

September 16, 2022

Re: Waban Common Inc. Historical Interpretive Signage Proposal at Waban Common and Beacon Street/ Woodward Street Intersection Staff Notes

Dear Parks and Recreation Commission,

The Parks, Recreation and Culture Department (PRC) is pleased to present the historical interpretive signage initiative being proposed by Waban Common Inc. to reach the city's goals to **Improve Arts and Culture**. This sign proposal brings a historical and informative element in accordance with the City's Comprehensive Arts and Culture Plan and the City's Community Design for Arts & Culture Committee. (CDAC). Waban Common Inc. has demonstrated a willingness in working with the city so that our collective goals are aligned. Please see figures 1 and 2 below that highlight the proposed improvement plans.

Figure 1

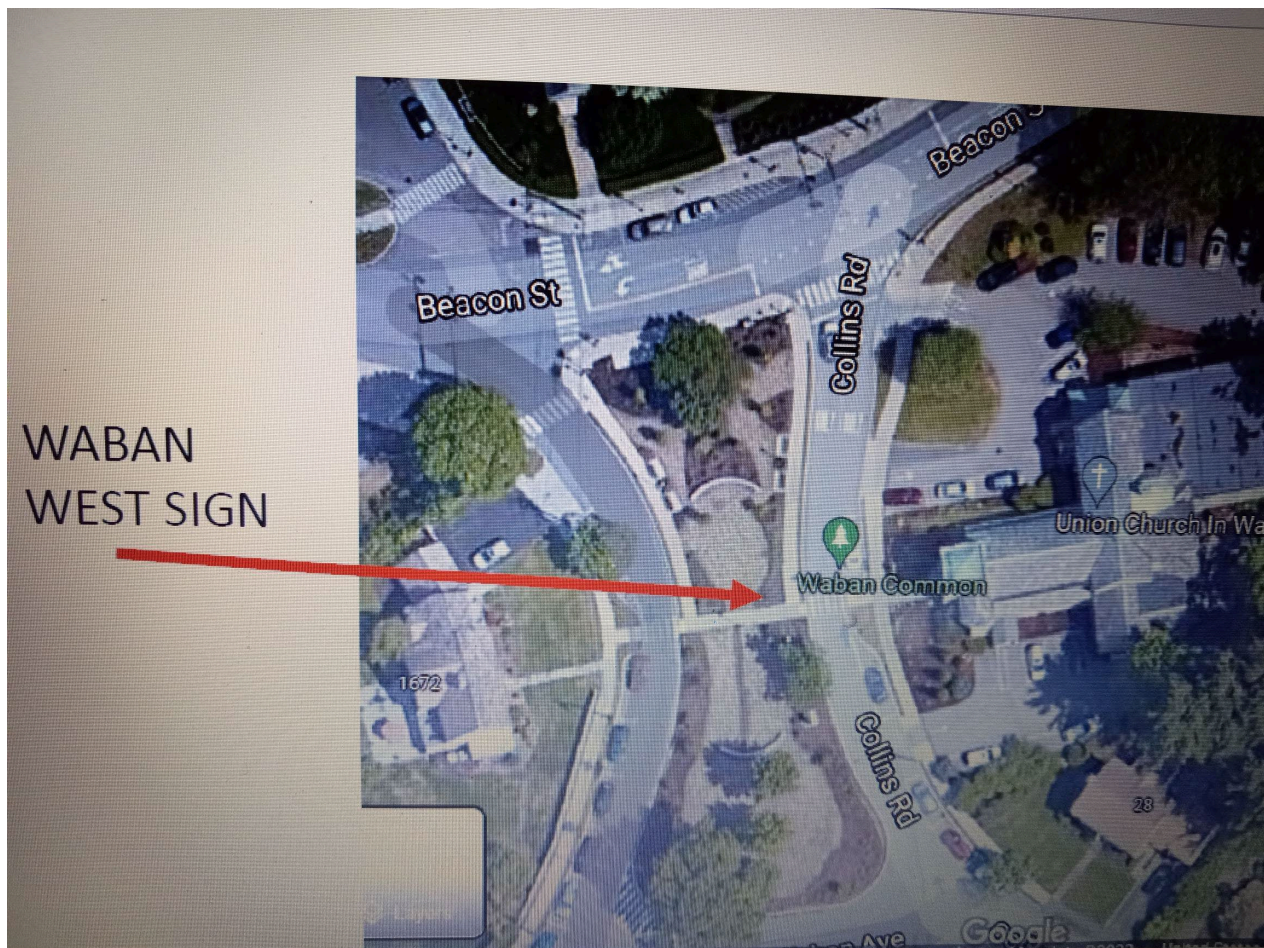
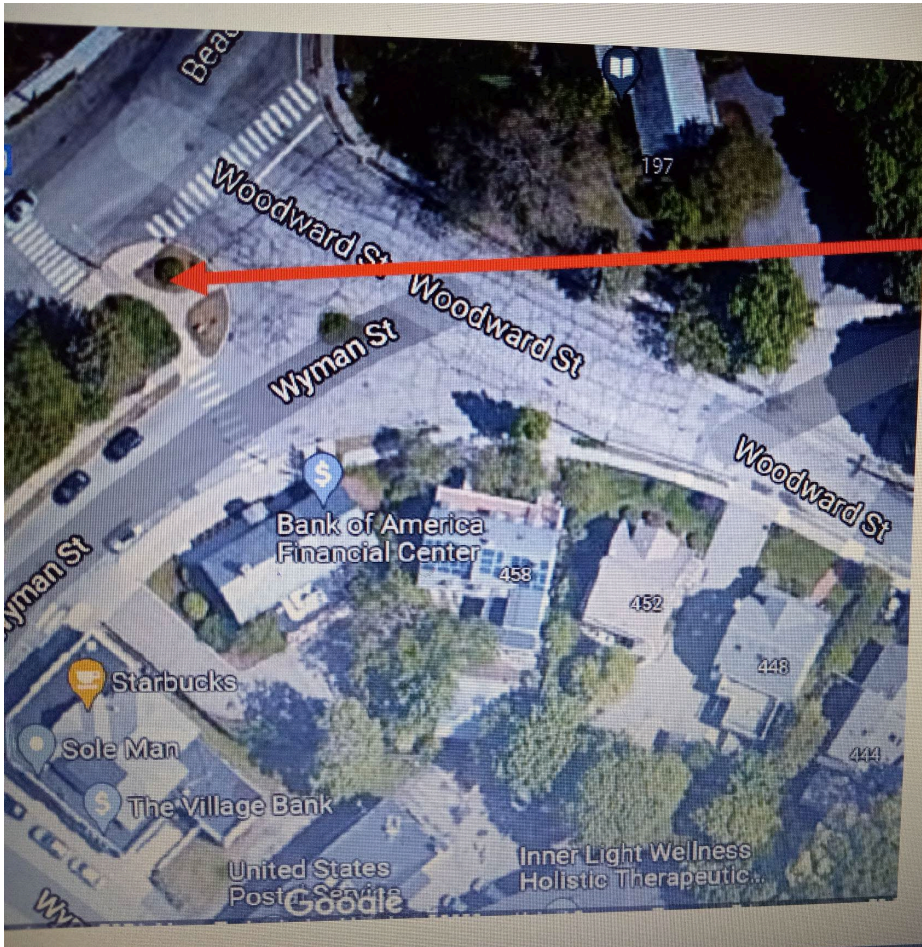


