



CITY OF WATERTOWN

TRAFFIC COMMISSION



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March 18, 2026

The next meeting of the Watertown Traffic Commission will be held on Wednesday March 25, 2026 in the Lower Hearing Room, 149 Main Street, Watertown, MA at 7:00 p.m. The following items are on the agenda for discussion:

1. Approve the minutes of the January 28, 2026 Commission meeting.
2. Request by Mr. Barney Heath of Coolidge Avenue for the installation of a speed bump in the vicinity of 199 Coolidge Avenue.
3. Request by Ms. Lindsey Eichinger of Olney Street for the installation of a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon on Lexington Street at the intersection of Bemis Street.
4. Request by Ms. Leslie Cristello of Lawrence Street for No Parking signage on the south side of Orchard Street to the west and east of Lawrence Street.
5. New Business

Respectfully Submitted,
Sgt. D. Sampson

December 25, 2025

Sgt. Sampson
Watertown Police Department

Subj: Coolidge Avenue Traffic Calming

Dear Sgt. Sampson:

I am a resident at Crossroads on the Charles, 199 Coolidge Ave. in Watertown. I walk my dogs an average of three times daily before 9, late afternoon around 4pm and evenings around 8pm. On these walks, I can observe and witness how quickly cars move east as they accelerate from the Grove St. intersection and west as they approach the intersection from Cambridge. They move at great speed especially passing our exit driveway and the just past our building and the driveway immediately adjacent – neither of which has great visibility.

My sense is that drivers see this open stretch of road as a speedway cut through with little traffic and interruption seen and therefore invites high speed.

My request is a simple speed bump somewhere in the stretch near our driveway to slow cars in the approach to our driveway.

Happy to provide further information.

Sincerely,

Barney Heath

199 Coolidge Ave, Unit 204

Coolidge Avenue – Heath Photos



Sampson, David

To: lindsey.eichinger@gmail.com
Cc: Izzo, Emily
Subject: Request for Enhanced Safety Measures - Crosswalk at Lexington/Bemis Street

Good afternoon Ms. Eichinger,

I received a copy of your request to install rapid flashing pedestrian beacons on Lexington Street at Bemis Street, and have placed your request on the March 25, 2026 Traffic Commission meeting agenda. The meeting will take place at 7:00 pm in the Lower Hearing Room (Ground Floor) of the Administration Building, 149 Main Street. You are not required to attend but are strongly encouraged to do so. It is helpful to be there in the event the Commission has any specific questions. If you want to be present at a meeting, but cannot make the one in March, the following meeting is April 29th at 1:30 pm.

Please confirm that you received this email.

I hope this helps. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,
Sgt. D. Sampson

*Sergeant David Sampson
Watertown Police Department
Traffic Division
552 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472
617-972-6547*

From: Lindsey Eichinger <lindsey.eichinger@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 2:48 PM
To: Izzo, Emily <eizzo@watertown-ma.gov>
Subject: Request for Enhanced Safety Measures - Crosswalk at Lexington/Bemis Street

Dear Emily,

I am a resident of Olney Street, Watertown and am writing to express my concern about the safety of children crossing Lexington Street (near Bemis Street). Lexington Street is a busy route where cars frequently speed, and it is also heavily used by students walking to and from school. Although the street once had a crossing guard, it has not had one for at least a couple of years. As my son is approaching middle school age, I am increasingly concerned about his safety when he will need to cross this street on his own. I have also spoken with other families in the area, and many share this concern about the risks for our children.

I would like to advocate for the installation of flashing lights at the crosswalk to alert drivers when someone is crossing, which I believe would significantly improve safety for the many children in our

