From: David Dybdal <
To: mkrepelka@town.arlington.ma.us
Cc: "Garballey, Sean - Rep. (HOU)" <Sean.Garballey@mahouse.gov>
Date: 10/28/2019 03:07 PM
Subject: Request regarding dangerous intersection

Hello Administrator Krepelka,

My name is David Dybdal, and I am an Arlington resident living at 150
Medford Street in Arlington, MA.

I am writing to inform you of an extremely dangerous crosswalk at the
intersection of Medford St (Route 60) and Parallel Street (Maynard St)
which is a crosswalk where many young children from the neighborhood
cross Route 60 to go to play in the park, and to go to school.

Often traffic conditions are such that cars are moving rapidly along
Route 60 (e.g., there are frequently accidents/truck turn-overs in
the rotary just adjacent to this area); and to make matter worse,
sometimes traffic on Route 60 may be slowed or backed up in one
direction and moving very rapidly in the other.

Recently, my 10 year old son was crossing Route 60 in the Maynard St.
crosswalk when traffic was backed up and moving very slowly on his
side of the street. As he proceeded to cross to the other side of the
street, a car moving very rapidly from the the opposite direction
could not see him because the traffic on my son's side of the street
obstructed its view. This car was moving too rapidly to stop in time
, so it had to swerve out of the way so as not to hit my son (my wife
was watching this from our upstairs balcony area).

Furthermore, many young children from our neighborhood (triangulated
between Medford St, Mystic Ave, and the Arlington Cemetery) use this
crosswalk to get to Parallel park where they can play, or to walk to
and from our district's local school, the Thompson School.

Given these conditions, I believe it would make good sense to do
something to make this intersection safer. My sense is that it would
be best to install a pedestrian light such that pedestrians could
press a button to give a red light signal to stop traffic and cross
safely.

Any assistance or advice you might give as to how we might go about advocating for this would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this regard.

Sincerely,
David Dybdal

David Dybdal, MD, PhD

PS. I am also cc'ing Representative Garballey, with whom I have had some initial conversations regarding this topic