



Stantec Consulting Services Inc.
45 Blue Sky Drive, 3rd Floor
Burlington MA 01803-2756

October 19, 2022

Project/File: 179411035

Sgt. David Sampson
Traffic Division Commander
Watertown Police Department
552 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472

**Re: Traffic Commission Agenda Item Request – Arsenal Street Corridor Improvements
Watertown, Massachusetts**

Dear Sgt. Sampson,

On behalf of our client, Alexandria Real Estate Equities, Inc, Stantec Consultants Inc. is requesting to be placed on the Traffic Commission Meeting Agenda on October 26, 2022. The subject of this request is to present the proposed corridor improvements on Arsenal Street associated with the proposed Arsenal on the Charles project from the West Garage Building at #311 Arsenal Street to just west of Arsenal Way in Watertown, MA (commonly referred to as Design Package B) extending over a distance of approximately 2,100 feet.

The improvements consist of upgrading the existing traffic signals within these limits; widening Arsenal Street to provide for a bus turn out opposite the West Garage building; a 5-foot wide, on-road bicycle accommodation along Arsenal Street east of School Street; grading, resurfacing and drainage modifications; pedestrian sidewalk and access improvements; lighting and landscape upgrades; and signing and pavement marking modifications. In addition to presenting the overall Arsenal Street Corridor Improvements, we will specifically review regulatory changes associated with the proposed bus turn out, on-road bicycle accommodation, left turn bike boxes and two bus stop adjustments.

For the Traffic Commission's consideration, the enclosed presentation plans address the corridor improvements and regulatory sign and pavement marking changes. Also, please find enclosed the proposed Traffic Signal plans for your reference. The project team has coordinated directly with the Department of Public Works and the Department of Community Development and Planning on the planning and design of this project.

Sincerely,

STANTEC CONSULTING SERVICES INC.

Richard Azzalina

Richard Azzalina, P.E.

Principal

Phone: (781) 221-1221

Mobile: (339) 234-1568

richard.azzalina@stantec.com

Attachments: Arsenal Street Sign & Pavement Marking and Traffic Signal Plans

Watertown,
Massachusetts

PREPARED FOR
ARE-MA
Region No. 75, LLC
Watertown,
Massachusetts



45 NETWORK DRIVE, 3rd FLOOR
BURLINGTON, MA 01803-4542

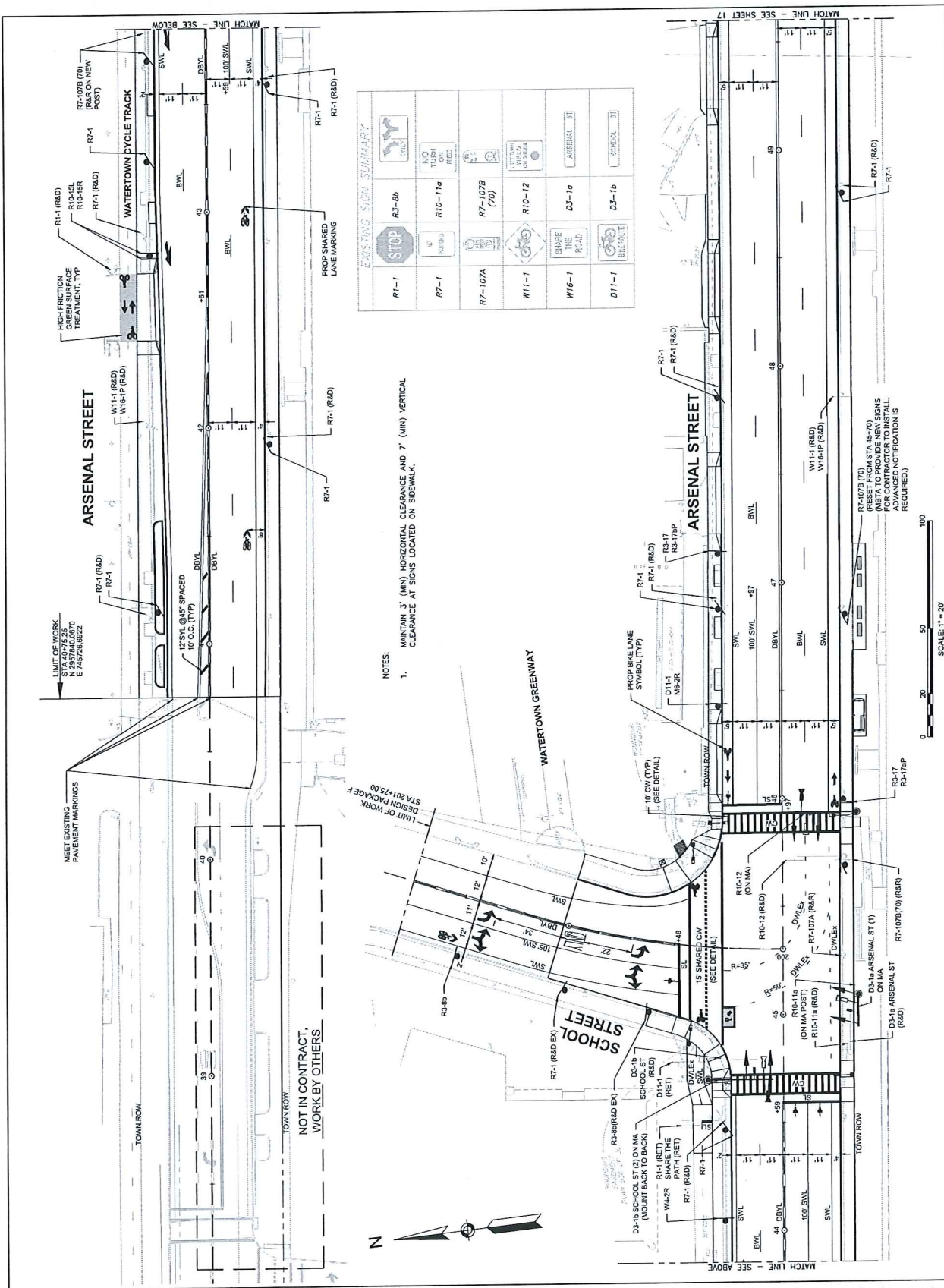
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REVISIONS		
NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE
D	100% SUBMISSION	10/21/22
C	90% REV. SUBMISSION	4/15/22
B	90% SUBMISSION	3/25/22
A	75% SUBMISSION	2/12/19
PROGRAM TOTAL		