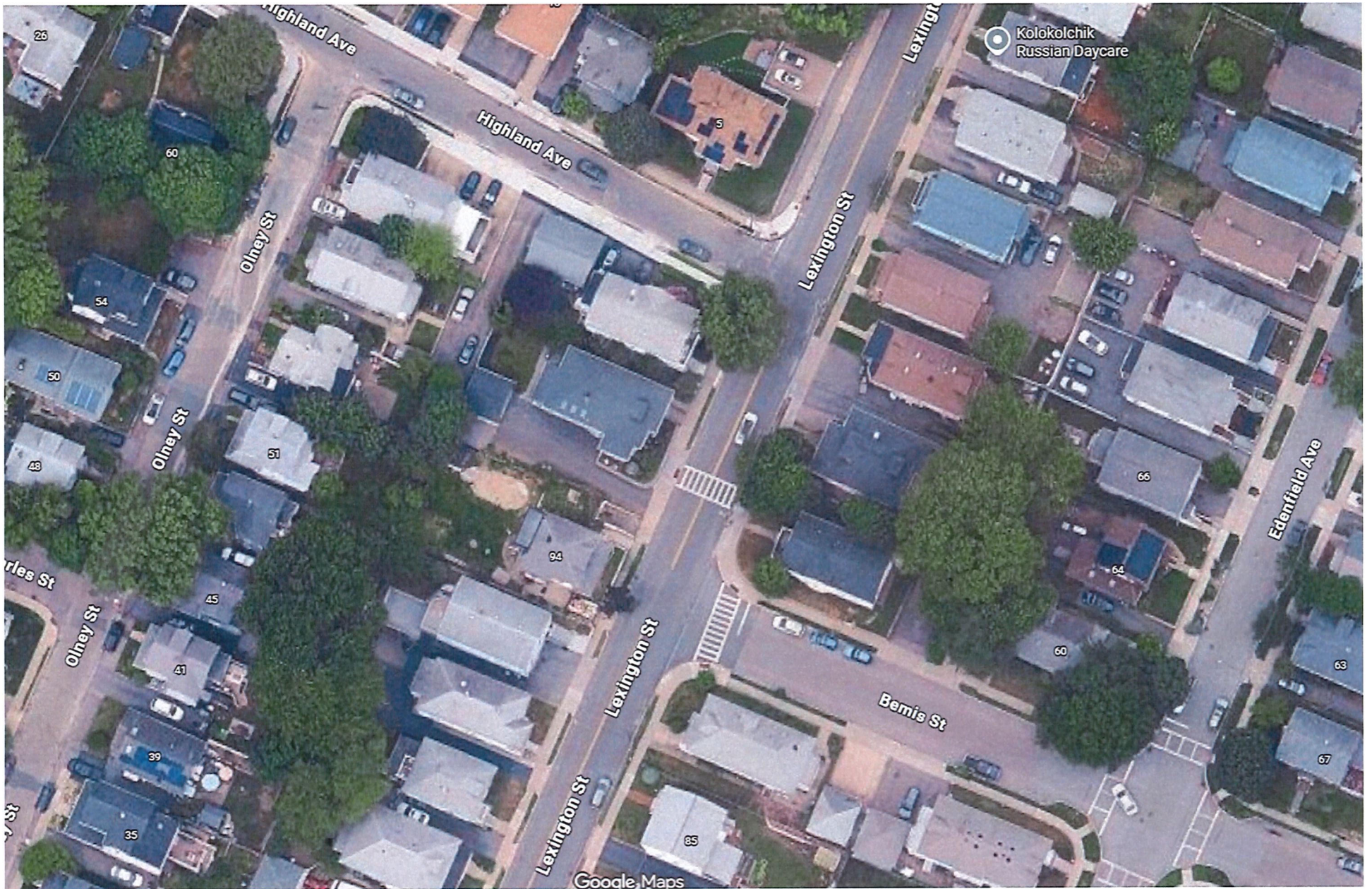
community. I am confident that such a measure would provide a safer environment for students and peace of mind for parents.

Thank you very much for your time and attention to this important issue. I would greatly appreciate any guidance on next steps or support the city can provide to make this crosswalk safer.

Best,
Lindsey Eichinger

When writing or responding, please remember that any email sent or received by an employee of the City of Watertown is subject to the Massachusetts Public Records Law (M.G.L. c. 66).

Lexington Street Area



Sampson, David

From: Leslie Cristello <jl-jb@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2026 1:59 PM
To: Sampson, David
Subject: Re: Traffic Commission Information

Hello Sgt Sampson

I am a homeowner on Lawrence St and trying to pull out of Lawrence on to Orchard St is impossible most days. There are cars that are parked right up to the corner on the left side and occasionally on the right side, so in order for me to leave my street I have to pull very far out onto orchard st and risk getting hit. I have contacted the police several times and they correct the immediate problem but then the cars come back. The law says 20 feet from the corner but nothing is being done. The chief says I should call every time there is a problem but my question is why can't this problem be corrected, with either a sign, painted curb or to notify the offenders with a warning or ticket. I hate to be a complainer but it's a bad situation waiting to happen.

Thanks for your consideration

Leslie + Jim Cristello

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 17, 2026, at 12:37 PM, Sampson, David <dsampson@police.watertown-ma.gov> wrote:

Good afternoon Ms. Cristello,

In order to have your request heard before the Traffic Commission please write a letter explaining 1. Who you are, 2. The nature of the problem, and 3. What you would like done to resolve the issue. This does not have to be a lengthy letter. The letter should be addressed to the Watertown Traffic Commission and emailed to me as a Word document or PDF.

The Traffic Commission meets on the last Wednesday of each month (excluding July and August). The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday March 25, 2026 at 7:00 pm in the Lower Hearing Room of the Administration Building (149 Main Street). This is short notice, but if you can send your letter to me before Wednesday March 18 at 2:00 pm, I can have your request heard next week. You are not required to attend the meeting, but I strongly encourage you to attend. It is helpful to be there in the event the Commission has any specific questions. If you want to be present at a meeting, but cannot make the one in March, the following meeting is April 29th.

Please confirm that you received this email.

I hope this helps. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully submitted,
Sgt. D. Sampson

*Sergeant David Sampson
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Orchard Street

West Side



East Side

