



## Public Facilities Committee Agenda

### City of Newton In City Council

Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020

The Public Facilities Committee will hold this meeting as a virtual meeting on Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7:00 pm. To view this meeting using Zoom use this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87495057405> or call 1-646-558-8656 and use the following Meeting ID: 874 9505 7405

#### Item Scheduled for Discussion:

#396-20

#### **Request for updates on HVAC and ventilation at Newton Public Schools**

The President of the Council, on behalf of the City Council, requesting an update to the Public Facilities Committee from Commissioner Morse on current work on HVAC and air quality in the Newton Public Schools at each meeting of the Public Facilities Committee this fall until work is complete.

*Chair's Note: Public Facilities and Public Safety & Transportation Committees will meet jointly on the following three items.*

#### Referred to Public Facilities and Public Safety & Transportation Committees

#391-20

#### **Adoption of a Vision Zero Resolution**

COUNCILORS BOWMAN, DOWNS, AUCHINCLOSS, KELLEY, LEARY, MARKIEWICZ, GROSSMAN, LIPOF, NOEL, DANBERG, AND HUMPHREY requesting the adoption of a Vision Zero resolution by the City Council in recognition that no loss of life or serious injury is acceptable on our city streets and that a systematic, data driven approach will achieve higher levels of safety and better ensure equity.

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The location of this meeting is accessible and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities who require assistance. If you need a reasonable accommodation, please contact the city of Newton's ADA Coordinator, Jini Fairley, at least two business days in advance of the meeting: [jfairley@newtonma.gov](mailto:jfairley@newtonma.gov) or (617) 796-1253. The city's TTY/TDD direct line is: 617-796-1089. For the Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS), please dial 711.

**It is the Chair's intent to entertain a motion to vote of No Action Necessary on the following item:**

**Referred to Public Facilities and Public Safety & Transportation Committees**

**#361-20 Discussion on Vision Zero plan for resident safety**

COUNCILORS BOWMAN, DOWNS, AUCHINCLOSS, HUMPHREY, NOEL, ALBRIGHT, DANBERG, KALIS, GREENBERG AND RYAN requesting a discussion of Vision Zero with the Planning Department, Department of Public Works, Newton Police Department and the Newton Fire Department in recognition that no loss of life or serious injury is acceptable on our city streets and that a systematic, data driven approach will achieve higher levels of safety and better ensure equity.

*Chair's Note: Public Facilities and Public Safety & Transportation Committees will hear from Transportation Director, Jason Sobel about changes within 1500 feet of schools made this summer in response to COVID restrictions on school bus capacity.*

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Alison M. Leary, Chair**



Ruthanne Fuller, Mayor  
 Josh Morse  
 Building Commissioner

**CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**PUBLIC BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT**  
 52 ELLIOT STREET, NEWTON HIGHLANDS, MA 02461

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October 2, 2020

Re: School HVAC Project Update

Newton Public Schools spent the summer making sure the HVAC systems in the school buildings were all operable, clean, and functional. At the request of the superintendent in September, the City of Newton Public Buildings Department was asked to help Newton Public Schools perform a targeted and aggressive service and maintenance initiative of all ventilation equipment throughout the district with a focus on maximizing air flow and fresh air introduction capacity.

**Over the past two weeks**, the City of Newton and Newton Public Schools have completed the following steps to address the ventilation systems in our school facilities:

1. Contacted more than 100 HVAC service contractors in the northeast.
2. Submitted and received an emergency procurement waiver from DCAMM.
3. Created contracts with more than 20 of those contractors.
4. Substantially completed the service and maintenance of ventilation equipment at Franklin, Ward, Underwood, NECP, Lincoln-Eliot, Peirce, and Burr.
5. Started the service and maintenance of the ventilation equipment at Mason-Rice, Countryside, Oak Hill, Brown, Horace Mann, Newton South, and spaces at the Education Center which house student educational programs and services.
6. Completed the service and maintenance of all exhaust fans at Williams, Peirce, Oak Hill, and Burr. This work will continue daily until every exhaust fan at every school is complete.
7. Crowley Engineering has completed their existing conditions walkthrough and review of Burr, Lincoln-Eliot, Franklin, and Horace Mann.