Pavement Marking &
Signing Plan
Part 1 of 2

SHEET 16 OF 75
JOB NO. 17941035
T-101
DRAWING NUMBER



PROJECT TITLE
The Arsenal On The
Charles - PHASE 2
Off-Site Improvements

Watertown,
Massachusetts

PREPARED FOR
ARE-MA
Region No. 75, LLC
Watertown,
Massachusetts



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REVISIONS	
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A	75% SUBMISSION

Sign Summary Sheet

SHEET 18 OF 75
DRAWING NUMBER
T-103
Dwg

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER	SIZE OF SIGN WIDTH HEIGHT	TEXT	TEXT DIMENSIONS (INCH)		NUMBER OF SIGNS REQUIRED	COLOR		POST TYPE AND NUMBER REQUIRED	AREA PER SIGN	TOTAL AREA IN SQUARE FEET
			LETTER HEIGHT	SPACING		LEGEND	BORDER			
R3-8b	36"	30"	SEE 2009 MUTCD		2	WHITE	BLACK	P-5	7.50	15.00
R3-17	30"	24"			2	WHITE	BLACK	P-5	5.00	10.00
R3-17b	24"	12"			1	WHITE	BLACK	MOUNT BELOW	2.00	2.00
R3-17bP	24"	12"			1	WHITE	BLACK	MOUNT BELOW	2.00	2.00
R7-1	12"	18"			13	WHITE	RED	P-5	1.50	19.50
R10-11a	36"	48"			1	WHITE	BLACK	MOUNT ON MA POST	12.00	12.00
R10-12	30"	36"			2	WHITE	BLACK	MOUNT ON MA	7.50	15.00
R10-15L (MOD)	30"	30"			1	FLUOR YELLOW-GREEN	BLACK	P-5	6.25	6.25
R10-15R (MOD)	30"	30"			2	FLUOR YELLOW-GREEN	BLACK	MNT 1 BEHIND R10-15L P-5	6.25	12.50
W4-2R	36"	36"			1	YELLOW	BLACK	P-5	9.00	9.00
D11-1	24"	18"			1	GREEN	WHITE	P-5	3.00	3.00
M6-2R	21"	15"			1	GREEN	WHITE	MOUNT BELOW D11-1	2.19	2.19
D3-1a (ARSENAL)	68"	18"	80/80	5"	3	GREEN	WHITE	MOUNT ON MA MOUNT 2 BACK TO BACK	EACH	EACH
D3-1b (SCHOOL)	64"	18"	80/80	5"	2	GREEN	WHITE	MOUNT ON MA MOUNT 2 BACK TO BACK	EACH	EACH
D3-1c (TALCOTT)	72"	18"	80/80	5"	2	GREEN	WHITE	MOUNT ON MA MOUNT 2 BACK TO BACK	EACH	EACH

