



Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

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March 28, 2023

Honorable City Council
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton, MA 02459

Honorable City Councilors:

I respectfully submit this docket item to this Honorable Council requesting improvements to roadway infrastructure as part of the Albemarle Traffic Calming Project. Aspects of the proposed design require the approval of the Public Facilities Committee, specifically vertical elements placed on or in the roadway such as speed humps and speed cushions.

This project has been several years in the planning with extensive community engagement. It addresses longstanding concerns and safety conflicts on Albemarle Road, a heavily used road which includes several schools, other educational programs, and recreational facilities that are being expanded.

The project is primarily funded by a MassDOT Shared Streets and Spaces grant (previously accepted by City Council with Item #331-22). Both the Planning and Public Works Departments have been heavily involved in the proposed roadway improvements.

Pursuant to City Ordinance Section 26-51(b), City Council approval is needed for the proposed vertical elements. Timely committee approval is requested such that the project may proceed to final design and procurement, leading to installation in August, 2023 prior to the start of the school year.

The Planning Department will lead an outreach and education initiative to introduce the project. Notably, back-in angle parking is proposed, a parking configuration that may be unfamiliar to Newton residents.

A virtual public meeting for this project is scheduled for April 3, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Please see the attached memo from Director of Transportation Planning Josh Ostroff on the matter.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mayor Ruthanne Fuller

1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, Massachusetts 02459

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NEWTON, MA, 02459
CITY CLERK

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RECEIVED



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Barney Heath
Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Ruthanne Fuller
Jonathan Yeo, Chief Operating Officer

FROM: Barney Heath, Director, Department of Planning and Development
Josh Ostroff, Director of Transportation Planning

DATE: March 27, 2023

RE: Docket Request for Albemarle Traffic Calming Project

CC: Jim McGonagle, Commissioner of Public Works
Jason Sobel, Director of Transportation Operations

The Planning and Public Works Departments respectfully request that you docket this item to approve the roadway infrastructure as part of the Albemarle Traffic Calming Project. Certain aspects of the proposed design require the approval of the Public Facilities Committee, specifically vertical elements placed on or in the roadway such as speed humps and speed cushions.

This project has been several years in the planning, with extensive community engagement and advocacy to address longstanding concerns and conflicts on Albemarle Road, which includes several schools, other educational programs, and recreational facilities that are being expanded. The project is primarily funded by a MassDOT Shared Streets and Spaces grant (previously accepted by City Council with Item #331-22).

Pursuant to City Ordinance Section 26-51(b), staff are seeking City Council approval of the proposed design. Timely committee approval is requested such that the project may proceed to final design and procurement leading to installation in August, 2023 prior to the start of the school year.

Because the proposed design introduces a parking configuration that may be unfamiliar to Newton residents, the Planning department will lead an outreach and education initiative to introduce back-in angle parking, and to help ensure the success of this effort.

A virtual public meeting for this project is scheduled for April 3, 2023 at 6:00 PM. A presentation developed by the city's engineering consultant is available if you would like more information.

Suggested docket language is provided:

HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting approval to install vertical elements placed on or in Albemarle Road such as speed humps and speed cushions, such approval required under City Ordinance Section 26-51(b).