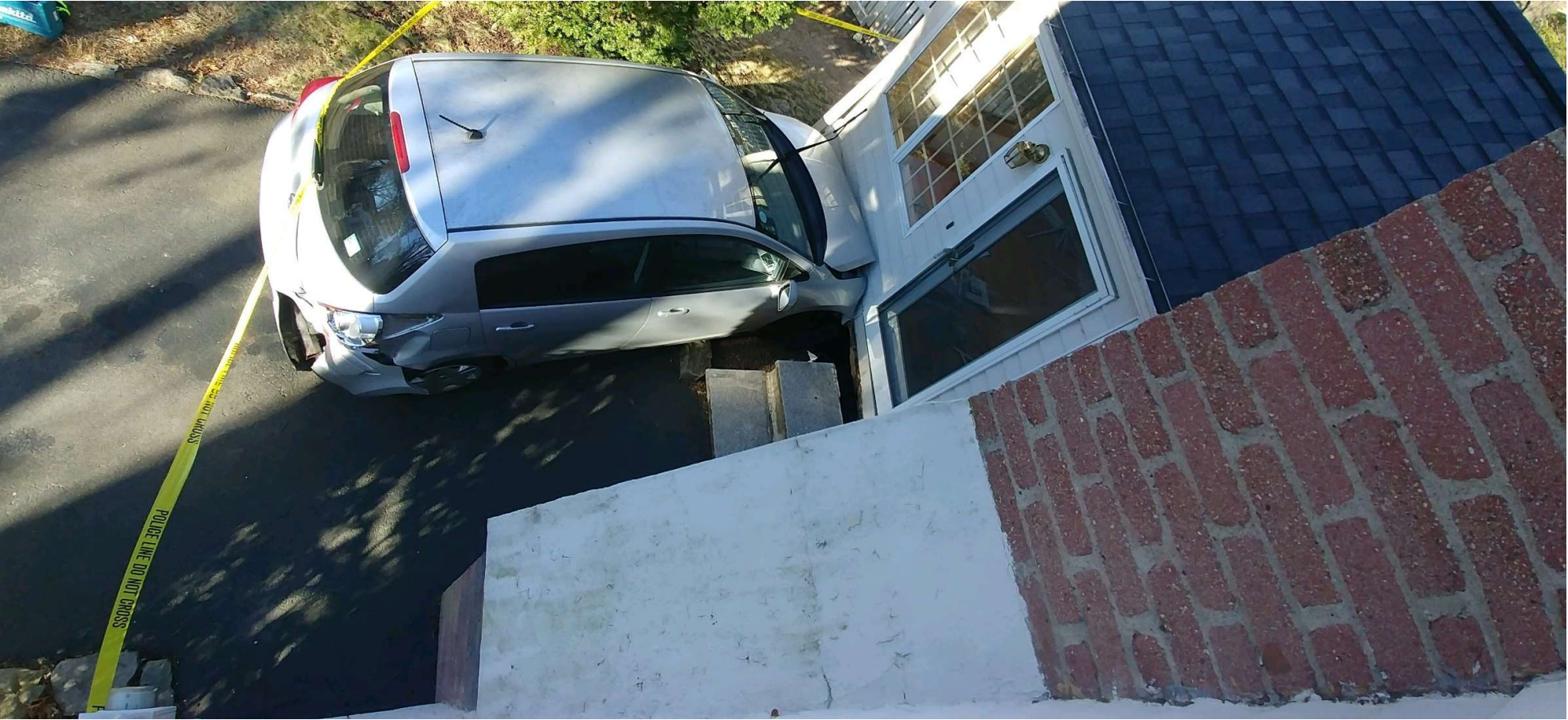
CROSSWALK REQUEST

TOWER AVE AND GREENDALE AVE

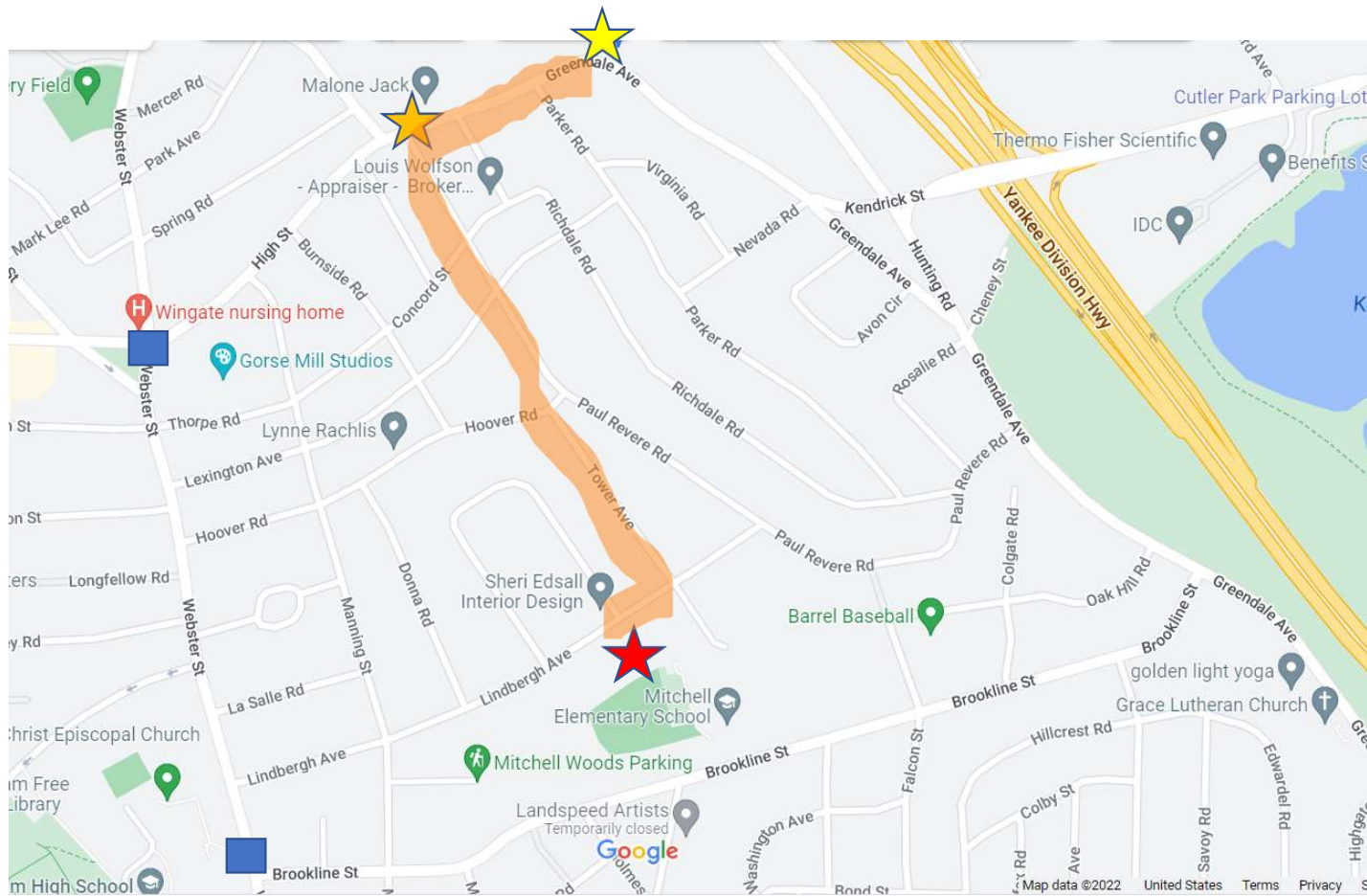
Presented by

CAROLYN WALSH
202 GREENDALE AVE









- ★ School
- ★ Home
- Current crosswalks



Tyler Gabrielski

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Sunday, August 21, 2022 4:58 PM
To: TMAC
Subject: Online Form Submittal: TMAC Concern Form

Categories: Petitions

The following form was submitted via your website: TMAC Concern Form

Last Name: Ballard

First Name: Ted

Street : 69 country way

City: Needham

Zip: 02492

Phone : 781 444 0293

E-Mail: egballard@gmail.com

Type of concern (check all that apply): Intersection,Crosswalk,Speed,Signage

Location of concern: Country Way where the road splits

Details of concern: request for additional stop sign.. please see letter given to Tyler Gabrielski

Specific times that make this condition worse (if applicable): business and commuting hours and weekend evening as well

What solutions do you feel would address your concerns?: adding at least one additional stop sign where Country Way splits to slow down construction vehicles and motorists in order to protect children and pedestrians in our neighborhood

Additional Information:

Form submitted on: 8/21/2022 4:58:14 PM

Submitted from IP Address: 108.7.208.216

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August 15, 2022

To: Traffic Management Advisory Committee

I am writing to you to request another stop sign be installed where Country Way splits to augment the one that was installed several years ago.