Figure 2



WABAN
EAST SIGN

Existing Conditions Photograph of Proposed sign location at Beacon Street and Woodward Street.(below)



Existing Conditions Photograph of Proposed sign location at Beacon Street and Collins Road.(below)



As a result of the partnership between Waban, Inc., and PRC, below are staff notes resulting from our collaboration.

Staff Notes on Waban Common Interpretive Signage Proposal and improvements:

- The interpretive signs will promote the history of the immediate geographical area of Waban Common including narratives about the nearby historical buildings.
- The proposed signage display units will be constructed of appropriate aluminum material that will resist weather elements and degradation.
- The signage will be placed adjacent to existing sidewalks to promote ADA accessibility. The Waban East Sign may not be ADA accessible due to existing grading of the path.
- The proposed installation will consist of minimal construction and have low impact development on the immediate areas.
- PRC has contacted Newton's Department of Public Works department for review and comment on the placement of these two signs. Isaac Prizant of Newton DPW approved the locations at a February 11, 2021, on-site meeting. The sign placement will be installed not to conflict with any underground utility lines or traffic site triangles.

- The Parks and Recreation Superintendent, Derek Mannion, has also approved the sign locations at a meeting on August 17th.
- A formal gift letter shall be provided from Waban Common Inc., addressed to Commissioner Banks, stating the desire to gift the signs to the City of Newton. The letter should include details illustrating the purpose of the gift and how the gift fits with the purpose of the Parks, Recreation & Culture department. Please include a description of the signs such as size, weight, composition, and full installation value.
- The Donors shall contribute 100% of the installation and material costs for the two signs and long term maintenance. Possible replacement needs are:
 - a) Vandalism (graffiti, dents, stains)
 - b) Sign conservation (finish will evolve outside due to changes in temperature, pollution, rain, acid rain, humidity)
 - c) Deaccession of the signs or artwork within the sign
- The volunteer group is requesting a Fall 2022 installation of these signs with an opening ceremony.
- The volunteer group stated the material and delivery costs are \$2200.00 total for the two signs. PRC currently has an initial quote for the installation of signs of \$1600.

Sincerely,
Gregory Mellett

Gregory Mellett

Assistant Director of Parks + Open Space
Parks, Recreation & Culture
City of Newton