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Date: Mon, 1 Jun 2020 12:00:53 -0400
Subject: Appleton Street Intersection

To the Arlington Select Board:

The recent tragic death of bicyclist Charlie Proctor has once again brought to light the hazardous crossing situation at Appleton St. and Mass Ave. This intersection has been a scary one to navigate for years. This intersection is not only a hazard to bicyclists and motorists, it is also an area frequented by middle school students, who walk to school.

I am a lifelong Arlington resident and have walked, biked and driven all over Arlington during these years, and am very familiar with the safety hazard posed by this intersection. I have a young nephew who will begin attending the Ottoson Middle School next year—and I am very concerned.

I ask the Board to please address this situation to develop a solution that will improve the safety of motorists, bicyclists and pedestrians as soon as possible, before we see another useless tragedy result from this dangerous intersection.

I ask that you consider this two-phase plan recommended by the East Arlington Livable Streets Coalition:

- SHORT TERM - with new roadway striping, modest restrictions on parking, and signs, the bike lane that currently ends at the Dunkin Donuts just west of Appleton should be extended to at least Burton St or, ideally, to connect to the existing bike lanes east of Brattle Square. Inexpensive flex posts could also be installed on the double yellow line to force left-turning motorists to use a tighter radius and more slowly (*See attached concept plan Phil developed showing how bike lanes can be striped*)
- LONG TERM - building off of the 2012 CTPS report, a new traffic study and design plan must begin very soon. With appropriate public involvement, this could be a year-long process. Finding funding, final bid documents and construction could easily take a couple more years as well. Based on that, it is imperative that the Town initiate the short term plan this summer.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Diane Manganaro
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