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Date: Wed, 10 Jun 2020 06:39:09 -0500  
Subject: Re: intersection on Mass Ave/Appleton St/Appleton Place

To Whom it May Concern;

**On May 5th my cousin Charlie Proctor was killed while riding his bicycle through the intersection on Mass Ave/Appleton St/Appleton Place, a notoriously treacherous intersection for all road users, including children crossing to the Ottoson School.** The intersection geometry, the grades and poor sight lines all create challenges for pedestrians, drivers, and especially bicyclists heading east.

This happened just prior to Mother's Day and his 28th birthday.

Charlie was killed while riding home to Somerville (eastbound) when the westbound motor vehicle turned left and slammed into him, killing him and injuring his girlfriend.

**This was not a random fluke "accident" unlikely to happen again.** We all know that the Mass Ave/Appleton intersection is dangerous. The regional transportation planning agency (CTPS) studied safety issues at the intersection in 2012 but few of the recommendations were implemented due to cost issues and engineering challenges. **The time is ripe for the Town to get serious about improving the Mass Ave/Appleton intersection (including the approaches) for bicyclists and other road users!**

Due to the complex nature of the Appleton intersection, I recognize there is no easy fix, and that the ultimate solution may be a couple of years away. In that light, **I am asking the Select Board to work with other Town officials to implement a two-phased plan:**

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 motorist to use a tighter radius and more slowly

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.

My family and I thank you for your consideration and attention to this matter,  
Let's make this intersection safe for all users!

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**Sara-Mai Conway**