

CITY OF NEWTON  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
TRAFFIC COUNCIL REPORT

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2012

Present: Ald. Ciccone; Jim Danila, Transportation Engineer; David Koses, Transportation Planner and Sgt. Jay Babcock, Newton Police Department  
Absent: Jerome Grafe, Citizen Representative  
Also Present: Ald. Rice and Harney

Mr. Danila provided a PowerPoint presentation on these items, attached to this report.

TC26-11      ALD. RICE, requesting a "Do Not Enter" Sign at the intersection of Beethoven Avenue and Beacon Street on School Days during the hours of 8:30am to 9:30am and 2:30pm to 3:30 pm. (Ward 5)

**TRIAL APPROVED on 7/28/11: Do Not Enter, Beethoven Road from Beacon Street and from Evelyn Road, 8:00 AM to 9:00, AM and 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM, School Days.**

**TRIAL MODIFIED on 08/09/11: Do Not Enter, Beethoven Road from Beacon Street and from Evelyn Road, 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM and 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM, School Days, Excluding Buses failed to carry 1-3 (Koses in favor, Ciccone, Danila and Mintz opposed). Trial approved on 7/28/11 to move forward.**

**ACTION:    APPROVE making the trial permanent (3-0-1, Danila abstain). Do Not Enter, Beethoven Road from Beacon Street and from Evelyn Road, 8:00 AM to 9:00 AM and 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM, School Days. This item may be appealed through the close of business February 22, 2012.**

**NOTE:**      Eighteen e-mails were received supporting the trial be made permanent and one e-mail was opposed, attached to this report.

Mr. Danila reviewed with Council members the various parking restrictions and turning movements in the area. Beethoven Avenue is 24' wide allowing parking on both sides of the road. He then described alternative routes into the neighborhood: An additional  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile to get to Beethoven Avenue and Puritan Road. Furthermore, the afternoon school bus previously travelled to the Zervas Elementary School via Beacon Street and Beethoven Road to the school parking lot. Regina Moody, Transportation Director, Newton Public Schools, has re-routed the afternoon school bus.

Mr. Koses opened the discussion for public comment. Approximately seven residents were present for this discussion. Residents said that they support and request this trial be made permanent even though they would be inconvenienced. They stated that traffic conditions have improved significantly after the trial began. They asked if Traffic Council could suggest options for early release days.

Steve Griffin, Principal, Zervas Elementary School, said that the traffic flow has significantly improved and that he fully supports the trial being made permanent. He said that the trial has made the situation much safer for the children.

Ald. Rice said that a survey was conducted of which 120 people responded. 93% of the respondents felt that the trial has made significant improvements and support the trial being made permanent.

Residents of Beethoven Avenue also support the trial being made permanent. Ald. Rice asked whether anything can be done for early release days, and then asked if flashing light could be installed. Ald. Rice said that drivers continue to drive on both lanes of Beethoven Avenue as if it was a one-way street. Mr. Danila suggested yellow line painting hoping to deter drivers from the left side of the road. Mr. Koses said that the crossing guard informed him that the trial has made the area safe. He will ask Ms. Moody to request that the school bus continue their regular route even on early release days. Mr. Danila agreed. Mr. Danila said that if a sign were installed indicating early release days it would be very large or difficult to read. He did not support this option.

Ald. Ciccone made the motion to make the trial permanent. Council members agreed 3-0-1 (Danila abstained). Mr. Koses said that this item may be appealed through the close of business February 22, 2012.

TC62-11 ALD. SANGIOLO & HARNEY, requesting parking restrictions on that portion of Williston Road, both sides, to Leighton Road and possible restrictions along Leighton Road to Oakwood Road. (Ward 4) [10/26/11 @ 2:09 PM] [Revised 01/20/12]

**ACTION: HELD for trial (4-0). No parking 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM, Monday through Friday, Williston Road between Hancock Street and Leighton Road and Leighton Road between Williston Road and Oakwood Road, north side. No parking 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM, Monday through Friday, Williston Road between Hancock Street and Leighton Road and Leighton Road between Williston Road and Oakwood Road, south side.**

**NOTE:** Ald. Harney said that this item was docketed because of commuters parking on Hancock Street and Williston Road. People have the tendency to park on both sides of the streets making it dangerous for students who walk because there are no sidewalks.

Mr. Danila provided Council members with the various parking restrictions on Hancock Street. Williston Road is 21' wide with typically 2-3 cars observed parking near Hancock Street. Leighton Road is 22' wide with no more than one car observed parking.

Mr. Koses opened the discussion for public comment. Approximately five residents were present for this discussion. The discussion stressed their concerns regarding limited parking, commuter parking, driveways are being blocked, speeding and children's safety. Suggestions were made to install a crosswalk at Hancock Street and Williston Road and implement a parking restriction on Williston and Leighton Roads. A resident suggested no parking one side and a two- hour parking on the opposite side hoping to deter commuters. They feel more cars are parking on these streets than Mr. Danila observed. They stated that when construction begins on the Riverside Development and the proposed MBTA parking increase will only deter commuters from paying and they will continue to park in the neighborhood. Mr. Danila said that he would review pedestrian and traffic volumes to determine if a crosswalk would be beneficial at this location.

Mr. Koses asked Ald. Harney for clarification on whether this item is limited to parking restrictions on Williston Road between Hancock Street and Leighton Road, both sides. Ald. Harney said that if Leighton Road is not included up to Oakwood Road commuters would just park further into the neighborhood. He is being proactive. He then said that Ald. Sangiolo also observed more cars parked than data presented. Ald. Sangiolo requested through Ald. Harney the implementation of a 60-day trial of no parking both sides, 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. on Williston Road hoping to deter commuter parking.

Ald. Ciccone made the motion for a 60-day trial of no parking, 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Monday through Friday on Williston Road to keep consistency in the neighborhood. Mr. Koses said that parents would also have to observe this restriction.

A resident suggested no parking on one side and two-hour parking on the opposite side hoping to deter commuters. Ald. Ciccone said that it would be difficult for the Police Department to enforce a two-hour restriction without specific times. Sgt. Babcock said that a time restriction has to be determined with a time making it easier for the Police Department to enforce. He agreed that a 7:00 a.m. restriction would be difficult to enforce. Ald. Harney suggested implementing a 60-day trial of no parking Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on one side and no parking 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the opposite side to deter commuter parking and to allow residents and parents to continue parking. Ald. Harney requested the installation of no parking here to corner sign. Mr. Danila said that the request for a no parking here to corner sign could be installed administratively. He suggested making a parking restriction on Williston Road between Hancock Street and Leighton Road and Leighton Road between Williston Road and Oakwood Road, north side because that is where students are walking in the morning.

Ald. Ciccone amended his motion to hold this item for a 60-day trial. Council members agreed 4-0.

TC61-11      ALD. SANGIOLO, GENTILE & HARNEY, filing on behalf of Burr School parents a request to examine the traffic and safety issues associated with drop-off/pick-up and potentially extend No Parking/Live Parking areas. (Ward 4)  
[10/26/11 @ 2:09 PM

**ACTION:**      **NO ACTION NECESSARY (4-0). New action items to be docketed.**

**NOTE:**      Tricia Bombara, Burr School Safe Routes Coordinator provided Council members with photos and a report summarizing the problems and traffic safety issues that are being created and some suggestions for possible solutions from the Safe Routes Team, School Council and the Burr School Community, attached to this report.

Mr. Danila provided Council members with the various parking restrictions in the area. Restrictions include live parking, bus stop zone, no parking zone and a blue zone on Pine Street and Washburn Avenue. The bus stop zone is not listed in the Traffic and Parking Regulations. He then provided various drivers' behavior patterns. Pine Street at Ivy Drive is 24' wide, most cars wait in the live parking zone (right side). Some driver's park illegally in the no parking 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. zone (left side). Pine Street at the crosswalk is 34' wide with cars waiting in blue zone (right), cars waiting in the blue zone (left, near) and cars waiting in the unrestricted area (left, far). Washburn Avenue is 24' wide with cars parking along south side during pick-up times. Mr. Danila then provided crash data proving that there were five reported crashes in the past seven years (01/01/05 to the present). Crashes include one rear-end, one head-on and three sideswipe accidents.

Mr. Koses opened the discussion for public comment. Approximately eight residents were present for this discussion. The discussion stressed their concerns regarding difficulty parking, cars blocking driveways, cars double parking, traffic congestion, buses queue up causing backups, morning drop-offs, afternoon pick-ups and people have the tendency to ignore posted signs. They stated that Police enforcement is necessary. They feel that after school pick-ups are more of an issue, emergency vehicles would have difficulty getting down the street, and drivers have the tendency to make illegal u-turns. Suggestions were made to perform additional traffic studies at various times and various

weather conditions. They also suggested the installation of no parking signs at the curve of Pine Street and Washburn Avenue, expand the school parking lot to allow parents to park and to consider making Pine and Burr Streets a one-way street during drop-offs and pick-ups avoiding gridlock. Residents opposed to the idea of additional signs and the idea of making a driveway on the school property to allow traffic flow onto Lexington Street. A resident asked if a sign could be installed ‘not a through street’. Mr. Danila said that this is difficult to enforce.

Mr. Koses suggested Council members discuss the following options: 1) Police enforcement. 2) Investigate whether the bus stop could be relocated. 3) Investigate whether a bus cut-out could be created in front of the school to remove the bus from the travel lane. 4) Consider parking restrictions on Washburn Avenue 5) Installation of a “Do Not Enter” sign with specific times. 6) Installation of a “Do Not Enter” sign on Pine Street from Washburn Avenue. 7) Install a road from Burr School to Lexington Street. 8) Make u-turns illegal on Pine Street.

Ald. Harney said that he would not support making Pine Street a one-way street without first discussing the option with neighbors. Mr. Koses agreed. Mr. Danila said that traffic warrants would have to be reviewed. Ald. Harney then said that he would support parking restrictions. Sgt. Babcock said that he would request that the Police Department enforce the area temporarily at various times and during various weather conditions to make recommendations.

Sgt. Babcock suggested swapping the current blue zone with the no parking, bus stop zone and implement an additional no parking restriction. Mr. Danila recommends the bus stop at a location across from an area where there is a current parking restriction. Mr. Koses said that if the zones were swapped, cars queuing up to get into the blue zone would need to bypass buses waiting between the queue zone and the blue zone. Sgt. Babcock then suggested cutting the street to make the bus lane wider and suggested eliminating the small blue zone opposite the current bus stop. Ald. Ciccone suggested allowing parents use the school parking lot when visiting. Burr School Principal, Mindy Johal said that the parking lot is at full capacity with staff.

Mr. Koses said that the Burr School is not unique and this is a citywide issue. This item was docketed as a discussion item to examine traffic and safety issues. Additional action items would have to be docketed. He suggested that the Ward 4 Aldermen discuss a “Do Not Enter” sign with the neighborhood and discuss with the School Transportation Department the idea of relocating or installing a new cut-out for the buses. He then suggested that the Aldermen docket additional items, including (1) a request to remove the small blue zone, and (2) a request to implement parking restrictions on two sections of Washburn Avenue.

Mr. Danila made the motion for no action necessary. Council members agreed 4-0. It is the intention of the Ward 4 Aldermen to docket additional action items.

TC64-11 ALD. SANGIOLO, requesting parking restrictions on Groveland Street. (Ward 4)  
[10/28/11 @ 10:19 AM]

**ACTION: NO ACTION NECESSARY (4-0). Restrict parking up to 50’ from corner of Groveland and Maple Street, south side, to be done administratively.**

**NOTE:** The one e-mail received on this item is attached to this report.

Ald. Harney said that Ald. Sangiolo docketed this item due to constituents concerns regarding parking issues, speeding, traffic congestion and site distance difficulties at Groveland and Maple Streets. He suggested extending the restricted parking from the corner of Groveland and Maple Streets to help with site distance. Another concern is the traffic flow on Berkeley Place that is under review.

Mr. Danila provided Council members with the various parking restrictions on Groveland, Maple and Central Streets. Groveland Street is 23' wide with typically 8-10 cars parked on the eastern end of Groveland Street.