The stop sign was a good first step in dealing with the increase of traffic, including both residential and construction vehicles. Since we moved here in 1985 we have seen an increased traffic flow of cars and construction vehicles sometimes going in excess of 30 mph.

Across the street are four little boys, all under 6 years old; directly next door to me are two children under three years old; the next house has new neighbors with two children under 7 years old, and across from me, three children in the Needham schools. The next house has two children, and the next has four children. I think you can understand the reason I am asking for your consideration in this matter. We're concerned about the safety of our children as well as walkers in this neighborhood.

Because of increased numbers of children and vehicles in the neighborhood we are requesting another stop sign before there's an accident. We think the additional stop sign will slow down cars and trucks to help mitigate the risk to children and pedestrians.

Some of my neighbors have suggested that we present the town with a petition/signatures. If that is what we need, I am happy to organize. Please let me know how to proceed.

Many thanks for your consideration in this matter,

Ted Ballard
69 Country Way
(781- 444 - 0293)

Tyler Gabrielski

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2022 10:19 AM
To: TMAC
Subject: Online Form Submittal: TMAC Concern Form

Categories: Petitions

The following form was submitted via your website: TMAC Concern Form

Last Name: Nascimben

First Name: Charlie

Street : 580 South Street

City: Needham

Zip: 02492

Phone : 7816903770

E-Mail: Charlienascimben@gmail.com

Type of concern (check all that apply): Speed, Signage

Location of concern: The area of 580 South Street and 590 South Street

Details of concern: The road at South street at the intersection of High Rock Street curves sharply to the right when heading NE. Several cars travel over the speed limit at all times of the day. This makes it particularly dangerous for vehicles exiting the driveway at 580 South Street.

Would appreciate a review of this intersection and blind driveway. While we are extremely cautious exiting, there have been a number of near misses as it is not possible to see the speeding vehicles until just exiting the driveway.

Specific times that make this condition worse (if applicable): Morning rush hour (7am-9am) and afternoon rush hour (3pm-6pm)

What solutions do you feel would address your concerns?: Proposal 1: Place a mirror on the north side of South street, just east of High Rock. This would enable vehicles exiting 580 South to see the cars approaching the intersection.

Proposal 2: Place a stop sign at all points of this 3 road intersection, Currently only High rock street has a full stop. This would slow down vehicles traveling both ways on South Street.

Proposal 3: Place a large sign on the north side of South street, just east of High Rock to warn vehicles traveling NE on South Street to slow down for blind driveway.

Additional Information:

Form submitted on: 8/25/2022 10:19:13 AM

Submitted from IP Address: 108.7.74.163

Referrer Page: No Referrer - Direct Link

Form Address:

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Tyler Gabrielski

From: noreply@civicplus.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 31, 2022 9:44 AM
To: TMAC
Subject: Online Form Submittal: TMAC Concern Form

Categories: Petitions

The following form was submitted via your website: TMAC Concern Form

Last Name: McIntyre

First Name: Judith

Street : 83 Pickering St.

City: Needham

Zip: 02492

Phone : 774.407.3951

E-Mail: lovetodust82@gmail.com

Type of concern (check all that apply): Signage

Location of concern: 83 Pickering Street, parking area beside Green Field Playground

Details of concern: I am a resident of the Stephen Palmer Apts at 83 Pickering Street. I am writing about a very dangerous situation and an accident waiting to happen.

Our parking area egress is very narrow. This becomes a dangerous situation during the school year when parents are picking up children at St. Josephs' school. Parents are parking large SUVs on either side of the egress cutting off all view of the street for residents trying to drive out of our parking area. Many times after cautiously entering Pickering St I have come face to face with another vehicle because I could not see around the SUV for a clear street view. I am told that this has been brought to the attention of St. Joe's, and the police, but obviously to no avail. SO LET'S DO SOMETHING. The solution is a very simple one. Place NO PARKING HERE TO CORNER on either side of Stephen Palmer parking area. That will give us at least partial view of the street we are entering. There are several elderly residents living at Stephen Palmer who both drive and walk, and this is a hazardous situation for both. PLEASE address this as soon as possible since the school year has now officially started. Again, very simple solution. I am happy to meet with any and all to discuss problem and remedy.

Specific times that make this condition worse (if applicable): School pick up and school events. from 1 PM - evening.

What solutions do you feel would address your concerns?: As I have mentioned above. We need a sign on each corner of our parking area stating "NO PARKING HERE TO CORNER"

Thank you.

Additional Information:

Form submitted on: 8/31/2022 9:44:14 AM

Submitted from IP Address: 73.126.82.61

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