**Over the next week**, the following will occur:

1. On Saturday, 10/3 and Sunday, 10/4, contractors will begin the ventilation service and maintenance work at Memorial Spaulding, and will continue the ventilation service and maintenance at Countryside, Mason Rice, Oak Hill, Brown, Horace Mann, Newton South, and spaces at the Education Center which house student educational programs and services.
2. On Monday, 10/5, three separate contractors will start the ventilation service and maintenance work at F.A. Day, Bigelow, Bowen, and Williams.
3. On 10/7, another contractor will begin work at Newton North, Angier, Zervas, and Cabot.
4. Multiple air flow testing and balancing firms will be performing testing and balancing throughout the district.

Under the direction of Crowley Engineering the air flow testing and balancing firms will confirm air flow rates and fresh air introduction are in line with applicable codes, and these reports will be made public as they become available. Contractors have been documenting all work performed in detail, with the aid of a 62-point unit ventilator service and maintenance checklist. All data will also be made available as it comes in. To complete this work, every school in the district has an assigned City and/or School project manager, and we are in direct contact with the principals and custodians. As the existing conditions reports from Crowley Engineering become available, these will also be made public and will be a valuable resource now and in the future.

Below is a tentative schedule from Crowley Engineering for their existing conditions site visits, analysis, and reports. Additionally, their schedule shows the project schedule for the air flow testing and balancing firms. This work will also occur 7 days per week, and this schedule will accelerate as three additional air flow testing and balancing firms are being onboarded today. **396-20**

Our efforts over the past two weeks have shown promising and noticeable results thus far, and we look forward to having Crowley Engineering and the independent air testing and balancing firms confirm the success of this project.

School	Oct 1-2	Oct 5-9	Oct 13-16	Oct 19-23	Oct 26-30	Nov 2-6	Nov 9-13	Nov 16-20
<b>Angler School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation		█						
Testing & Balancing			█					
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Bowen School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation		█						
Testing & Balancing			█					
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Burr School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation	█							
Testing & Balancing		█						
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Cabot School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation		█						
Testing & Balancing			█					
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Horace Mann School (aka Carr)</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation		█						
Testing & Balancing			█					
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Countryside School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation				█				
Testing & Balancing					█			
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Franklin School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation	█							
Testing & Balancing			█					
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Lincoln-Eliot School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation	█							
Testing & Balancing			█					
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>NECP</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation			█					
Testing & Balancing				█				
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Newton Early Education</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation			█					
Testing & Balancing				█				
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Pierce School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation				█				
Testing & Balancing					█			
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Memorial Spaulding School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation				█				
Testing & Balancing						█		
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Mason Rice School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation				█				
Testing & Balancing					█			
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Underwood School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation				█				
Testing & Balancing						█		
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Ward School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation					█			
Testing & Balancing						█		
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Williams School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation					█			
Testing & Balancing							█	
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Zervas School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation						█		
Testing & Balancing							█	
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Bigelow Middle School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation				█				
Testing & Balancing						█		
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Brown Middle School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation					█			
Testing & Balancing							█	
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Day Middle School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation					█			
Testing & Balancing						█		
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Oak Hill Middle School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation						█		
Testing & Balancing							█	
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Education Center</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation								█
Testing & Balancing								█
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Newton North High School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation						█		
Testing & Balancing							█	
Corrective Work (if required)								
<b>Newton South High School</b>								
Engineer's Evaluation						█		
Testing & Balancing							█	
Corrective Work (if required)								

The above efforts have been a coordinated effort of over a thousand City, School, and contractual employees. In addition to the efforts of Crowley Engineering, I would like to thank the following contractors for their assistance on this initiative:

**HVAC Contractors**

Aalanco  
Air Duct Services  
Associated Mechanical Services  
Cooling & Heating Specialist  
Cox Engineering Service Co.  
Fraser Engineering  
General Air Conditioning & Heating, Inc.  
Harold Brothers  
J.M. Service Company, LLC  
Mighty Duct  
Murphy Specialty  
NB Kenney Company  
Boston Mechanical Services  
Patrick J. Kennedy & Sons Inc  
PJ Dionne Corp  
SS Service Corp  
Trane U.S. Inc.  
William F Lynch Co., Inc.  
Premier Mechanical, LLC  
Bay State Air  
Harry Grodsky & Company  
Corporate Mechanical  
Enterprise Equipment  
R.P. O'Connell, Inc

**Air Flow Testing and Balancing Firms**

E.L. Barret  
Tekon Technical Consultants  
Leonardt  
ATAB  
Thomas Young

Lastly, we would like to thank the principals, teachers, and custodians as they have all been extremely supportive and accommodating of our efforts.