Mr. Koses opened the discussion for public comment. Two residents were present for this discussion. The discussion stressed their concerns regarding inadequate site distance, limited parking, traffic and speeding. Suggestions were made to consider the implementation of a two-hour parking restriction but not to further restrict parking on the street. They also suggested restricting parking from the corner of Groveland and Maple Streets to help with site distance.

Mr. Danila suggested installing a correct 2-hour limit sign, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. except Saturday, Sunday and holidays because the current sign does not list days. This may deter people from parking long-term. Mr. Koses suggested implementing a 2-hour limit. Sgt. Babcock agreed that parking should be restricted at the corner of Maple and Groveland Streets at the 'T' intersection. Ald. Ciccone said that cars that park on residential streets act as traffic-calming devices. If parking is eliminated, he said, people would have the tendency to speed.

Mr. Danila made the motion for no action necessary. Administratively he will restrict parking up to 50' from corner of Groveland and Maple Street, south side. Council members agreed 4-0. It is the intention of the Ward 4 Aldermen to docket parking restrictions on Maple Street at the 'T' of Groveland Street.

TC29-09      ALD. SANGIOLO, GENTILE AND HARNEY requesting installation of a pedestrian-activated warning signal on Commonwealth Avenue in front of the Marriott Hotel in Auburndale. (Ward 4) [08/04/09 @ 9:59 AM]

**HELD (5-0) on 12/17/09. Item will be rescheduled at a time to be requested by Ward 4 Aldermen.**

**ACTION: DENY signal (4-0). Director of Planning Department to request funds from Marriott, to be sent to Conservation Commission, as allowed through Special Permit. This item may be appealed through the close of business February 22, 2012.**

**NOTE:** Ald. Harney said that the Marriott Hotel's Special Permit includes and requires a payment to the City of \$40,000.00 specified for the installation of a pedestrian-activated warning signal on Commonwealth Avenue in front of the Marriott Hotel. He said that it is difficult for pedestrians to cross Commonwealth Avenue in this area with cars travelling at a high rate of speed.

Mr. Koses said that if this signal is denied, then the Marriot Hotel would be required to present \$20,000.00 to the Conservation Commission to be used for beautifying a neighborhood park.

Mr. Danila reviewed with Council members the current traffic and pedestrian counts during morning and evening peak hours. He said that previous counts proved that there are twelve boardings and three alightings at the Marriott-side bus stop on an average day. No data is available for the opposite stop. He then said that specific warrants must be met for the City to install a crosswalk. The installation of a pedestrian warning beacon would require the City to install ADA-compliant sidewalks, ramps, and

refuge areas. The total cost for design and construction would likely exceed \$60,000.00. He then said that installing and maintaining a signal at this location does not make sense to him.

Ald. Harney asked if the signal could be installed at Commonwealth Avenue and Auburn Street. Mr. Koses said that the City's Law Department reviewed the Marriott's Special Permit and determined it could not be because it is too far from the specified location. Ald. Ciccone suggested that in the future, Special Permits be less specific. Mr. Danila agreed and said that specific locations and specific language is difficult to work with.

Mr. Koses opened the discussion for public comment. One resident was present for this discussion. He stressed his concern of speeding cars, difficulty crossing Commonwealth Avenue and said that it is a very dangerous location. He agreed this location is not the best for installing a pedestrian beacon. He requested in the future that perhaps Traffic Council could consider other options for safe crossing.

Mr. Danila made the motion to deny this request. Council members agreed 4-0. Mr. Koses said that this item may be appealed through the close of business February 22, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

David Koses, Traffic Council Chair

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# Traffic Council

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City Hall

Room 222

Thursday, February 2, 2012

7:00 p.m.

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# Agenda

1. TC26-11: requesting a Do Not Enter, 8:30-9:30 a.m. & 2:30-3:30 p.m., on Beethoven Ave. at Beacon St. (Ward 5)  
(Held for 60-day Trial: 07/28/2011)
  2. TC62-11: requesting a parking restrictions on Williston Rd. and Leighton Rd. (Ward 4)
  3. TC61-11: requesting an examination of traffic and safety issues and possible changes to parking restrictions at the Burr School. (Ward 4)
  4. TC64-11: requesting parking restrictions on Groveland St. (Ward 4)
  5. TC29-09: requesting installation of a pedestrian-activated warning signal on Commonwealth Ave. in front of the Marriott Hotel. (Ward 4)  
(Held: 12/17/2009)
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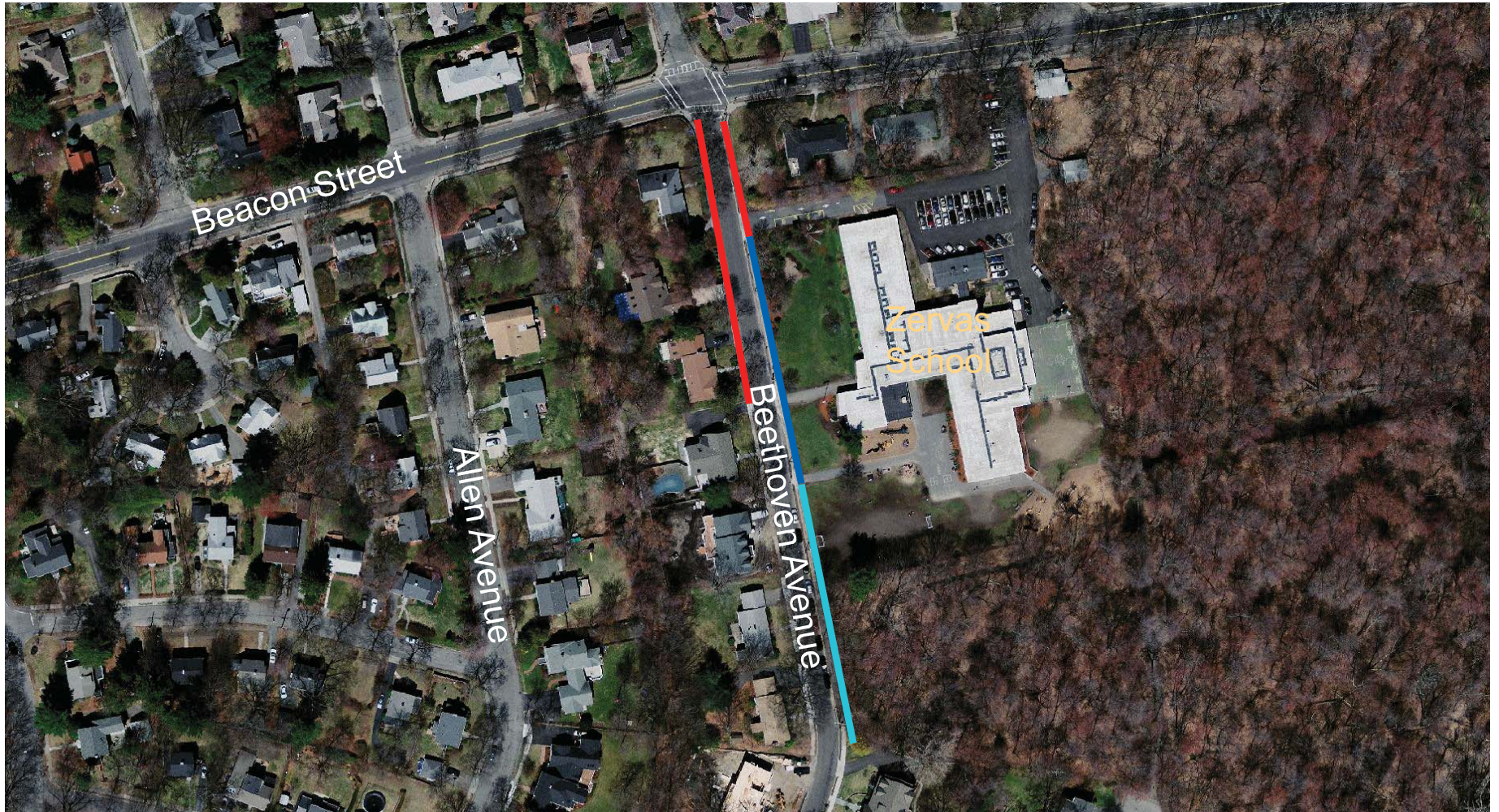
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# TC26-11

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Requesting a Do Not Enter 8:30-9:30  
a.m. & 2:30-3:30 p.m. sign on  
Beethoven Ave. at Beacon St. (Ward 5)  
Held for 60-day Trial: 07/28/2011

# Aerial Photo



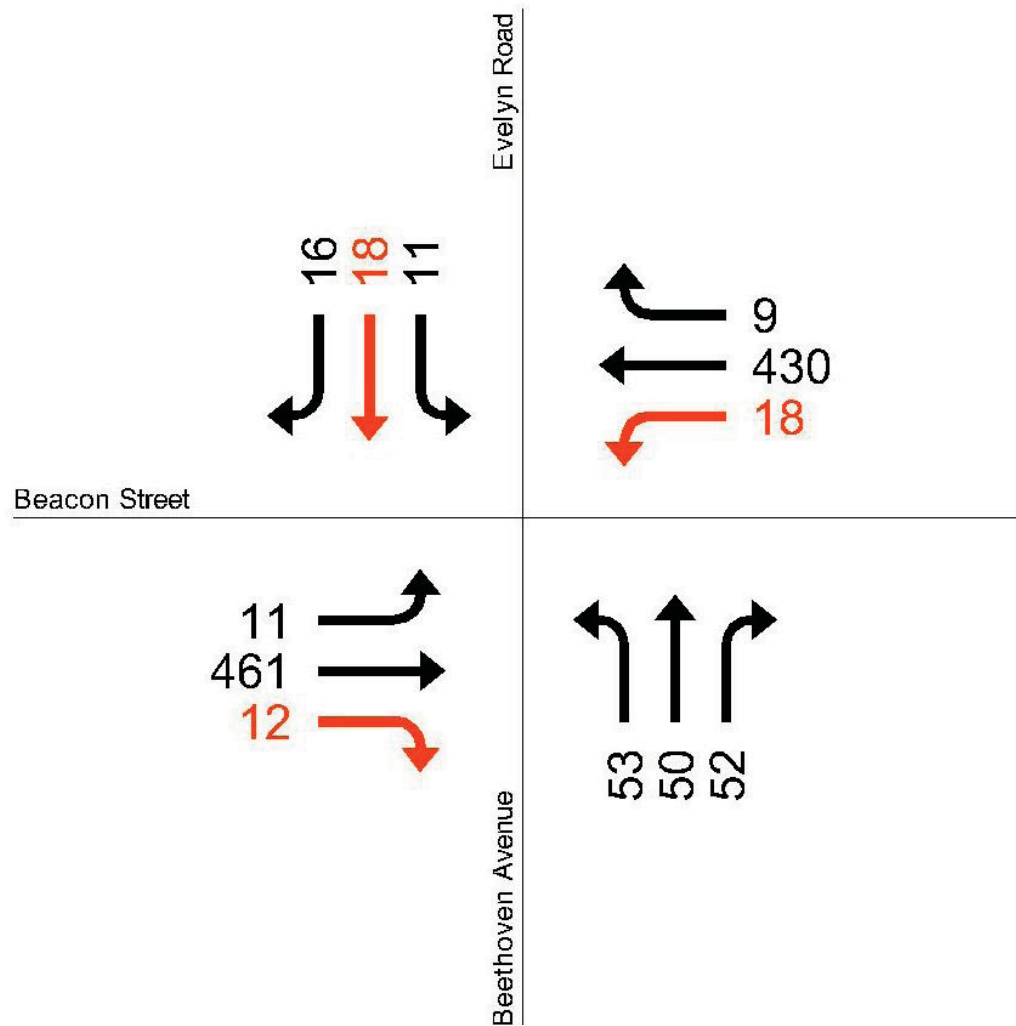
**No Parking 8-4 School Days** | **Marked Blue Zone** | **Legal Blue Zone (not marked)**



