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Newton ARPA Investment

Cheesecake Brook Bike/Ped Bridge at Albemarle Playground - \$700,000

With the new Gath Memorial Pool set for construction later this year, and new athletic fields and facilities planned on the north end of the Albemarle park complex, there is a need for better access to the north end of the park from the west side of Cheesecake Brook. Currently there is one footbridge at the southern end which provides a route over the brook for students and park users from Watertown Street, the Warwick/Wildwood neighborhood passage, and parking spots along this southbound section of Albemarle Road. The new bridge, located halfway between Craft Street and the current bridge, will allow for better access to the pool, fields, courts, and Day Middle School pathway route from parking locations along a large portion of the southbound lane of Albemarle Road near the Fessenden fields. The City is exploring investigating the possibility of coordinated parking improvements with the private school in this area. The second bridge will also help crowds navigate the area during the annual 4th of July celebration and fireworks, and the major sporting events. This project will include minor modifications to the existing bridge to make it fully accessible for people using wheelchairs and for little ones in strollers and wagons. When complete this project will ensure there are two fully-accessible means of crossing Cheesecake Brook for the tens of thousands of bicyclists, walkers, runners, and the residents and visitors who come to enjoy one of our premier destinations.