

"Never interrupt your enemy when he is making a mistake."
Napoléon Bonaparte 1769 - 1821

C. Res.
8/07/17

Thursday, July 20, 2017

Kevin F. Greeley
Board of Selectmen
730 Massachusetts Avenue
Arlington, MA 02476

Re: Mass Avenue Project **markings for MBTA Bus Stops**

Dear Mr. Greeley:

Drivers sometimes park partly in the back end of the **MBTA Bus Stop** at **215 Mass Avenue**; this space is very short and not intended for vehicles to park. To date, I have not seen Arlington Police ticket cars that do this. (\$100.00 for parking in a T bus Stop; however, since the buses are wheel chair equipped, the fine should be \$200.00 for being in a Handicap space). This problem ought to be corrected by having the line repainted a few feet back closer to the Winter Street end of this T Stop.

During the Mass Ave Project, a **butt-out** was created near the Winter Street corner of *Ristorante Olivio*, at 201 Mass Avenue. This **butt-out** has become a deterrent to some of the bus drivers; instead of being able to drive straight along the curb as was done before the Mass Project, they come in at an angle. During high traffic times of the day, all three bus routes arrive at the same time. Both Routes **77** and **350** operate seven days a week and Route **79** Monday through Friday. The last ridership figures from the MBTA show a combine total of just over 2 million passengers per year.

The Mass Avenue Project also placed a bench near the edge of the side walk - too near the edge - and facing the sidewalk, at 215 Mass Avenue. When more than one bus arrives at the same time - a common occurrence - the second and third buses let passengers off in front of this bench.

The T Bus Stop on the other side of Mass Avenue is even worse: two (of the 4) benches are on the edge of the sidewalk (and facing Mass Avenue rather than back to it) in front of **Capitol Theater** and **Otto** pizza, leaving virtually no free space for

exiting passengers to step onto. However, **this T Stop is not just a bus Stop; it is actually marked as a lane for Vehicles** intending to turn Right onto Lake Street; they often fill the T bus Stop space, forcing the drivers to let passengers off **in Mass Avenue** as well as making it impossible for the bus ramp to be lowered for wheel chair passenger (s) to board the bus. In the morning, cars aren't necessarily in the Bus Stop in order to turn Right onto Lake Street; they are actually stopped and parked. The driver of the *Fresh Bakery* truck is a major offender; he does this for his convenience, in order to have the back door of his truck line up with the door to **Quebrada Baking Co** making it much easier for him to delivery trays of items baked elsewhere.

Please consider what can be done at this point to eliminate the problems at both these MBTA bus Stops. I look forward to a letter of reply from you.

Sincerely,


Catherine A. King
215 Massachusetts Avenue, apt. 34
Arlington, MA 02474

Delivered in hand on this date to the Selectmen's Office.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

JOSEPH A. CURRO, JR., CHAIR
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August 2, 2017

Catherine A. King
215 Massachusetts Avenue, Apt. 34
Arlington, MA 02474

Dear Ms. King:

We are in receipt of your correspondence in which you discuss problems with certain of the MBTA Bus Stop markings in East Arlington.

Thank you for writing to the Board of Selectmen. Your correspondence will appear on the August 7th Selectmen's Agenda under "Correspondence Received". Although it is not necessary for you to attend the meeting, you may do so if you are so inclined.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Very truly yours,
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marie A. Krepelka".

Marie A. Krepelka
Board Administrator

MAK:fr