# Beethoven Ave.



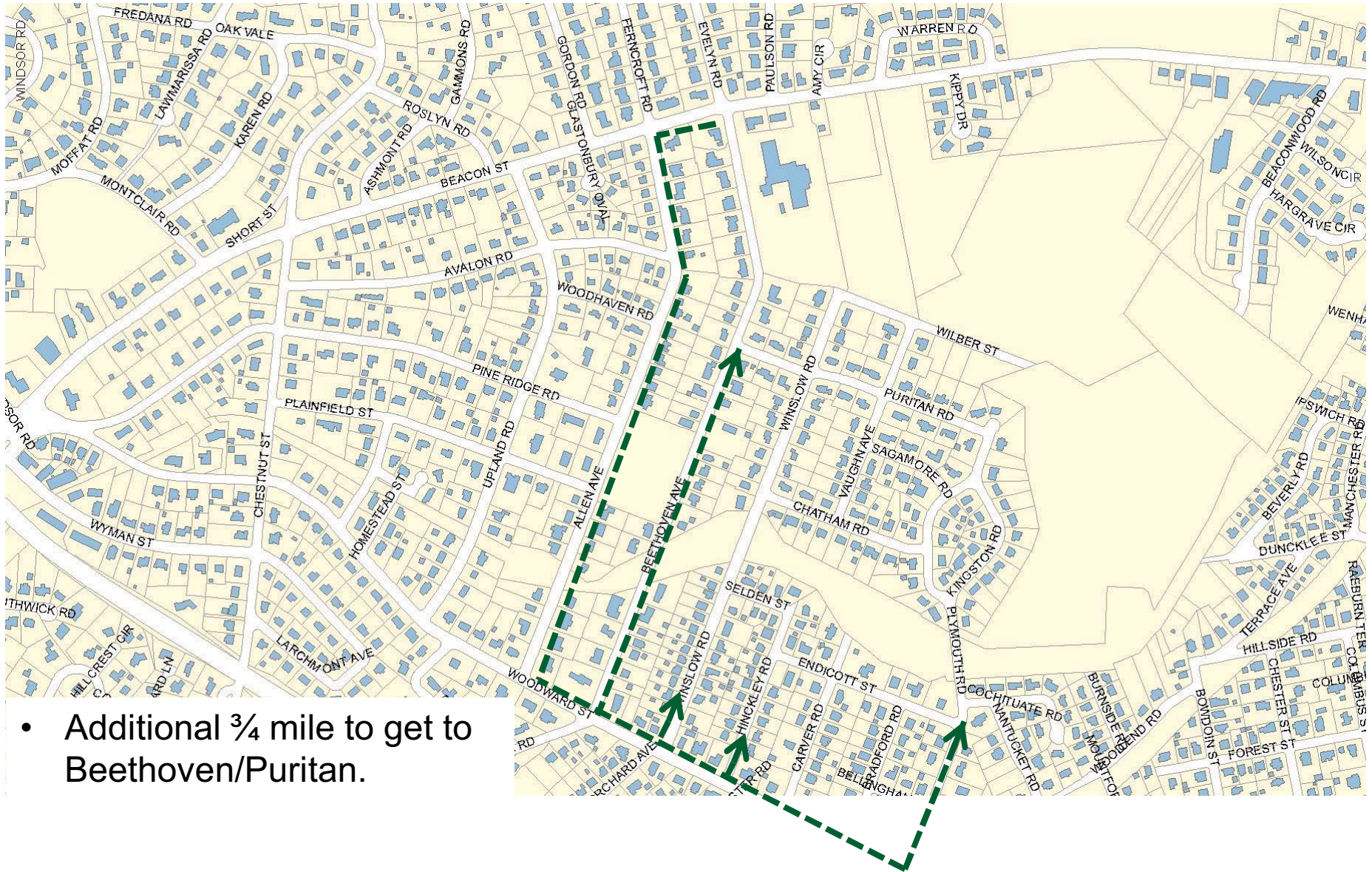
# Turning Movement Diagram



8:00am – 9:00am



# Alternative routes into neighborhood



- Additional  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile to get to Beethoven/Puritan.



# Approved for Trial



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Input from neighbors and parents?

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# TC62-11

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Requesting parking restrictions on Williston Rd., both sides, to Leighton Rd. and possible restrictions along Leighton Rd. to Oakwood Rd. (Ward 4)



# Aerial Photo



**No Parking Any Time** | **No Parking, 8am-10am, Mon.-Fri.**



# Williston Road



- Typically 2-3 cars park on Williston Rd. near Hancock St.



# Leighton Road



- No more than 1 car was observed parked on Leighton Rd.

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Input from Residents?

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# TC61-11

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Requesting examination of the traffic and safety issues associated with drop-off/pick-up and to potentially extend No Parking/Live Parking areas at the Burr School. (Ward 4)



# Aerial Photo



**No Parking, School Days, 8am-4pm** | **Live Parking, 2pm-4pm, M, W, Th, F; 12pm-2pm Tu**  
**Blue Zone** | **No Parking, Bus Stop (not in TPR)**



# Pine Street @ Ivy Drive



- Most cars wait in Live Parking zone (right side).
- Some park illegally in No Parking 8-4 zone (left side).



# Pine Street @ crosswalk



- Cars waiting in Blue Zone (right).
- Cars waiting in Blue Zone (left, near).
- Cars waiting in unrestricted area (left, far).



# Washburn Avenue



- Cars park along south side of Washburn during pick-up times.

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## Crash data

- 5 reported crashes in 7 years (1/1/05 to present).
  - 10/3/06: Rear-end with parked car on Pine St. near Ivy Dr. (9:30 a.m. on a Tuesday).
  - 5/7/07: Head-on collision on Pine St. near Ivy Dr. (3:35 p.m. on a Monday).
  - 12/5/07: Sideswipe with a parked car while turning right into 160 Pine St. condo parking lot (12:40 p.m. on a Wednesday).
  - 5/5/09: Sideswipe with a parked car on Pine St. near Washburn Ave. (8:35 a.m. on a Tuesday; traveling south; in rain).
  - 6/1/10: Sideswipe with a parked car on Pine St. in front of Burr School (8:30 on a Tuesday; traveling south; on wet pavement).
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Input from neighbors and parents?

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TC64-11

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Requesting parking restrictions on  
Groveland St. (Ward 4)



# Aerial Photo



**No Parking Any Time** | **No Parking, 7am-6pm, Mon.-Fri.** | **No Parking, 9am-5pm, Mon.-Fri.**  
**2-Hour Limit, 8am-6pm, Mon.-Fri. (signage does not list days)**



# Groveland Street



- Typically 8-10 cars parked on eastern end of Groveland St.

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Input from Residents?

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TC29-09

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Requesting a pedestrian-activated  
warning signal on Commonwealth Ave.  
in front of the Marriott Hotel. (Ward 4)

Held on 12/17/2009



# Study Area





# Commonwealth Ave. looking east





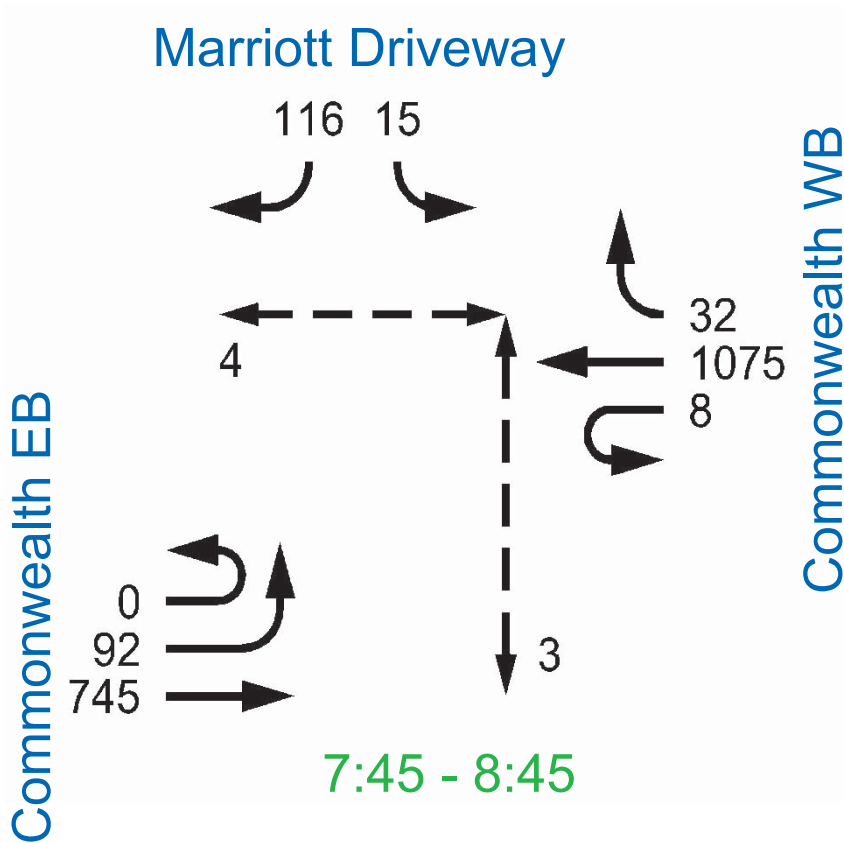
# Commonwealth Ave. looking west



# Traffic & Pedestrian Count

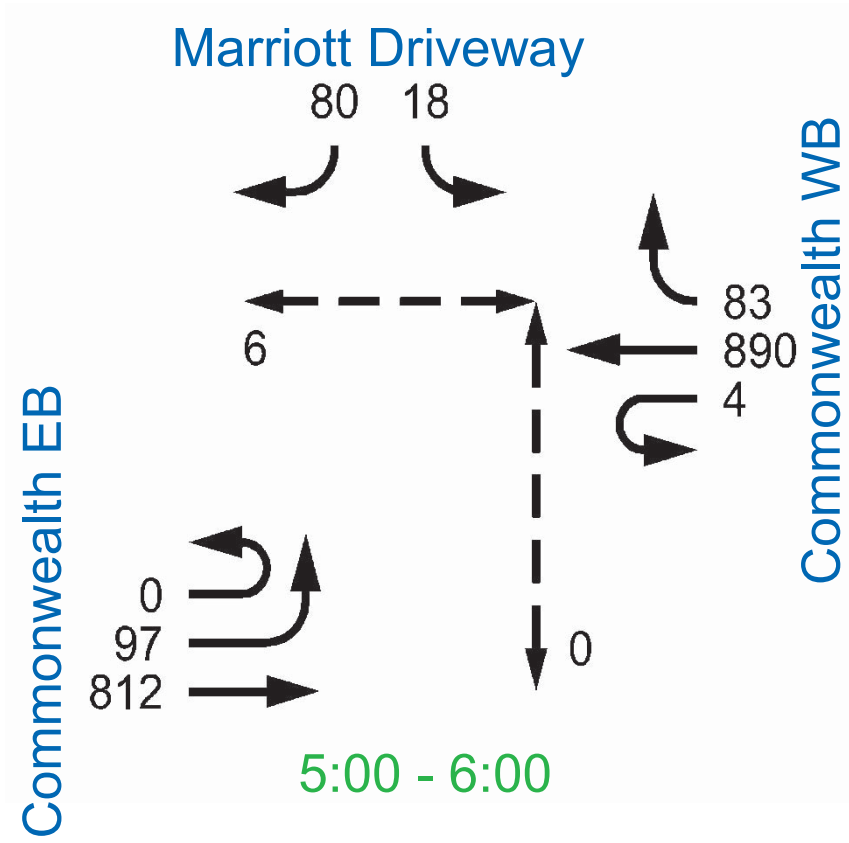
Morning Peak Hour

Marriott Driveway



Evening Peak Hour

Marriott Driveway



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# Notes & Observations

- 12 boardings & 3 alightings at the Marriott-side bus stop on an average day.
    - No data available for opposite stop.
    - Source: MBTA
  - Installation of Pedestrian Warning Beacon would require installation of ADA-compliant sidewalks, ramps, and refuge areas.
    - Total cost for design and construction will likely exceed \$60,000
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**Danielle Delaney**

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From: Danielle Delaney <ddelaney@newtonma.gov>  
 To: trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov  
 Subject: (Fwd) RE: question Beethoven Road  
 Copies to: jrice@newtonma.gov  
 Send reply to: ddelaney@newtonma.gov  
 Date sent: Fri, 27 Jan 2012 09:17:28 -0500

The original wording on the docket form from Ald. Rice read 8:30am - 9:30am.  
 This time was amended 8am to 9am for the trial and modified trial.  
 The agenda sent to residents indicated this change.