Sincerely,



Josh Morse  
Public Buildings Commissioner

## A proposal for a Vision Zero Resolution by The Newton City Council

**What is Vision Zero?** *“Vision Zero is a strategy to eliminate all traffic fatalities and severe injuries, while increasing safe, healthy, equitable mobility for all. First implemented in Sweden in the 1990s, Vision Zero has proved successful across Europe — and now it’s gaining momentum in major American cities. Vision Zero starts with the ethical belief that everyone has the right to move safely in their communities, and that system designers and policy makers share the responsibility to ensure safe systems for travel.”* - from Vision Zero Network website

**Why is Vision Zero important?** Traffic deaths and serious injuries are mostly preventable. **Vision Zero is commitment to a systematic, data driven approach to achieve higher levels of safety and ensure equity.** Saving lives is not expensive especially when compared to cost of crashes in terms of life and property damage. On this last point, the numbers are shocking. According to the US Department of Transportation, nearly 40,000 people died from vehicle crashes in 2019. (<https://www.transportation.gov/briefing-room/early-estimates-2019-motor-vehicle-traffic-data-show-reduced-fatalities-third>) In 2014 there was an \$871 billion economic and societal impact faced by U.S. citizens because of vehicle crashes alone.

<https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/812013> Of particular concern is the increase in pedestrian and cyclist deaths in the U.S. over the last five years. A recent report from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration found more pedestrians and cyclists were killed in the US last year than in any year since 1990; approximately 17 pedestrians and two cyclists were killed each day. While overall traffic deaths may be declining, pedestrian fatalities are up 3.4 percent year-over-year and cyclist fatalities are up 6.3 percent. <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/812826>

Adopting a Vision Zero resolution is a key next step in moving forward with people-oriented transportation in Newton. We would be joining the Massachusetts communities of Boston, Cambridge and Somerville in formally adopting Vision Zero policies. In addition, being a VZ community may qualify Newton to apply for additional grants, ones specifically aimed at VZ communities.

Lastly, it is important to understand the connection of safer streets to meeting climate and sustainability goals. Implementing Vision Zero is a way to improve safety, healthy activity and air quality, while also lessening traffic, traffic noise and reducing green gas house emissions. It also allows the city to better budget for scarce resources.

### EXAMPLES of Vision Zero Resolutions

Alexandria VA adopts VZ and calls for city staff to develop an action plan and provide regular reports

[https://www.alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/localmotion/info/16-5940\\_Attachment%201%20Resolution.pdf](https://www.alexandriava.gov/uploadedFiles/localmotion/info/16-5940_Attachment%201%20Resolution.pdf)

San Francisco CA: Adopts VZ and resolves for City action to implement VZ

<https://visionzerosf.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/BOS-VZ-Resolution.pdf>

Los Angeles CA: Executive Directive to Adopt VZ and setting up task force and short- and long-term actions

[https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/mayorofla/pages/17070/attachments/original/1440454405/Mayor\\_Garcetti\\_File\\_Executive\\_Directive\\_10\\_Vision\\_Zero.pdf?1440454405](https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/mayorofla/pages/17070/attachments/original/1440454405/Mayor_Garcetti_File_Executive_Directive_10_Vision_Zero.pdf?1440454405)

Portland OR: Adopts VZ and establishes a VZ committee that reports to City Council

<https://www.portlandoregon.gov/transportation/article/545880>

**DRAFT Vision Zero Resolution**

WHEREAS, the life, health and safety of Newton's residents are our utmost priority; and

WHEREAS, "Vision Zero" refers to the concept that there is no acceptable number of traffic deaths and serious injuries on our roadways; and

WHEREAS, the City of Newton recognizes that no one should die or be seriously injured while travelling on our city streets; and

WHEREAS, children and seniors face a disproportionate risk of traffic injuries and fatalities; and

WHEREAS, people with disabilities face many impediments and serious safety concerns in traveling through Newton; and

WHEREAS, the number of seniors and people with disabilities along with the number of people who do not drive are expected to increase in coming years; and

WHEREAS, people walking and bicycling represent a disproportionate number of traffic injuries and fatalities; and

