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Date: Tue, 9 Jun 2020 18:04:12 -0400
Subject: We need safety improvements at Appleton and Mass Ave.

Dear Arlington Town Officials:

First, thank you for everything you've done to recognize and respond to the tragedies that occurred in Minneapolis and elsewhere.

I'm writing in response to the recent death of Charlie Proctor at the corner of Appleton and Mass Ave. I live on Lakeview Street in Arlington, and I ride my bike regularly on Mass Ave. I'm writing to ask that action be taken in both the short term and long term to improve the safety at Appleton and Mass Ave. I understand that this intersection has been studied in the past, and that improvements were shelved due to cost projections and engineering challenges. I also understand that a solution might take some time to work out. I'm writing to voice my strong preference for the following actions:

- SHORT TERM - With new roadway striping and modest restrictions on parking and signs, the bike lane that currently ends at the Dunkin Donuts just west of Appleton could be (and 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 move more slowly through the intersection.
- LONG TERM - Building off the 2012 CTPS report, a new traffic study and design plan must begin very soon.

A traffic study and design plan could easily be a year-long process. Finding funding, final bid documents and construction could take a couple years beyond the planning year. Based on this timing estimate, it is imperative that the Town initiate the short term plan this summer.

I appreciate your consideration. I hope you and your families are well during this difficult time.

Thanks, Kat

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