Danielle Delaney

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: "John Rice" <jrice@tsnn.com>  
 To: ""NINA BERK""  
 <dkoses@newtonma.gov>,  
 <ddelaney@newtonma.gov>  
 Subject: RE: question  
 Date sent: Fri, 27 Jan 2012 08:28:25 -0500

Don,

Thank you for your email.

We are not changing the time on the sign it will be 8:00 to 9:00 if a permanent "Do Not Enter" is approved.

As a resident of Beethoven Ave we appreciate your feedback, I will send your email to other members of the Traffic Council.

Best,  
 John

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**From:** NINA BERK

**Sent:** Thursday, January 26, 2012 10:20 PM  
**To:** John Rice  
**Subject:** question  
 Dear John,

We received some correspondence from the city about the new traffic pattern on Beethoven during school hours.

I think the current "Do Not Enter" hours have been a great improvement. Our concern has to do with the morning hours of enforcement. The current signage reads 8 to 9am for the morning "Do Not Enter" hours.

The new proposal #TC26-11, on our recent mailing, reads 8:30 to 9:30 for the morning hours.

I think it would make more sense to keep it at 8 to 9am. Perhaps this was a typo, if not, I think it is a mistake.

Best Regards,  
Don Berk

Attachments: C:\DOCUME~1\ddelaney\LOCALS~1\Temp\WPM\$71CE.PM\$  
C:\DOCUME~1\ddelaney\LOCALS~1\Temp\WPM\$7BE5.PM\$

**Danielle Delaney**

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To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) Agenda tonight**  
Date sent: **Fri, 03 Feb 2012 08:02:04**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: **Nora Abrahamer**  
To: **"Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>**  
Subject: **Agenda tonight**  
Date sent: **Thu, 2 Feb 2012 14:36:55 -0500**

Dear Traffic Council,

We received a copy of the agenda for tonight's board of aldermen's meeting. We want to express our strong support for continuing the Do Not Enter sign at the intersection of Beethoven and Beacon during the hours of 8:30 am to 9:30 am, and 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm. This sign, in effect making Beethoven a one-way street during those very busy school drop-off and pick-up times, greatly increases safety and the traffic pattern on Beethoven.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,  
Nora Abrahamer and Dan Perlman  
115 Beethoven Avenue  
Waban, MA 02468



**Danielle Delaney**

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To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) Zervas.**  
Date sent: **Thu, 02 Feb 2012 12:22:24**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: **leonard blanchette**  
To: **"Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>**  
Subject: **Zervas.**  
Date sent: **Thu, 2 Feb 2012 09:18:03 -0800 (PST)**  
Send reply to: **leonard blanchette**

As a Zervas parent for a current total of 8 years (we have two children, one at South and one at Zervas), I have been favorably impressed with the new traffic laws on Beethoven Street. I have witnessed many, many pileups and near-accidents over the years, many arguments, clouds of unsafe auto emissions, and lots of loud honking and yelling. This year has been calm, smooth, orderly, and safe. Children are not running and ducking between double parked vehicles. Parents are not leaving running vehicles in the middle of Beethoven to find their children. Please keep the current Beethoven traffic laws and be sure the crossing guards are empowered to do their job preventing traffic flow at designated hours. Ticket offenders, and they will quickly spread the word that the City is serious about traffic and child safety around Zervas.

**Valerie Blanchette**

----- End of forwarded message -----

Danielle Delaney  
Committee Clerk  
Board of Aldermen  
617-796-1211  
ddelaney@newtonma.gov

**Danielle Delaney**

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To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) Zervas-Beethoven one way traffic support**  
Date sent: **Wed, 01 Feb 2012 09:39:11**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: **"Brodsky, Alexander"**  
To: **"Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>**  
Subject: **Zervas-Beethoven one way traffic support**  
Date sent: **Tue, 31 Jan 2012 22:37:14 -0500**

I am a Zervas parent, and I strongly support making Beethoven one way during school pick-up/drop-off times permanent. Having Beethoven being one way has really made a difference this year. I do not have to maneuver around cars and trucks coming at me and I have noticed far less cars turning around in driveways as there is less reason to have to do this now without gridlock. Also, having two lanes to exit Beethoven onto Beacon dramatically improves the traffic flow for this relatively short light. In the past, cars would often back-up Beethoven, preventing drop-offs, as only 3-5 cars could make the light.

Thank you.

Alex

**Danielle Delaney**

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To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) One way traffic on Beethoven**  
Date sent: **Wed, 01 Feb 2012 13:56:00**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: **Alicia Collins**  
To: **"Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>**  
Subject: **One way traffic on Beethoven**  
Date sent: **Wed, 1 Feb 2012 13:42:56 -0500**

Hi,

I would like to strongly recommend continuing the one way traffic pattern on Beethoven Road during school drop-off and pick-up hours. This year, the trip to and from school has been so much safer. I no longer see kids getting dropped off on the other side of the road from school and almost getting hit as they cross. The road rage that I often witnessed when cars would get stuck and not be able to pass each other is almost gone this year. The only anger I see now is when someone breaks the rules and drives the wrong way. I would urge you to come to Zervas during drop-off and pick-up to observe how smoothly it is running this year. And then interview some of the parents you see hanging around about what it was like last year. It has really improved!

Thank you,  
Alicia Collins  
128 Avalon Road  
Waban, MA 02468



**Danielle Delaney**

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To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) One-way traffic pattern on Beethoven Avenue**  
Date sent: **Wed, 01 Feb 2012 09:10:58**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: **"Elisa D'Andrea"**  
To: **"Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>**  
Subject: **One-way traffic pattern on Beethoven Avenue**  
Date sent: **Tue, 31 Jan 2012 17:24:12 -0500**

Dear Council,

Please vote to permanently make Beethoven Avenue one-way during school drop-off and pick-up hours. The recent trial has proven it is the safe, smart choice. Beethoven Avenue is a narrow road, we have no driveway or pull-off area in front of the school, and because it is a busy pass-through between Beacon and Woodward, Beethoven gets more than its share of traffic for a neighborhood road. The one-way pattern has cut down on the general amount of traffic on the road during key hours, which in itself makes for a safer environment for our kids. The one-way pattern has helped to limit traffic snarls, so everyone can move through the process much more quickly and in a more civil manner. Although there are still many violators, for the most part drivers have obeyed the limitation and everything has run so much more smoothly, sanely, and most importantly safely on the road in front of our school.

Thank you.

Elisa D'Andrea  
Parent -- Zervas Elementary School

**Danielle Delaney**

---

To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) Beethoven trial traffic pattern**  
Date sent: **Wed, 01 Feb 2012 09:09:27**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: "Charles R. Dauwalter"  
To: "Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>  
**Subject: Beethoven trial traffic pattern**  
Date sent: Tue, 31 Jan 2012 16:42:03 -0500  
Send reply to:

I live at 186 Woodward St. one block from Beethoven. The trial making Beethoven a one way street has been wonderful for me. I am well trained now and never get caught up any more in the often horrendous traffic when school started and ended. The new pattern not only makes it easier for moving vehicles but it is far safer for the children who I have often seen in very dangerous situations. As a senior citizen, and Council member at Zervas representing the neighborhood I feel the trial should become permanent. My husband is in agreement with me. Thanks for your consideration.  
Hope Dauwalter

**Danielle Delaney**

---

To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) Beethoven Ave**  
Date sent: **Wed, 01 Feb 2012 09:43:34**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: **"Galowitz, Pamela"**  
To: **"Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>**  
Subject: **Beethoven Ave**  
Date sent: **Wed, 1 Feb 2012 09:38:26 -0500**

As a Zervas parent and resident of Newton Highlands I think the change on Beethoven -- making it one-way during school drop off and pick up -- has been a tremendous improvement. Prior to this change I felt that the area around Zervas was not safe for children walking to school, especially when snow banks on the side of the road narrowed the road even further. We have not had to deal with excessive snow this winter, but I think we need to keep these conditions in mind as we think about the future. Last winter we had children walking in the road to avoid icy sidewalks and cars backed up all the way down the street. It really was a disaster.

I strongly endorse this change and hope that it will become permanent.

- Pamela Galowitz  
29 Harrison Street, Newton



**Danielle Delaney**

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To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) Beethoven Traffic Patterns**  
Date sent: **Wed, 01 Feb 2012 09:37:45**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: **Stephen Guillette**  
To: **"Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>**  
Subject: **Beethoven Traffic Patterns**  
Date sent: **Tue, 31 Jan 2012 20:07:19 -0500**

Most Zervas Parents did not think the traffic patterns on Beethoven were permanent and not a "test". The test works. Keep the pattern.

It is small inconvenience to abutter, but much safer with one way traffic.

Please make the traffic one way on Beethoven permanent.

And have a nice day, too.

Stephen Guillette  
29 Brewster Road  
Newton MA 02146

**Danielle Delaney**

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To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) Burr School parents request**  
Date sent: **Fri, 27 Jan 2012 09:01:37**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: **Lisa Marzilli**  
To: **"Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>**  
Subject: **Burr School parents request**  
Date sent: **Thu, 26 Jan 2012 17:15:16 -0500**

Dear Council Clark Danielle Delaney,

Our names are Lisa and Bernardo Marzilli , We own and reside at 112 Pine Street. We are writing to you in response to the notification we received about the item up for discussion in front the Board of Alderman. The one we are concerned about is # TC61-11 Burr School traffic problem and potentially extend no Parking/live parking areas. We have lived here almost 30 years. A few years ago they also looked at the problem and wanted to put a restriction of parking as far as our home. We were and still are against any restrictions put in front of our home for parking. We live on the opposite side of the street of Burr school and much farther down the street. It is already very difficult coming home from work on the three o'clock release days to enter our driveway because of the line of cars waiting to pick up their children. Please advise us of any proposals before final decisions is made.

Thank you very much for your time

Lisa and Bernardo Marzilli

**Danielle Delaney**

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To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) One way traffic on Beethoven**  
Date sent: **Wed, 01 Feb 2012 09:26:46**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: **"Lauren Merz" <lmerz@newtonma.gov>**  
To: **"Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>**  
Subject: **One way traffic on Beethoven**  
Date sent: **Tue, 31 Jan 2012 18:10:07 -0500**

I am a Zervas parent and i would just like to say that having one-way traffic on Beethoven during the Blue Zone hours has been a HUGE improvement. I hope this becomes a permanent change!!!

-Lauren Merz



**Danielle Delaney**

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To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) Zervas - Beethoven Street one way traffic flow**  
Date sent: **Thu, 26 Jan 2012 09:15:18**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: **"Morris, Stephanie N,M.D."**  
To: **"Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>**  
Subject: **Zervas - Beethoven Street one way traffic flow**  
Date sent: **Thu, 26 Jan 2012 08:57:53 -0500**

Hi

I am writing in regards to the trial of the Beethoven St one way traffic flow during school drop off and pick up hours.

As a parent of a student and a member of the neighborhood, I think the trial has made drop off safer, faster and easier.

There is a clear flow of traffic, without traffic jams, honking, and unsafe driving.

I think the change has certainly been for the better and am in strong favor of making this a permanent change.

Thank you

Stephanie Morris

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----- End of forwarded message -----

Danielle Delaney  
Committee Clerk  
Board of Aldermen  
617-796-1211  
ddelaney@newtonma.gov

**Danielle Delaney**

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To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) Beethoven**  
Date sent: **Tue, 31 Jan 2012 16:23:25**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: **"Mitch Roberts"**  
To: **"Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>**  
Subject: **Beethoven**  
Date sent: **Tue, 31 Jan 2012 16:18:43 -0500**

Congratulations on implementing the school time one way direction on Beethoven. An excellent improvement to the neighborhood!

