

From: James McSwiggen <mcswigj@comcast.net>
To: <mkrepelka@town.arlington.ma.us>
Date: Mon, 04 Jan 2016 19:30:49 -0500
Subject: Crosswalk at Beacon & Warren

Dear Marie,

Could you please forward this email on to one of the Arlington selectmen? I tried writing to Arlington Public Works department, but they replied that I should write to the selectmen instead. I find it strange that they didn't just forward the message, and I'm not sure whether one particular representative should get the email. I'm hoping you will know.

I am writing to request that crosswalk stripes be added the intersection of Warren Street and Beacon Street/Wyman Street in Arlington. Warren Street has become a very busy road at many times of the day—especially during rush hour—and cars rarely slow down or yield for pedestrians trying to cross the street. The nearest crosswalks on Warren are two long blocks away to the southeast and four blocks to the northwest, far further than a pedestrian should have to walk in order to cross the street. There is a crosswalk already on Broadway and Wyman—one block to the southwest—but Broadway is a much less busy street compared to Warren, and Beacon is very busy as an access street between Warren and Mystic.

The main reason for requesting a crosswalk at this intersection is that there is a lot of pedestrian traffic here. The intersection is home to a convenience store, beauty salon, dance school, and soon to a doggy daycare. The dance studio is particularly concerning because of the large number of young children who attend lessons at the school. Lesson times seem to coincide with the afternoon rush, so there are the combined dangers of rush-hour traffic, parents trying to drop off or pick up their kids, and young pedestrians at the intersection all at the same time. The additional parked cars at this time of day make it more dangerous even for those of us who are adults and are out walking in this area.

I do a lot of walking around Arlington. I can't think of very many intersections that need a crosswalk more than this intersection. I hope you will be able to honor this request.

Sincerely,

-- Jim

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