WHEREAS, people who traverse some sections of the city face a disproportionate risk due to street networks designed to move large volumes of traffic at higher speeds and higher speeds are directly correlated to higher crash rates and higher death and injury rates; and

WHEREAS, racial justice and economic justice demand equity for those who rely on sidewalks, bicycles and public transportation and

WHEREAS, Newton has had an active Safe Routes to Schools Task Force since 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Newton Public Schools encourage walking, bicycling, school bus/van, car pool, and other means of mass transit to access school buildings as part of their wellness policies, and

WHEREAS, the City of Newton has adopted increasing bike/pedestrian travel as a goal in the Climate Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Newton's Open Space and Recreation Plan lists better bicycle and pedestrian access to Newton's open space resources "CONNECTIVITY" as a key goal especially for populations with limited access to open space; and

WHEREAS, safer streets have been shown to significantly increase walking and biking; and

WHEREAS, the City of Newton lists SAFETY and ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION as key goals in the Newton Leads 2040/A Transportation Strategy with adopting Vision Zero as a key action, and

WHEREAS, adopting a systematic and data driven approach will achieve higher levels of safety and ensure equity and

WHEREAS, the City of Newton adopted a Complete Streets policy and has an active Complete Streets Working Group since 2016 and has developed a process to evaluate traffic calming requests; and



WHEREAS, the City of Newton has adopted a lower statutory speed limit of 25 mph to reduce crashes and severity of crashes; and

WHEREAS, U.S. Conference of Mayors passed a Vision Zero Resolution in 2015 citing overwhelming support for such policy according to a AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety 2014 survey of drivers and in support of USDOT Safer People, Safer Streets program; and

WHEREAS, cities across the country are taking significant action on improving the safety of transportation networks for all people, including those who walk, bike, take public transportation and drive, including adopting formal Vision Zero policies.

WHEREAS Lastly, it is important to understand the connection of safer streets to meeting climate and sustainability goals. Implementing Vision Zero is a way to improve safety, healthy activity and air quality, while also lessening traffic, traffic noise and reducing green gas house emissions. It also allows the city to better budget for scarce resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Newton adopts the goal of Vision Zero - that no loss of life is acceptable on our city streets and that Vision Zero plays an important part in Newton becoming more equitable, accessible and sustainable;

and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that

The Mayor and City Council will appoint a Vision Zero Task Force comprised of city staff, City Council members and key stakeholders including Transportation Advisory Group, Council on Aging, Commission on Disability, Safe Routes to School, Bike Newton and other residents

The Task Force will develop the Vision Zero Policy and Vision Zero Action Plan

**Danielle Delaney**

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**From:** Danielle Delaney  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 29, 2020 1:52 PM  
**To:** Danielle Delaney  
**Subject:** FW: NAN item?

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**From:** Alicia Bowman <[abowman@newtonma.gov](mailto:abowman@newtonma.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 29, 2020 1:15 PM  
**To:** Danielle Delaney <[ddelaney@newtonma.gov](mailto:ddelaney@newtonma.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: NAN item?

361-20 can be NAN Thanks.



Alicia Bowman  
Councilor at Large, Ward 6 (Newton Centre & Newton Highlands)  
City of Newton, Massachusetts  
[abowman@newtonma.gov](mailto:abowman@newtonma.gov)  
617-257-8270

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**From:** Danielle Delaney <[ddelaney@newtonma.gov](mailto:ddelaney@newtonma.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 29, 2020 11:55 AM  
**To:** Alicia Bowman <[abowman@newtonma.gov](mailto:abowman@newtonma.gov)>  
**Subject:** NAN item?

Hi Alicia,  
This is the older item....can PS&T and PF vote NAN on this item?

**#361-20**

**Discussion on Vision Zero plan for resident safety**

COUNCILORS BOWMAN, DOWNS, AUCHINCLOSS, HUMPHREY, NOEL, ALBRIGHT, DANBERG, KALIS, GREENBERG AND RYAN requesting a discussion of Vision Zero with the Planning Department, Department of Public Works, Newton Police Department and the Newton Fire Department in recognition that no loss of life or serious injury is acceptable on our city streets and that a systematic, data driven approach will achieve higher levels of safety and better ensure equity.

Thank you  
Danielle

Danielle Delaney  
Committee Clerk  
City Council

[ddelaney@newtonma.gov](mailto:ddelaney@newtonma.gov)

617-796-1211