Now if you can get the city trucks from driving down the street at 40 MPH we will have really hit the jackpot!

----- End of forwarded message -----

Danielle Delaney  
Committee Clerk  
Board of Aldermen  
617-796-1211  
ddelaney@newtonma.gov

**Danielle Delaney**

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To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) Beethoven Road Do Not Enter**  
Date sent: **Wed, 01 Feb 2012 09:36:35**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: **"Maggie Schmidt"**  
To: **"Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>**  
Subject: **Beethoven Road Do Not Enter**  
Date sent: **Tue, 31 Jan 2012 19:02:47 -0500**

Dear Board of Aldermen – Traffic Council,

I wrote to you before the last meeting when the Beethoven do-not-enter was discussed. I was not in favor of the proposed do-not-enter then and I am still not in support of it as it is now either.

I live on Plymouth Road which can only be accessed via Beethoven when entering from Beacon Street. While I do believe this do-not-enter has made the small stretch of Beethoven between Puritan and Beacon slightly safer, the traffic flow around that surrounding area is certainly much worse as families circle and scramble for parking elsewhere. The north side of the Beethoven/Evelyn intersection at Beacon Street is now almost impassable as cars park on both sides of that street during the school drop-off and pick-up times. Families are still double parking on Beethoven during drop-off and pick-up times which means kids are running between cars to get to and from school. Regardless of the one way, there should be enforcement and no tolerance for double parking and children running out from vehicles that are stopped in the roadway.

If this do-not-enter were to become permanent, I believe a parking restriction is necessary on one side of Evelyn at the Beacon Street intersection. Traffic can neither enter from Beacon Street nor exit to Beacon Street safely since the road is often reduced to one lane during school drop-off and pick-up times. And, for the safety of the kids, the double parking issue must be addressed.

Sincerely,  
Margaret Schmidt  
147 Plymouth Road  
Newton, MA 02461



**Danielle Delaney**

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To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) RE: Beethoven one-way traffic flow as a permanent pattern**  
Date sent: **Fri, 27 Jan 2012 08:59:46**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: **Denise Sharif**  
To: **"Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>**  
Subject: **RE: Beethoven one-way traffic flow as a permanent pattern**  
Date sent: **Thu, 26 Jan 2012 16:55:06 -0500**

Greetings,

Unfortunately I am unable to attend the meeting where this will be discussed, but I wanted to lend my support to the traffic on Beethoven Ave. where the Zervas school is located to being permanently made on-way. I have personally noticed significant improvement in the congestion on the street and truly feel that the safety of my children (who both attend Zervas in grades Kindergarten and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade) is significantly improved. Thank you for your consideration of this action.

Denise Miller Sharif

1029 Boylston Street

Newton Highlands, MA 02461

**Danielle Delaney**

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To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) One-way traffic on Beethoven Avenue**  
Date sent: **Wed, 01 Feb 2012 09:42:29**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: "Thayer, Linda"  
To: "Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>  
**Subject: One-way traffic on Beethoven Avenue**  
Date sent: Tue, 31 Jan 2012 22:45:28 -0500

Dear Traffic Council,

I am a homeowner who resides at 39 Beethoven Ave., right across from the playground. I understand that the Traffic Council will discuss the trial period of one-way traffic on Beethoven Avenue at the meeting on February 2, 2012, and decide whether to make this pattern permanent. I cannot make this meeting but am writing to let you know that I wholeheartedly support making the street one-way for the posted hours.

As I am sure you are all aware, Beethoven is crazy during school morning drop-off and pick-up. The street is not wide enough for three lanes of cars (one each way and a row of parked cars) to coexist. As we live right across from the school, I frequently am caught in the school traffic on my way to work, unless I plan my day to completely avoid it. Before the one-way pattern, I often experienced total gridlock caused by a car coming in each direction, neither willing or able to yield. With a full row of cars in the blue zone, there is not enough room unless one of the cars does something like pull into our driveway to allow the other car to pass. I could be delayed several minutes, just trying to exit my driveway. With the one-way traffic pattern, this no longer happens.

The other reason to maintain the pattern is safety. With traffic going in both ways, I have witnessed many occasions where children were dropped off on the side of the street opposite the school because that is the way their car was headed, and then they dashed across the street. With one-way traffic, children are only dropped off on one side of the street, therefore there are fewer people crossing the street near the school.

When the signs were first posted there were more than a few violators, such that one still had to be very conscious to look both ways before crossing. However, the signs did appear to immediately reduce the traffic in the prohibited direction, and there have fewer violators with time (perhaps regular travelers are aware of and getting used to the sign). Perhaps occasional policing would reinforce the importance of observing the one-way traffic requirement during the posted periods.

In short, I see no little disadvantage or inconvenience to the other residents of Beethoven, most of whom I know also have children who are attending or will attend Zervas. For those who do not, it would seem that the safety of many neighborhood children outweighs the small inconvenience of a minority of neighbors for this short period of time.

For all the reasons above, I urge that the Council to permanently adopt the one-way traffic pattern on Beethoven Ave. for the posted school drop-off and pick-up hours.

Kind regards,  
Linda Thayer  
39 Beethoven Ave.  
Waban, MA 02468

**Danielle Delaney**

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To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) Beethoven**  
Date sent: **Tue, 31 Jan 2012 16:29:00**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: **"Craig Waksler"**  
To: **"Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>**  
Subject: **Beethoven**  
Date sent: **Tue, 31 Jan 2012 16:24:11 -0500**

Dear Council – I want to thank you for making Beethoven one way during school drop off and pick up hours. It has allowed for a safer environment for the children and far less congestion in the street. I hope you continue to keep the one way status during those hours.

Thank you very much

Craig Waksler  
56 Hinckley Road  
Parent of a Zervas 3<sup>rd</sup> Grader and incoming kindergartner.  
Craig R. Waksler, Esq.  
McGivney & Kluger, P.C.  
1 State Street  
Boston, MA 02109

72 Pine Street  
Providence, RI 02903

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----- End of forwarded message -----

Danielle Delaney  
Committee Clerk  
Board of Aldermen  
617-796-1211  
ddelaney@newtonma.gov



**Danielle Delaney**

---

To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) Do Not Enter sign at Beethoven and Beacon Sts**  
Date sent: **Thu, 02 Feb 2012 08:40:12**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: **"Frank and Alice"**  
To: **"Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>**  
Subject: **Do Not Enter sign at Beethoven and Beacon Sts**  
Date sent: **Thu, 2 Feb 2012 07:12:23 -0500**

We think it has been a great solution to the traffic backups on Beethoven during the drop-off and pickup times at Zervas Elementary School, resulting in a safer traffic situation for our children. Please consider supporting Alderman John Rice's proposal to make this a permanent feature. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Alice and Frank Wang  
297 Woodward St, Waban

**Danielle Delaney**

---

To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) do not enter on Beethoven**  
Date sent: **Wed, 01 Feb 2012 09:08:16**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: **"Mark & Elaine Whalen"**  
To: **"Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>**  
Subject: **do not enter on Beethoven**  
Date sent: **Tue, 31 Jan 2012 16:39:16 -0500**  
Hi,

I wanted to give input regarding the "do not enter" sign that has been temporarily in place this year.

I am in favor of continuing with the signage as permanent. I would also endorse the change to add Tuesday 12-1pm to the limited do not enter.

I would also ask that Newton PD continue with enforcement as there are many drivers who do ignore the signs and come in during restricted time. The Newton Police did a great job early on of patrolling this but we could still use an occasional visit from them to deter those who will not follow the rules.

The ability to safely drive down Beethoven without the fear of getting stuck in gridlock, or having your car hit, or worse, a child endangered, has been fantastic. The blue zone is moving swiftly now and it seems far more efficient as folks can pull out right after picking up instead of sitting, stuck in place.

The only concern I have, is that some drivers are forming a left hand turn lane in the oncoming lane to make the left onto Beacon. Since Beethoven is not "one way" this could pose a problem if an emergency vehicle needed access, or if a resident chose to come out of their driveway and turn up Beethoven (which technically they could).

I think the parents could use clarity on if this is a safe and acceptable practice, or not.

I am very grateful to John Rice who took on the challenge of making this a reality. It is a sensible, flexible approach to make this school zone safe and accessible. Thanks John!

Elaine H. Whalen

**Zervas School / Beethoven Avenue one-way traffic survey  
Preliminary results • October 17, 2011**

1. *Do you drive on Beethoven Avenue during morning drop-off or afternoon pick-up?*

No: 16.7% 5 responses  
Yes: 86.7% 26 responses

2. *Has the new one-way traffic flow made your experience better or worse or is there no perceivable difference?*

No perceivable difference: 3.3% 1 response  
Better experience: 90.0% 27 responses  
Worse experience: 6.7% 2 responses

### Comments

MUCH BETTER - flow of traffic is much better, and there is much less stress. I think it is great.  
10/13/2011 12:24 AM

It is a significant improvement  
10/13/2011 9:21 AM

I use to. But I need to drop my daughter off across Beacon on the other side and watch her cross and expect all to be well.  
10/13/2011 8:56 AM

This is the first year I am driving on this street.  
10/13/2011 8:42 AM

Even as a "walker" the traffic pattern makes for a much nicer experience. Beethoven is not clogged, there are no honking cars or angry adults.  
10/13/2011 6:44 AM

there are still cars and trucks going the wrong way  
10/12/2011 10:55 PM

should have happened years ago, so much safer and smart. Continue to ticket offenders & add Tuesdays.  
10/12/2011 10:54 PM

Walking to school down Beethoven from Beacon feels much safer - both crossing the parking lot entrance with fewer cars turning into the parking lot from two directions, and general traffic flow.  
10/12/2011 10:54 PM

way less stressful!  
10/12/2011 10:34 PM

While maybe less convenient for us as drivers, it makes the whole school area safer. I would strongly urge whoever is making the decisions regarding traffic and signage to consider making Beethoven one-way all the time, not just for two hours a day. (And I say this as a Beethoven



resident, who would be somewhat inconvenienced.) Drivers are still confused, and are turning up the street from Beacon the wrong way, and the hours now posted do not take into account early release Tuesdays every week for the entire school, or early release Thursdays. Even to make it one-way year-round would just avoid all confusion. There should also be speed bumps placed at the point of Beethoven near Puritan Ave where there is a blind hill and drivers come flying over, much to the danger of children and other pedestrians.

The flow of traffic seems smoother and much more manageable during pick up. There have been almost no clashes with the typical oncoming traffic.

10/12/2011 10:14 PM

Much, much better

10/12/2011 10:11 PM

So much better flow on the street! It will be an amazing difference in the winter with the snow banks piling up on the road!

10/12/2011 10:11 PM

*3. Has the new one-way traffic flow made your child(ren)'s experience better or worse or is there no perceivable difference?*

No perceivable difference: 23.3% 7 responses

Better experience: 70.0% 21 responses

Worse experience: 6.7% 2 responses

#### Comments

She looks back to see if I am watching and I would prefer to go down Beethoven, turnaround at Puritan and drop her off in the blue zone.

10/13/2011 8:56 AM

lack of traffic backups make me more punctual hence she doesn't have to wait

10/12/2011 10:54 PM

Safer. Please see above.

10/12/2011 10:34 PM

Much better! Quieter, less stressful (my child was always asking "Why are they yelling at each other?" when the cars were jammed up), and, most importantly, MUCH safer!

10/12/2011 10:11 PM

*4. Would you like this to become a permanent change to the traffic flow (on school days during the designated hours)?*

Yes: 93.3% 28 responses

No: 6.7% 2 responses

No preference: 0.0%

*5. Please provide any additional comments you may have about the Zervas Blue Zone or other drop-off and pick-up related matters.*

**Comments**

Some people are not following the new guidelines. Perhaps there needs to be a blinking light next to the sign?!?!?!?

