

Washington Street Public Meeting Comments & Response 7/25/19

| Topic | Comment | City Response |
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| Chicane | Relocate lane shift to Elmhurst, at Crest of hill since people pick up speed there | The lane shifts at Elmhurst slightly due to narrowing of road and again shifts a bit at the town line just past Elmhurst so we believe the chicane at Grasmere will be most effective. |
| Chicane | Lane shift @ Grasmere follows curve of road, might be less effective than if opposite direction | Lane shift has been swapped. |
| Chicane | Perhaps chicanes would be good at the crosswalks to reinforce slowing/stopping? | We located the chicanes to be balanced throughout the intersection. You will now see a chicane close to Waverly to help slow cars. |
| Misc | Talk to Google about St James Circle error as on ramp to highway | Feedback submitted to google through online portal and through contact. |
| Misc | Start process to make this a CIP project | Hold |
| Misc | Long term - should Washington St be 1 way? | Hold |
| Misc | Will bike lanes be a false sense of security | While constituents often wonder about a false sense of security with bike lanes, data shows that bike lanes do improve the actual safety for cyclists. |
| Misc | What happens in snow | At meeting, we discussed the responsiveness of the 311 system and staff encouraged residents to use the system anytime |
| Parking | Consider moving parking to south side between Hunnewell Circle and St James Circle so parking doesn't block defacto right turn lane | For some operational benefits, we've striped two WB lanes beginning at Hibbard Rd towards the signal. |
| Parking | Make existing parking between Hunnewell Circle and St James into formal RT lane | Done |
| Parking | Move parking from Waverly to Copley to other side | Done |
| Police | Enforce no truck rule | There is no existing truck restriction in Newton. |
| Police | Enforce 2 way near St James Circle | Striping changes above should help. We have also asked police to monitor in meantime. Police note that poor condition of center line is a contributing problem. |
| Safety/Xwalk | Add crosswalks @ Elmhurst, Grasmere. | We have added this request DPW's queue for new crosswalks. Adding the crosswalks requires engineering to design curb ramps where they don't exist, and highway department to construct the curb ramps. We want to move forward with the striping improvements in the meantime, and then do this installation once DPW's additional work is complete. |
| Safety/Xwalk | Stop sign on Washington Street @ Copley, Grasmere, Hibbard. Very dangerous | Unfortunately, neither Copley, Grasmere, or Hibbard meets the warrants for 4 way stop signs. We believe though the new striping, and eventual crosswalks will improve conditions. |
| Safety/Xwalk | Improve crossing and safety at Waverly. It is very wide open and there are lots of near misses. Perhaps square off the intersection | We are investigating adding a pedestrian refuge island on Waverly at the crosswalk, using paint and flexposts. |
| Safety/Xwalk | Stop sign on Washington @ Waverly | We are not able to add a stop sign on Washington @ Waverly because it does not meet the warrants. Please see above however, for proposed improvement. |
| Sign/PM | Add block the box at St James Circle | Will do. |
| Sign/PM | Add visible signage or other measures so people don't turn down St James Circle | We will be adding signage. We have also reached out to google maps to see if they can address. |

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| Sign/PM | Add signage at Washington St WB indicating lanes for Watertown/Newton | We are adding arrows to the striping in each lane to designate a thru lane and a thru-right at Washington WB |
| Sign/PM | add PM and/or signage to help people get into correct lanes approaching circle WB | We are adding arrows to the striping in each lane to designate a thru lane and a thru-right at Washington WB |
| Sign/PM | Add signs on Hunnewell saying "slow" or encouraging cars to slow down | Signage will be added |
| Traffic Ops | Allow RT onto Washington Street from Circle | During the public meeting group decided this would increase traffic on Washington Street, which is counter to the goal of the project |
| Traffic Ops | Consider LT lane on Washington ST WB onto Waverly | We looked at adding a designated LT lane onto Waverly from Washington. We decided allowing cars to continue unimpeded down Washington Street, in a separate lane going around turning cars was incompatible with the goal of slower speeds. |
| Traffic Ops | Concern that bike lane and parking on North side on Wash St WB approaching the Circle will lead to massive backups since it is currently used as a RT lane | Center line has been shifted to provide for two WB lanes and a 4 foot bike lane |
| Trees | Trim trees back so they don't block signage at slip lane on western most end of Washington St | Request made to tree warden |
| Upgrades | Upgrade to include a your speed sign or RRFB - Hibbard is top location of grou | Funding for RRFB's in the City is limited. We put Washington @ Hibbard on the list of potential locations for an RRFB and will evaluate next to the other priority locations. |
| Upgrades | Add Stop for Peds in Xwalk signaget to crosswalks | Done. |