

From: Christian Klein <cmqklein@gmail.com>  
To: SDeCoursey@town.arlington.ma.us, Selectman Joseph Curro <jcurro@town.arlington.ma.us>, DMahon@town.arlington.ma.us, ddunn@town.arlington.ma.us, jhurd@town.arlington.ma.us  
Cc: Marie Krepelka <mkrepelka@town.arlington.ma.us>, Adam Chapdelaine <AChapdelaine@town.arlington.ma.us>  
Date: Sun, 31 May 2020 23:13:29 -0400  
Subject: [SB] Discussion regarding Bicycle Safety Concerns at Massachusetts Avenue and Appleton Street

Honorable Board Members,

I am writing to you this evening to request immediate action to improve bicycle safety at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue, Appleton Street, and Appleton Court. The recent, tragic death of a cyclist at this intersection unfortunately serves to highlight how dangerous this intersection truly is. As a frequent cyclist who uses Mass Ave, I encourage you in the strongest terms to address this issue.

As a resident of the Heights, when I am coming home on Lowell Street, I will often try to turn right off Mass Ave onto Appleton Place. On several occasions, I have been nearly hit broadside by someone looking to pull out from Appleton Street onto Mass Ave. They see my car slowing with a signal on, they assume I am making the sharp right, and they proceed into the intersection. We both come to a quick stop when they realize I'm not turning sharply, and I see they are misunderstanding the intersection.

A 2012 report from the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization was recently brought to my attention. It notes all of these issues with the intersection and makes several recommendations. To date, it does not appear that any of these recommendations have been implemented. I can appreciate the expense involved, but if a hotel is added along this stretch of Mass Ave, adding many more drivers unfamiliar with the intersection and the care that needs to be exercised, this intersection will only become more dangerous.

Please refer this problem to the Transportation Advisory Committee post haste, and ask them for an expedited review of the intersection.

Thank you for all you do for the Town. I wish you good health.

Christian Klein  
54 Newport Street