10/14/2011 9:50 AM

Since the majority of Zervas students live on the south side of Beacon, I perceive little thought is given to the rest of us. I do not want to use the fuel to drive all the way down Allen and then down Beethoven - not a green alternative and we do not have one.

10/13/2011 8:56 AM

I am glad to see this change has happened. Although this is our first year at Zervas and I do not have a previous year to compare, I feel that it is safer for the children and keeps the flow of traffic going in the morning when the street can get congested.

10/13/2011 8:42 AM

perhaps signs should be bigger

10/12/2011 10:55 PM

would love to see crackdown on bluezone parking which is still a problem and affects traffic flow down beethoven

10/12/2011 10:54 PM

Thank you for your efforts, the walk to and from Zervas is so much safer! I would also like to see the entry to the parking lot closed during drop off and pick up (and have teachers enter only via the Beacon Street entrance). Unfortunately, there are still parents entering via Beethoven (yes, both ways, despite the new one way).

10/12/2011 10:54 PM

I think it will be a huge help in the winter. It already appears less clogged. I rarely do blue zone so it doesn't really impact me. I wanted to increase your survey numbers so I'm filling out the survey:)

10/12/2011 10:37 PM

See comments for #2--one way all the time, year-round. There are so many large trucks and people unfamiliar with the traffic patterns, who don't realize the limited hours, etc. Remove all confusion and just impose one-way all the time.

10/12/2011 10:34 PM

Drop-off has been much better and safer. Please keep it!!!

10/12/2011 10:27 PM

This should have been done sooner! It makes so much sense and drop off is faster and traffic is much easier to navigate.

10/12/2011 10:23 PM

So much of an improvement this year! One question that I have and I have seen others do this, since it is a one way, can cars move into the left lane at the traffic light at Beacon to make a left turn? there seems to be a bit of confusion.

10/12/2011 10:11 PM

It has improved the safety of Beethoven and reduced aggravations all around! It should be made permanent.

10/12/2011 10:08 PM

Has the new one-way traffic flow made your experience better or worse or is there no perceivable difference?

Responder Response Da Please feel free to comment

Categories

- 1 02/01/2012 Occasionally traffic either does not see the no-entry sign or ignores it, perhaps the crossing guard can help with this?  
Removal of Southbound traffic on Beethoven during key school arrival and departure times eliminated all traffic back ups caused by the inability to accommodate cars "3 wide" (one S bound; one N bound; and one dropping at the curb.) Much better
- 2 02/01/2012 process now. Thanks
- 3 02/01/2012 Much less congested, and safer for vehicles and pedestrians  
Having one way traffic has made drop off and pick up much safer for both the people and cars!
- 4 01/31/2012
- 5 01/31/2012 One way traffic during school hours! Yes, safe for the kids
- 6 01/31/2012 Much less congested and safer.
- 7 01/31/2012 Much improved. The only time there is congestion is on Tuesdays/12:30...which is when trash pick up is scheduled for Beethoven Ave. If trash pick up could be scheduled between 9-11:30 or after 1:00 the traffic flow would be a complete home run! Otherwise, it is working very well/great change.  
It's definitely better not having to negotiate cars, but mostly trucks, that drive on Beethoven from the opposite direction.
- 8 01/31/2012
- 9 01/31/2012 much less congested and safer for the children
- 10 01/31/2012 It would be great to permanently make that a one way street for the whole day. Drop-off and pick-up at Zervas feels much safer and calmer thanks to the new one-way traffic pattern. Luckily we haven't had significant snow this winter, which always makes two-way driving on Beethoven really tricky. Had we had snow by now, I think everyone would really be able to tell the difference. In any event, although there are still many violations, for the most part drivers obey the one-way restriction and things run much more smoothly.  
There is much less congestion at pickup and drop off and there have been fewer feuds between drivers.
- 11 01/31/2012
- 12 01/31/2012
- 13 01/31/2012 People disregard or don't see/understand the signs. Thy were also not enforced. This is the first year my child has attended the school. No previous experience to compare.
- 14 01/31/2012 Turning Beethoven into a one-way street for pick-up/ drop-off times has been TREMENDOUSLY helpful in moving traffic along the street and through the Beacon St light.
- 15 01/31/2012 Much safer. There were always the crazy parents who would drive towards Woodward, stop across the street from the school, and drop their kids. No more. Other crazies would drop their kids off on the way to work by making a right off of Beacon, then a quick left into the driveway, and then taking a short cut through the parking lot so they could continue to work. No more!
- 16 01/31/2012 Significantly better. We just need to implement a two lane exit nto Centre Street (left lane turns left, right lane goes straight or right)
- 17 01/31/2012 Much worse for those of us that are north of Beacon Street. It requires us to go down Allen and then all the way down Beethoveen, wasting gas and not modelling very well conservation of gas for our children.
- 18 01/31/2012
- 19 01/31/2012 Danger of traffic accidents from people taking off while others are pulling in  
It's a no-brainer: PLEASE KEEP THIS IN PLACE. 2-way traffic on Beethoven Ave during drop-off/pick-up times was a complete nightmare: thank you for making it one-way.
- 20 10/23/2011
- 21 10/20/2011 We walk to school most days, and notice that there are less incidents than before. Far fewer cars blocking one another, and less horns honking.  
It is much better - I always feel like I am about to get into an accident with cars that go the opposite (wrong) way!
- 22 10/20/2011





- 23 10/20/2011 It was often impossible to squeeze down Beethoven St, with cars driving in both directions and one in the blue zone or parked at the curb - it's much better now. For those families coming down from the north side of the neighborhood, this is a significant disadvantage. It favors the south-side families.
- 24 10/20/2011 MUCH better and it also feels MUCH safer
- 25 10/20/2011 The traffic flow is much, much better with the one-way traffic sign.
- 26 10/20/2011 I would prefer to see traffic be one-way all of the time, not only during the currently designated hours.
- 27 10/20/2011 it should be the way it was
- 28 10/19/2011 Much better. My car was hit during the time it was a two-way traffic flow by a car going in the opposite direction.
- 29 10/19/2011 Visitors to our neighborhood off Beethoven are frustrated and confused by the signs...at all hours of the day. 1. It's easy to see that the sign says One Way (no turn allowed), but the fine print on the sign is so hard to see that it's virtually useless. The result I'd that people not from the area think that it's permanently one-way. 2. Coming from Waban on Beacon St., by the time you see that you can't turn right into Beethoven, you've already driven by the turn for Allen (the alternate route), so you have to turn around and go back. Very frustrating. 3. The hours for the signs need to be changed for Tuesdays and other early release days. It would be better all around if there were blinking lights attached to the sign (just like the "20 mph" signs) with a sign saying "One Way When Flashing". Thus would be more flexible in terms of matching the correct hours of activity, much easier to understand, and more visible.
- 30 10/19/2011 The traffic overall definitely seems to move better without the added issue of traffic going in the opposite direction. I also feel it is much safer for the pedestrian traffic. Some folks have also taken to parking on Allen Avenue more and then walking to school which likely eases some of the traffic congestion as well.
- 31 10/19/2011 It's so much safer and less frustrating!
- 32 10/19/2011 It works very well - when the one way rule is followed. There is still often drivers going the wrong way.
- 33 10/18/2011 MUCH BETTER - flow of traffic is much better, and there is much less stress. I think it is great.
- 34 10/13/2011 It is a significant improvement
- 35 10/13/2011 I use to. But I need to drop my daughter off across Beacon on the other side and watch her cross and expect all to be well.
- 36 10/13/2011 This is the first year I am driving on this street.
- 37 10/13/2011 Even as a "walker" the traffic pattern makes for a much nicer experience. Beethoven is not clogged, there are no honking cars or angry adults.
- 38 10/13/2011 there are still cars and trucks going the wrong way
- 39 10/12/2011 should have happened years ago, so much safer and smart. Continue to ticket offenders & add Tuesdays.
- 40 10/12/2011 Walking to school down Beethoven from Beacon feels much safer - both crossing the parking lot entrance with fewer cars turning into the parking lot from two directions, and general traffic flow.
- 41 10/12/2011 While maybe less convenient for us as drivers, it makes the whole school area safer. I would strongly urge whoever is making the decisions regarding traffic and signage to consider making Beethoven one-way all the time, not just for two hours a day. (And I say this as a Beethoven resident, who would be somewhat inconvenienced.) Drivers are still confused, and are turning up the street from Beacon the wrong way, and the hours now posted do not take into account early release Tuesdays every week for the entire school, or early release Thursdays. Even to make it one-way year-round would just avoid all confusion. There should also be speed bumps placed at the point of Beethoven near Puritan Ave where there is a blind hill and drivers come flying over, much to the danger of children and other pedestrians.
- 42 10/12/2011

- 43 10/12/2011 way less stressful!  
The flow of traffic seems smoother and much more manageable during pick up.
- 44 10/12/2011 There have been almost no clashes with the typical oncoming traffic.  
So much better flow on the street! It will be an amazing difference in the winter with
- 45 10/12/2011 the snow banks piling up on the road!
- 46 10/12/2011 Much, much better



Blue Zone






1. Did you complete the traffic survey in October 2011?

		Response Percent	Response Count
No		76.2%	48
Yes		23.8%	15
answered question			63
skipped question			70

2. Do you drive on Beethoven Avenue during morning drop-off or afternoon pick-up?

		Response Percent	Response Count
No		13.5%	18
Yes		87.2%	116
answered question			133
skipped question			0

**3. Has the new one-way traffic flow made your experience better or worse or is there no perceivable difference?**




		Response Percent	Response Count
No perceivable difference		4.5%	6
<b>Better experience</b>		<b>90.2%</b>	<b>120</b>
Worse experience		5.3%	7

Please feel free to comment 46

answered question 133

skipped question 0

**4. Has the new one-way traffic flow made your child(ren)'s experience better or worse or is there no perceivable difference?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
No perceivable difference		12.9%	17
<b>Better experience</b>		<b>82.6%</b>	<b>109</b>
Worse experience		4.5%	6




Please feel free to comment 21

answered question 132

skipped question 1



**5. Would you like this to become a permanent change to the traffic flow (on school days during the designated hours)?**

		Response Percent	Response Count
Yes		92.5%	123
No		6.0%	8
No preference		1.5%	2
answered question			133
skipped question			0

**6. Please provide any additional comments you may have about the Zervas Blue Zone or other drop-off and pick-up related matters.**

	Response Count
	56
answered question	56
skipped question	77

**Danielle Delaney**

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To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
Subject: **(Fwd) (Fwd) Burr's Item at Traffic Council**  
Date sent: **Wed, 01 Feb 2012 11:44:20**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: **"David Koses" <dkoses@newtonma.gov>**  
To: **"Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>**  
Subject: **(Fwd) Burr's Item at Traffic Council**  
Date sent: **Wed, 01 Feb 2012 11:06:20 -0500**  
Hi guys,

I'm forwarding you a detailed description of the traffic and parking issues at Burr School, in preparation for tomorrow's meeting.

Thanks,  
David

----- Forwarded message follows -----

Date sent: Tue, 31 Jan 2012 18:15:35 -0500  
Subject: Burr's Item at Traffic Council  
From: Tricia Amend Bombara  
To: David Koses <dkoses@newtonma.gov>  
Copies to: Jay Harney < > Amy Sangiolo < >  
Mindy Johal

Hi David,

Jay Harney suggested that I send you the attached document ahead of the meeting on Thursday night. What we've tried to put together for Traffic Council is a summary of the problems we're having, the traffic safety issues that are being created, and some suggestions for possible solutions from our Safe Routes team, the School Council, and the Burr School community.

We have not had formal meetings with the neighborhood yet. It seems like a better idea to meet with the neighbors after we know which solutions might be on the table, rather than getting folks riled up over ideas that will never be implemented (we recognize that we are not Traffic Engineers, and our proposed solutions may not take into consideration other factors that only the experts can speak to.)

Please let me know if you have any questions, or if there is other information we should be prepared to present on Thursday.

