

Danielle Delaney

From: Danielle Delaney
Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 2:34 PM
To: Traffic Council; Christopher J. Markiewicz
Subject: FW: PS&T Item #467-22: Traffic Council Decision TC46-22

From: Meryl Kessler <merylkessler@me.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 19, 2022 1:30 PM
To: John Oliver <joliver@newtonma.gov>; Alicia Bowman <abowman@newtonma.gov>; Andreae Downs <adowns@newtonma.gov>; Tarik Lucas <tlucas@newtonma.gov>; Julia Malakie <jmalakie@newtonma.gov>; Richard Lipof <rlipof@newtonma.gov>; Rebecca Walker Grossman <rwgrossman@newtonma.gov>; Danielle Delaney <ddelaney@newtonma.gov>
Subject: PS&T Item #467-22: Traffic Council Decision TC46-22

[DO NOT OPEN links/attachments unless you are sure the content is safe.]

Dear Honorable Councilors,

I am writing with a brief addendum to my earlier email (attached below) regarding the above-mentioned item on tonight's Public Safety and Transportation Committee agenda.

Attached please find a photo of the intersection of Exeter and Berkeley streets.

This photo was taken by me today standing on Exeter looking north toward the intersection with Berkeley.

The appellant's house is not visible in the picture because it is behind the grove of evergreens on the right. I have marked the approximate location for the stop sign with a pink arrow. The appellant's house is behind the trees approximately where the yellow star is located.

Please note:

1. Appellant cannot see the location of the sign from his house because of the huge stand of evergreens on his property, at the corner and along Exeter, which blocks the location from his view.
2. In fact, appellant's evergreens make the need for a STOP SIGN at this intersection even more urgent, since the trees completely block the sight lines to the right at that intersection.
3. There are literally no other signs in the vicinity of the proposed sign, making the argument about "visual clutter" questionable at best.

Again, I urge you not to rescind the Traffic Council's decision to place a stop sign at the Berkeley/Exeter intersection.

Respectfully,

Meryl Kessler
147 Prince Street



Begin forwarded message:

From: Meryl Kessler <merylkessler@me.com>
Subject: Stop Sign at Berkeley/Exeter
Date: September 26, 2022 at 9:51:05 PM EDT
To: trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov
Cc: citycouncil@newtonma.gov

To the Newton Traffic Council:

I am writing in support of the Traffic Council's September 15 decision to place a stop sign at the intersection of Berkeley and Exeter Streets in West Newton.

I live just around the corner from the Berkeley/Exeter intersection and frequently walk through that intersection. The intersection lies just at the beginning of a school zone leading to the Peirce Elementary School. In my experience, cars exiting Commonwealth Avenue frequently speed up Exeter Street toward Berkeley and do not come to a full stop at the intersection before turning onto Berkeley Street. Given the volume of pedestrian traffic along Berkeley Street (especially school children and their families walking to and from Peirce), a stop sign at that intersection would be a reasonable and prudent traffic calming measure.

I am confused and frankly shocked that any of my neighbors would appeal the Traffic Council's decision to place a stop sign at the Berkeley/Exeter intersection. Concern about "sign clutter" seems completely unfounded. As the attached picture of the intersection from Google maps shows, the

intersection currently has no other traffic signage. Therefore, the addition of a single stop sign cannot reasonably be considered to be visual clutter.

I urge the City Council not to rescind the Traffic Council's decision to place a stop sign at the Berkeley/Exeter intersection.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Meryl Kessler
147 Prince Street

