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**To:** "Lauren Costa" <LCosta@town.arlington.ma.us>  
**Date:** 08/16/2022 03:20 PM  
**Subject:** [SBadmin] Concerns for TAC re: Park Avenue bus stop changes

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Dear Members of the Select Board:

I write to you regarding concerns that I, and my neighbors, have regarding a planned bus stop change on Park Avenue. Selectman Diggins, who has been very responsive and most helpful, suggested that I write to you all to request that you send the matter to TAC for review. We would request that our concerns be included as Correspondence Received at the SB meeting on 8/22.

A note on process: I was never notified by the MBTA that the change would be happening, despite the fact that the bus stop is being moved onto my block. I learned from my neighbors after a December 2021 open forum convened by the Town, and therefore was unable to voice my concerns at that time. I did attend the Select Board meeting in June on this issue, but as it was not open to the public, I was unable to provide my concerns at that time.

Our specific concerns:

The new proposed site at Park and Glenburn in the outbound direction is much too close to the major intersection of Park Ave and the access road to Rte 2. and will really create a problem traffic wise, especially during rush hour when it will block the flow of traffic trying to come over the bridge from Belmont/ off of Rte 2 in one direction, and from the Rte 2 access road, turning right onto Park Ave, in the other direction. I see this traffic every day, and could certainly envision significant back ups, which could occur within the intersection itself, brought on by a stopping bus.

Already, it is very difficult for myself and my two neighbors on our block to get out of our driveways during rush hour. We accept this reality as this is where we live, but moving a bus stop onto our block will only exacerbate the problem. The current existing stop provides at least some distance from our driveways, and also, it does not make it difficult for anyone on that particular block to exit their driveway either, since it is at the corner, prior to any driveways on that block.

Additionally, we have concerns about safety, as traffic turning right from the access road onto Park Ave, and straight from Belmont (many of these cars have just exited the highway) is often moving very quickly and too close to the new suggested site. A bus stop on the block following this turn could cause danger to cars, the bus, and any pedestrians/ exiting passengers.

The new stop is also further from the vast majority of houses in the area when compared with the existing stop on Cedar, and would make it more difficult, not less, for individuals to access the bus stop, who would then have to walk uphill to get home. Also, of note, an existing stop on the access road and Bellington will still service any individuals living on Glenburn.

We would respectfully ask that the stop remains where it is, at Cedar and Park.

We are grateful for your time and consideration. We are the first three homes that welcome people into Arlington on Park Ave, we take good care of our property, have lived here for a long time and care about the town deeply, and simply want for traffic to be able to move smoothly in and out of town, to be able to exit our own driveways, and know that our children, and other Arlingtonians, will be safe on a very busy block.

Very best regards,

Nate Herpich