Thank you!  
Tricia Bombara  
Burr Safe Routes Coordinator

## Burr Traffic Safety – Key Issues Driving This Process

### School Population Growth

Blue Zones were established in 2001, when Burr had approximately 294 students. In 2005, when Burr had approximately 315 students, new parking regulations were put into place to address increasing traffic congestion and dangerous gridlock around the school at drop-off and pick-up time. These new regulations, coupled with a strong Safe Routes education component, made traffic manageable for some time. This year Burr has 409 students, and traffic safety is once again a serious issue.

#### Suggestions Requiring Major Changes to Infrastructure:

- ◆ Creating access to Lexington St. from Burr (across the field) to alleviate congestion on Pine St.
- ◆ Expanding the parking area to create an internal “loop” to get drop-off and pick-up off Pine St.

### Behavior of Drivers / Lack of Enforcement

Many issues are created by drivers who are ignorant of or simply ignoring Blue Zone regulations and parking restrictions. There is a subset of drivers who consistently refuse to follow Blue Zone regulations and/or observe parking restrictions, despite an aggressive educational component (Burr Safe Routes website, printed maps and guides, frequent reminders via flyers and email, parent volunteers issuing reminder tickets.) These drivers cause traffic conflicts on a regular basis, and without police enforcement it is impossible to resolve this issue.

#### Suggestions for Burr to Implement:

- ◆ Create a Traffic Safety/Blue Zone document (that comes from the school, not Safe Routes or the PTO) that establishes basic traffic safety and Blue Zone policies. Distribute it to all parents each year, to be returned with a signature indicating that they have read and understood the policies.
- ◆ Incorporate traffic safety talks into All School Meetings, so children are also fully aware of the rules and can help educate their parents.
- ◆ Request random, periodic enforcement from the Newton Police.

### Main Concerns of Staff and Parents

- ◆ **Safety** – Safety is always the first consideration, above efficiency and parking.
- ◆ **Traffic Flow** – When traffic flows through the school zone and the Blue Zone runs efficiently, drivers are less likely to park illegally or attempt dangerous maneuvers.
- ◆ **Access** – Maintain some on-street parking for parents and visitors who need to access the school, which also helps to lessen likelihood of drivers parking illegally and causing more traffic conflicts.

## Burr Traffic Safety – Summary of Current Issues and Feedback from Parents and Staff

### Small Blue Zone / Crosswalk Area

Burr currently has two Blue Zones: a large one on the west (school) side of the street and a small one on the east (opposite) side. The large Blue Zone begins after the entrance to the Staff Lot and continues to the crosswalk, and can hold approximately ## cars at a time. The small Blue Zone on the opposite side of the street begins immediately after the crosswalk and continues about 60 feet to a driveway, holding a maximum of 3 cars at a time.

In the morning, we average 40-50 drop-offs in the small Blue Zone (as well as some from other areas on the east side of Pine Street, including legal parking spots, No Parking areas, and double-parked drops.) While some backup does occur (leading to the drops from double-parked cars and the No Parking areas), for the most part it works fairly well due to the larger window of time for drop-off in the morning.

In the afternoon, with everyone arriving for pick up at the same time, only 10-12 cars on average use the small Blue Zone, but significant backups occur regularly that block the flow of traffic in both directions and create dangerous congestion right at the crosswalk.

#### Issues:

- ◆ Students in Grades K-2 are dismissed by their teachers only after making contact with a parent/caregiver. It is difficult for younger children to see parents waiting across the street in the Small Blue Zone and difficult for the teacher to be sure of who is picking up; Burr teachers and staff are very concerned about this issue.
- ◆ It takes a significant amount of time for kids to find their parents in the small Blue Zone, go to the crosswalk, wait to cross, and then get to the car, leading to the small Blue Zone remaining full for long periods of time.
- ◆ When the small Blue Zone is full, drivers try to wait in traffic just before the crosswalk for space to open up.





- ◆ Drivers who are not waiting for the Blue Zone try to go around the double-parked cars, putting pedestrians in the crosswalk and oncoming traffic at risk.
- ◆ This area is directly opposite the bus area, so gridlock is created when the buses are waiting because traffic cannot get past the double-parked cars on one side and the school buses on the other.
- ◆ Parents who are waiting in traffic allow children to get into or out of the car, leading to children darting between parked cars and into traffic lanes.

### Possible Solutions:

**Option 1:** “Do Not Enter” sign at the intersection of Pine Street and Washburn Avenue on School Days during the hours of 8:00am to 9:00am, 12pm to 1pm, and 2:30pm to 3:30pm.

**Result:** This would create predominately (but not exclusively) one-way westbound traffic on Pine Street (and eliminate the small Blue Zone) during drop-off and pick-up. (Traffic would not be exclusively one-way as cars parked on Pine Street prior to the restricted hours would be able to proceed eastbound, as would cars leaving the Staff parking lot.)

**Considerations:** A concern is that instead of using the large Blue Zone, some parents will try to drop kids on Washburn Street, either from cars stopping on the No Parking side of Washburn or from cars double-parked on the opposite side. This would not only cause significant traffic backup, but also result in children trying to cross Washburn street amid all these vehicles. If traffic backs up on Washburn Street due to these conflicts, the flow of traffic from Pine Street will not be able to proceed, causing the large Blue Zone to back up.

**Option 2:** “Do Not Enter” Sign during pick-up only (12pm to 1pm and 2:30pm to 3:30pm)

**Result:** Same as above, but during pick-up only.

**Considerations:** The small Blue Zone works fairly well in the morning due to the larger window for drop-off, and this would allow the many parents who use the small Blue Zone for drop-off to continue to do so, reducing concerns about gridlock and danger to pedestrians on Washburn Street.

**Option 3:** Eliminate the small Blue Zone.

**Result:** Traffic would be allowed to enter Pine Street from Washburn but there would be no legal area for drop-off and pick-up other than the small area of legal parking between Washburn and the crosswalk.

**Considerations:** A concern is that parents will continue to drop and pick up kids on the opposite side of Pine Street, either by stopping in the No Parking area past the crosswalk or from cars double-parked before the crosswalk, leading to traffic conflicts and making conditions even less safe and more chaotic than they are now. (This is a much larger issue in the morning.)

**Option 4** Eliminate the small Blue Zone at pick-up only.

**Result:** Same as above, but during pick-up only

**Considerations:** The small Blue Zone works fairly well in the morning due to the larger window for drop-off, and this would allow the many parents who use the small Blue Zone for drop-off to continue to do so, reducing concerns about traffic and pedestrian conflicts.

### Questions:

- ◆ If the Small Blue Zone is eliminated, what happens to that space? Should parking be allowed? Handicapped spot? Reserved for Newton PD (crossing guard)?
- ◆ Can Washburn and Newell handle the increase traffic leaving Pine Street? Should vehicles also be restricted from entering Washburn from Auburndale Ave during the same times to avoid conflicts?

## Entire School Zone

**Problem:** Drivers often attempt to reverse direction on Pine St. after picking-up or dropping-off, creating conflicts with traffic flow and potentially endangering pedestrians.

**Possible Solution:** Designate school zone as “No U-Turn” and post signs.

## “Live Parking Only” Area on Pine Street Between

Current regulations allow *Live Parking Only* at pickup times westbound (school side) from Pine Meadow Drive to the school driveway, but due to Burr’s significantly increased population (408 students, 330 families) the line of cars approaching the Blue Zone stretches almost to River Street. On the opposite side, there is No Parking 8-4 School Days from the Small Blue Zone to Pine Meadow.



### Issues:

- ◆ If a car parks on the school side in the area from River to Pine Meadow (now legal), cars waiting for the Blue Zone have to pull around it into oncoming traffic.
- ◆ If a car parks on the opposite (eastbound) side (now legal), eastbound through traffic is blocked.

### Possible Solutions:

- ◆ Extend *Live Parking Only* further down Pine St. toward River.
- ◆ Extend *No Parking 8-4 School Days* further down Pine St. toward River.



## Washburn Avenue Curve

Parking is legal on the south side of Washburn Ave. Cars approaching from Newell and Orris park around the sharp curve on Washburn Ave., narrowing the road and creating a blind curve.



### Issues:

- ◆ Blocks two-way traffic around the curve, especially the bus.
- ◆ Ensuing gridlock backs up traffic all the way up Pine St.

### Possible Solution:

- ◆ Post *No Parking Between Signs* from appropriate points prior to and after the curve on Washburn Street to allow adequate sight lines and turning radius for the bus and two-way traffic.





### Intersection of Washburn Ave and Pine Street

Cars parked on the legal side of Washburn Ave. directly opposite the intersection with Pine Street make turning from Pine Street onto Washburn difficult, especially for the bus.



**Problem:**

- ◆ Cars and bus frequently cannot make the turn from Pine onto Washburn due to parked cars and cars in the travel lane.
- ◆ Ensuing gridlock backs up traffic all the way up Pine St.

**Possible Solution:**

- ◆ Post *No Parking Between Signs* (8-4 School Days) from appropriate points prior to and after the intersection to allow turning radius.





### General Signage and Street Paint

Much of the yellow curbing in No Parking areas is faded or non-existent. Signs are missing, making it unclear where the Live Parking Only area begins.

**Problem:**

- ◆ Drivers use the lack of yellow curbing and signage as an excuse to park illegally.



**Solutions:**

- ◆ Repaint all yellow curbing in No Parking and Bus areas
- ◆ Add signage to clearly mark the beginning of the Live Parking area
- ◆ Repaint the "Bus" box



**Danielle Delaney**

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To: **ddelaney@newtonma.gov**  
 Subject: **(Fwd) Fwd: Traffic Council Agenda re Groveland & Maple St. parking - Feb 2,7:00 pm at City**  
 Date sent: **Thu, 02 Feb 2012 11:23:42**

----- Forwarded message follows -----

From: **Sheila & Dimitar Sasselov**  
 To: **"Traffic Council Dist List" <trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov>**  
 Subject: **Fwd: Traffic Council Agenda re Groveland & Maple St. parking - Feb 2,7:00 pm at City Hall**  
 Date sent: **Thu, 02 Feb 2012 10:24:06 -0500**

Dear Danielle Delaney,  
 Nice speaking with you.

Here is the e-mail sent out regarding parking on Groveland St.

Not sure what to do but i feel our house is hugely impacted by any decision made here.

Thank You,  
 Sheila Sasselov

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Sheila & Dimitar Sasselov <  
**Date:** February 2, 2012 6:52:39 AM EST  
**To:** Celia Morris <, Ron Margolis <, Stephanie Adler < Rebecca Mandelbrot <, Kate Haworth <>, "Palmer, Kristin M" < Susan Eaton <, "Koerber, Thomas" <, Faye Ruopp <  
**Cc:** Jay Harney <Candace Havens <[chavens@newtonma.gov](mailto:chavens@newtonma.gov)>, [jdaniela@newtonma.gov](mailto:jdaniela@newtonma.gov)>, David Koses <[dkoses@newtonma.gov](mailto:dkoses@newtonma.gov)>, Dimitar Sasselov <, karl hartmann <  
**Cc:** Amy Sangiolo <, Len Gentile <[lgentile@newtonma.gov](mailto:lgentile@newtonma.gov)>, Jay Harney <[jharney@newtonma.gov](mailto:jharney@newtonma.gov)> <  
**Subject:** **Re: Traffic Council Agenda re Groveland & Maple St. parking - Feb 2, 7:00 pm at City Hall**

Dear Neighbors and Traffic Council,

Thanks for informing about the e mail from Amy. First i heard about the corner of Maple and Groveland as part of the issue.

I'm writing this letter at 3am to send it out because any decision here will directly impact our home, quality of life, and our home investment.

We are unable to come to the meeting regarding speeding on Groveland St.. Dimitar is having a talk about his new book just coming out the opening is at the same time.

[http://cosmiclog.msnbc.msn.com/\\_news/2012/01/31/10281951-whats-so-super-about-super-earths](http://cosmiclog.msnbc.msn.com/_news/2012/01/31/10281951-whats-so-super-about-super-earths)

WE thought this meeting was only about speeding on GROVELAND ST. as was written to us in a letter from the city.

