

RECEIVED
SELECTMEN'S OFFICE
SEP 31 4 05 PM '15

RECEIVED
SELECTMEN'S OFFICE
HARRIS 1 4 14 PM '15

Sarah Harris
83 Mary St.
Arlington MA 02474
October 1, 2015

781-648-3299

Dear Selectmen,

I would like to bring the rush hour traffic issues on Mary St. to your attention, with the hope that a traffic study will be deemed an appropriate first step in addressing them. Some of my ideas of how to alleviate the issues are included. Please note that I realize the speed limit is 30 mph. When I mention this to my equally concerned neighbors, they are astounded because this is the speed limit is the same on Lake St. Though I have not acquired a formal petition from my neighbors, please trust me when I say they are in agreement with me that the speed limit should be reduced.

ISSUES

- Safety of the residents of my neighborhood and commuters, alike
- Increased number of commuters using Mary St. as a cut through to jump ahead of the numerous cars on Lake St. during the morning and evening rush hours over the past 18 years I have resided on Mary St.
- Congestion appears to be multi-factorial: a) Apparent overall increase in the number of cars in general; b) Pedestrians & cyclists bolting across the crosswalk at the Minuteman Bike Path, even when the light at Lake & Brooks is green
- Commuters either cut through Kelwyn Manor and come back down Lake St. to take a left on Wilson, or simply take the illegal right on Wilson or Littlejohn to circumvent the traffic
- Numerous athletic events at Thorndike Field (a good thing, really). Parents travel down Mary St. at speeds that are unsafe in order to get their children to games.
- Motorists inconsistently heed the STOP sign at Littlejohn and Mary St., and then proceed down Mary St. at what seems to be too fast for this congested, thickly settled neighborhood with many *pedestrians, cyclists, and children*.
- Lack of traffic calming measures other than a solitary **STOP** sign at Mary and Littlejohn, permitting motorists to gather speed as they proceed to Margaret St.
- Snow reduces the width of Mary St., but the traffic persists, making it a challenge to drive from the end of Mary St. near Margaret towards Littlejohn.

Proposed Solutions

- Posted 20 mph speed limit in our neighborhood

- 4-way STOP at Mary and Littlejohn

Harris 2

- **"SLOW"** painted at appropriate locations on Mary St.
- Raised tables at a) Mary & Homestead &, b) Mary & Burch
- A light at the bike path that is synchronized with the light at Lake & Brooks to improve the flow of traffic on Lake St. This works well in Lexington – why not in Arlington?

Thank you very much for your thoughtful consideration of these issues. Your work to improve Arlington is appreciated!

Sincerely,

Sarah Harris