I didn't realize till just today when reading the e-mail from AMY below that so much discussion was about our homes location and sitelines. This was never mentioned on the letter from the town. AS a result, we would like more input and time to respond as this impacts our quality of life, investment, and neighborhood as a whole, especially since we abut the agenda.

Sadly we were not notified(as abutters) about the city putting a crosswalk directly across the street from our house, when it could have been put on the other corner next to the two dorms. Is this what

you mean by site-lines???????

Also we would like more information regarding the new barn traffic flow and the flow from the new parking area on Maple Terrace. Perhaps that area could go directly out onto Woodland St. Barn Traffic too. Also the traffic in the area up on woodland.

Obviously, the look at the whole picture of new parking lots and buildings put in place need to be seen. How many cars are expected?

Since speeding as an issue impacts, parking, noise, trash, truck deliveries and other issues all fall into the agenda.

Sometimes I am unable to get our of my driveway, especially when snow, but also when cars park in front of the Yellow Garage on Groveland and Lasell snow removal guys put piles of snow next to our car back out.

Here are some of my thoughts, that are just ideas. It is hard to figure out.

What about making Groveland one way and take right on Maple only. Make Maple one way only going toward Woodland? Keep most of the traffic from Lasell away from the residential properties.

Restrict parking in residential areas and give passes who pay residential taxes living in the neighborhood and guest passes for our visitors.

I personally don't want to remove parking if speeding will increase. I would like residential parking passes like in Cambridge. The speeding problem is mostly at night on Maple St., because it is a straight road.

To slow down traffic allow a( property tax paying only) residents only to park on both sides of the street, Maple and Grove. That should slow traffic.

I understand the need to make the T of Maple and Groveland an area where the garbage truck and BUS and Pepsi 16 wheeler can turn, BUT it also will increase speeding, make it easier for Trucks to cut through the area.

As for student parking at night. Groveland and Maple is the late night party traffic for the all up hill dorms. Why can't that parking be only for 4 cars that are not party people, the school could help with that. Cars parked for all the dorms late at night slamming car door all night long.

Often it starts at 10pm till 3pm.

Large TRUCK deliveries and BUS should not be allowed to park in the residential area. A designated area at Lasell could be for deliveries. Put no idling engines signs up on campus. A sign on campus could remind the delivery trucks not to idle engines.

The frequency of TRUCKS on Maple Street using it as a cut through is something to look into.

My guests often can't find parking near our house, so it would be nice to have a parking permit for our house. (As i noticed lasell has some that are put on cars that don't get tickets, next to my house.) I don't want empty spots to be used for more truck, buses to park.

Residential properties should be able to have passes and park night and day on the street except winter restrictions.

Regarding our fence. Isn't it part of the historic district?

■ So....at this time, I would recommend focusing on the problem with the sight-lines at the corner of Groveland and Maple and at the T intersection of Maple and Groveland and perhaps the Traffic Council can help guide us towards a solution and raise the other issues - speeding - narrowness of Maple Street in terms of conflicts - maybe more parking restrictions on Maple, etc. I will be out of town, so please contact Jay Harney or Lenny Gentile with any other issues. Thanks!

As we just received the email notice from amy this week WEDS FEB 1, 2012 and feel we need time to respond, since this is a very sensitive matter to us that impacts our location QUALITY OF LIFE and investment of our home.

Please let us know more about all of these impacts and changes to the front and side of our house.

Now that Lasell is turning into a University, and the loss of parking in that they used at Riverside, adding new parking and buildings, plus the 6,000 new cars that will be coming soon from Riverside, making Maple and Groveland cut through for cars.

I noticed a mention by Tom Korber from Lasell about our white fence on the corner of Maple and Groveland. We moved to this property in 2004 put up the fence with permit by town. The fence cost us 30,k. I believe the fence is part of the Historic District and has been there before the new crosswalk that was just put in this year. As I am not sure why the crosswalk was put directly across from our house and why we were not notified in writing as an abutter. As it would have been better to place it across from the dorms since it is most used by the students. Is this what you mean by site-lines??????

am often awaked 2am by slamming car doors on Groveland St. The slamming doors are all day long with students coming and going.

At night it starts up around 10pm-3pm. Often a car will have 3-4 people so the doors of the car slam about 15 times. I don't know the solution to this but i can't sleep.

Our property is zoned Residential and so is most of the neighborhood.

The corner at night is used as a parking lot for all the dorms, not just the one on Groveland ST. I would like it to be

If parking spots are left empty what if Delivery for construction trucks, BUSES Pepsi Trucks 16 wheelers park there?

Trucks can't turn the corner either. Our lawn and snow crew have difficulty parking too.

I am note sure why the crosswalk was put directly across from our house and why we were not notified in writing as an abutter. As it would have been better to place it across from the dorms since it is most used by the students. I wish we had been notified.

Thanks,

Sheila Sasselov

On Jan 31, 2012, at 3:20 PM, Celia Morris wrote:

Hi all:

I'm forwarding this to all the neighbors (whose emails I have) who live on or near Groveland Street and its intersection with Maple Street. Sorry--this is a repeat for some of you. See the stream of messages below to/from Alderman Sangiolo concerning the issues and concerns that have been discussed by some



already. It would appear that there is no specific consensus about a solution, so, if anyone wants to weigh in on this, it would be a good idea to show up at the Traffic Council meeting this Thursday evening, Room 222, in City Hall, at 7:00 p.m. I assume, if you are unable to attend, you can also send your recommendations to any of our Aldermen or contact Council Clerk Danielle Delaney at 617-796-1210 or email [trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov](mailto:trafficcouncil@newtonma.gov) See the formal letter that you likely received announcing the agenda. We seem to be Agenda Item TC64-11.

~ Celia

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **amy sangiolo** <

Date: Thu, Jan 26, 2012 at 2:20 PM

Subject: Re: Traffic Council Agenda - January 19th

To: Stephanie Adler <>, Rebecca Mandelbrot <>, , Celia Morris <>, Kate Haworth <, "Palmer, Kristin M" <, Susan Eaton <>, , Faye Ruopp <>, "Koerber, Thomas" <

Cc: Jay Harney <>, Candace Havens <, , David Koses,jim danila <[dkoses@newtonma.gov](mailto:dkoses@newtonma.gov)>

Stephanie and Celia,

Could you kindly forward this on to the rest of the street - I don't seem to have addresses for Phil Sours, Claire, the Shermans, and other residents on Groveland.

Thanks!

Amy

■ As I mentioned at the Lasell Neighborhood Council meeting on Wednesday, the initial reason for my meeting with the neighbors was to discuss speeding on Groveland and Maple. That led to a discussion about the problem of sightlines as folks trying to exit Groveland and enter Maple to take either a right or left have a difficult problem seeing cars that may be traveling on Maple and trying to turn onto Groveland. This problem is exacerbated when it snows. The problem might be addressed if a few spaces were eliminated near the corner of Groveland to provide an extra turning lane or space to move over to if a car is making a turn onto Groveland; and the removal of a few spaces on Maple Street – where Maple and Groveland intersect may also help provide room for cars to move over to avoid conflict from cars exiting Groveland.

Tom Koerber said they would look into it. Not sure they can have an answer as to what might work for them in time for the Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting – but is willing to see if there is something they can help with in terms of the sight lines. They also mentioned the difficulty in sightlines for a car traveling up Maple Street towards Woodland because of the fence at the corner of Maple and Groveland but acknowledged it was put up in accordance with the standards at the time.

■ The discussion also turned towards the traffic flow into and out of the Barn. Before I could even discuss the issue, Tom Koerber and Ruth Shuman jumped in to say they were already dealing with that issue because it was a problem for them as well. So there will be a new traffic flow pattern – one way in and out to the Barn to avoid the conflicts that often happen at drop-off and pick-up times. Tom has some plans and said he would forward those along to me to send out to the neighbors.

■ As for parking on Groveland, it is clear from the email from Stephanie that there is not a consensus and no desire at this time to move forward with residential parking. I have also heard from neighbors further down the street that they would prefer to have parking on both sides because they are unable to have visitors come and park – so

basically there is no consensus at this time. I hope that we can have a separate meeting with the neighbors and the college to discuss after the Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

■ So....at this time, I would recommend focusing on the problem with the sightlines at the corner of Groveland and Maple and at the T intersection of Maple and Groveland and perhaps the Traffic Council can help guide us towards a solution and raise the other issues - speeding - narrowness of Maple Street in terms of conflicts - maybe more parking restrictions on Maple, etc. I will be out of town, so please contact Jay Harney or Lenny Gentile with any other issues. Thanks!

■

On Wed, Jan 11, 2012 at 11:20 AM, amy sangiolo < wrote:

Yes - so what was docketed was to discuss the restrictions on Groveland Street in general. My thoughts were to attack the most critical problems first and my apologies, but I forgot to docket the item on Maple. Will have to do that as well but it won't be taken up at the same time. The most immediate problem presented to me was the sightline issue as one either exits or enters Groveland Street from Maple. Parking along Lasell's property prohibits a good sight line particularly when there is snow and forces people into the middle of the road with head on confrontations.

That was also the reason to eliminate some spots directly at the T intersection on maple Street.

There were three neighbors that met and discussed the possibility of even more parking restrictions including Resident Only parking - but I urged them to go back and talk with the other neighbors before going that route.

The issue of speeding was discussed because it appears that the college kids speed down Groveland - a situation that only gets worse as the street widens if there are no cars parked on one side. That issue is more of enforcement and also requires a discussion with Lasell which will take place at the upcoming Lasell Neighborhood Council meeting at the end of the month. They only meet quarterly.

On Wed, Jan 11, 2012 at 10:34 AM, Stephanie Adler < wrote:

Hi - Happy new year.

Here's the background and I am copying Amy to confirm I am remembering this correctly from our meeting back in October.

- I got together with Amy and few neighbors (Faye, and Noah and Rebecca from Maple street) to discuss the issue of speeding as we are very concerned about the pace at which cars zoom down Groveland and Maple.
- The conversation led to the discussion of limiting parking on the street so there would be potentially less traffic. Amy was going to see if we could
  1. Get more limited hours parking on Groveland -- ie: no parking from 8-10 am (to prevent students from parking in the morning and keeping their cars there all day; the parking tickets don't seem to be punitive enough to deter folks from parking their cars here all day)
  2. Designate some spots on Maple (across from Sheila's house) as no parking spots as it makes turning from Groveland onto Maple tricky -- especially in snowy weather.
- Initially we had also considered looking to make Groveland a Resident Only parking street, but I mentioned this at the potluck dinner, and some were concerned that making it a resident-only street would make the street more open and appealing for cars to speed down

the street so we are not pursuing that at this time.

Hpe this helps. Feel free to reach out with questions,

Kind regards

Stephanie

On Fri, Jan 6, 2012 at 3:11 PM, Robert Kline > wrote:

Just got back from out of town.

Can you fill me in on the specific item that was ultimately proposed.

Happy New Year

Rob

---

**From:** Stephanie Adler [mailto:  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 04, 2012 3:58 PM  
**To:** robert kline, Phil Sours; linda sherman  
**Subject:** Fwd: Traffic Council Agenda - January 19th

FYI... -- Stephanie

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** amy sangiolo <>  
**Date:** Tue, Jan 3, 2012 at 6:44 AM  
**Subject:** Traffic Council Agenda - January 19th  
**To:** Stephanie Adler <, Faye Ruopp <, Rebecca Mandelbrot <>, Celia Morris < Kate  
Haworth <, "Koerber, Thomas" <

Hello and Happy New Year.

Please be advised that the Traffic Council will take up the item below at the next meeting:

TC64-11 ALD SANGIOLO, requesting parking restrictions on Groveland Street.  
(Ward 4) [10/28/11 @ 10:19 AM].

Could you forward this along to the other neighbors along Groveland Street - particularly Rob Kline?

Let me know if anyone wants to meet to discuss.

Thanks. Amy Sangiolo