The Arsenal On The Charles – PHASE 2 Off-Site Improvements

Watertown,
Massachusetts

PREPARED FOR

ARE-MA
Region No. 75, LLC

Watertown,
Massachusetts

45 NETWORK DRIVE, 3rd FLOOR
BURLINGTON, MA 01803-4542

Tel. (781) 221-1000

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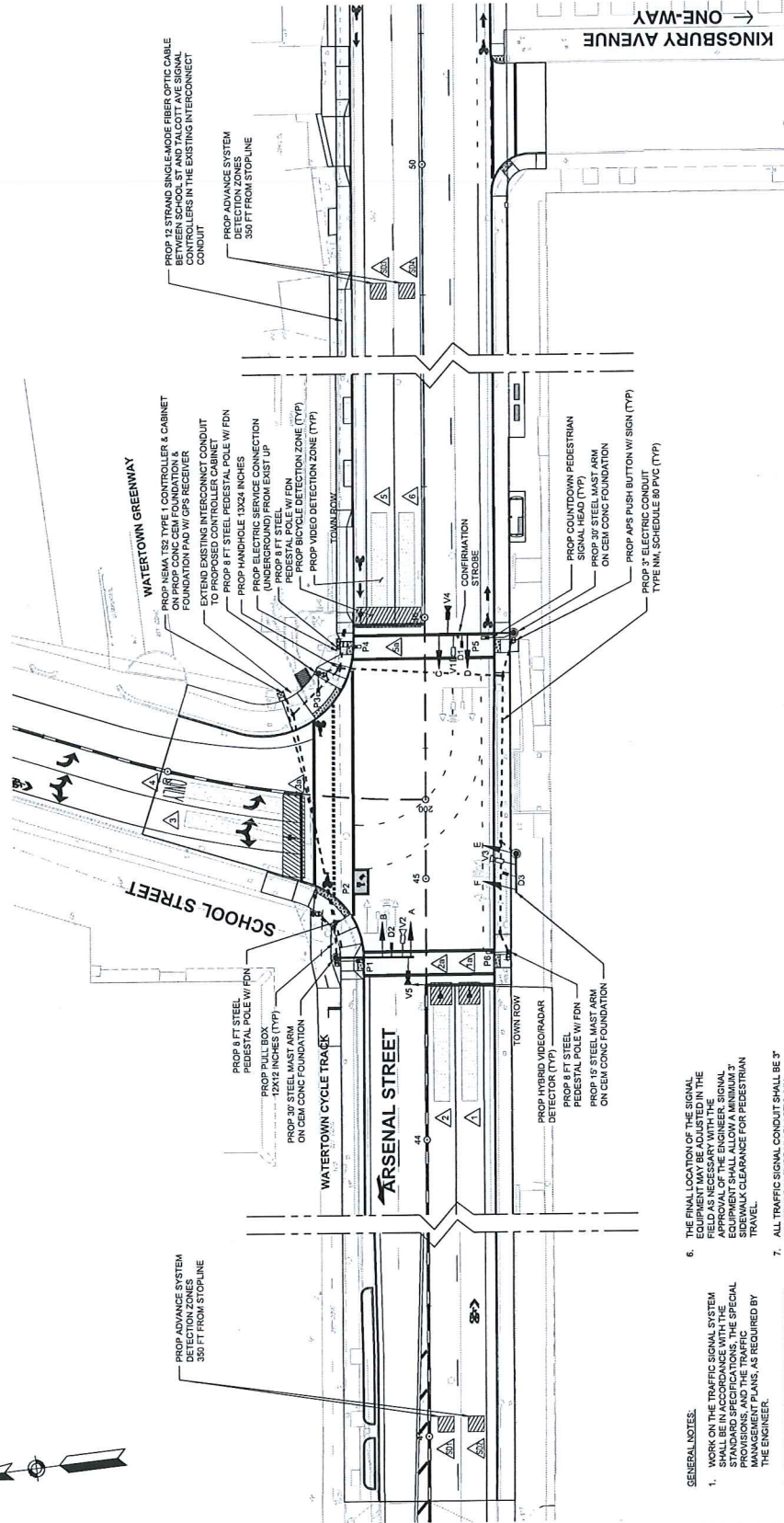
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DATE	OCTOBER 2022
SCALE	AS NOTED
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REVISIONS		
NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE
D	100% SUBMISSION	10/31/21
C	90% REV. SUBMISSION	4/15/22
B	90% SUBMISSION	3/25/22
A	75% SUBMISSION	2/2/19

DRAWING TITLE

Traffic Signal Plan
Arsenal Street at
School Street

SHEET 19 OF 75
 JOB NO. 17941035
 CAD
 DRAWING NUMBER
T-104



6. THE FINAL LOCATION OF THE SIGNAL EQUIPMENT MAY BE ADJUSTED IN THE FIELD AS NECESSARY WITH THE SIGNAL CONTRACTOR'S APPROVAL. SIGNAL EQUIPMENT SHALL ALLOW A MINIMUM 3' SIDEWALK CLEARANCE FOR PEDESTRIAN TRAVEL.
7. ALL TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONTROLLER SHALL BE SCHEDULED IN TYPE "N" PLASTIC (UL) OR OTHER OTHERWISE NOTED.
8. UTILIZE ONE TRENCH FOR MULTIPLE CONDUITS WHEREVER POSSIBLE.
9. ALL METALLIC PULLBOBS SHALL BE BONDED APPROVED POLYMER ALTERNATE MAY BE USED AS AN ALTERNATE.
10. THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONTROLLER SHALL BE INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EXISTING SYSTEM.
11. REMOVE AND STOCK ALL EXISTING TRAFFIC SIGNAL EQUIPMENT UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
12. CONTRACTOR SHALL VERIFY EXISTING CONDUITS.

Watertown,
Massachusetts

PREPARED FOR
ARE-MA
Region No. 75, LLC

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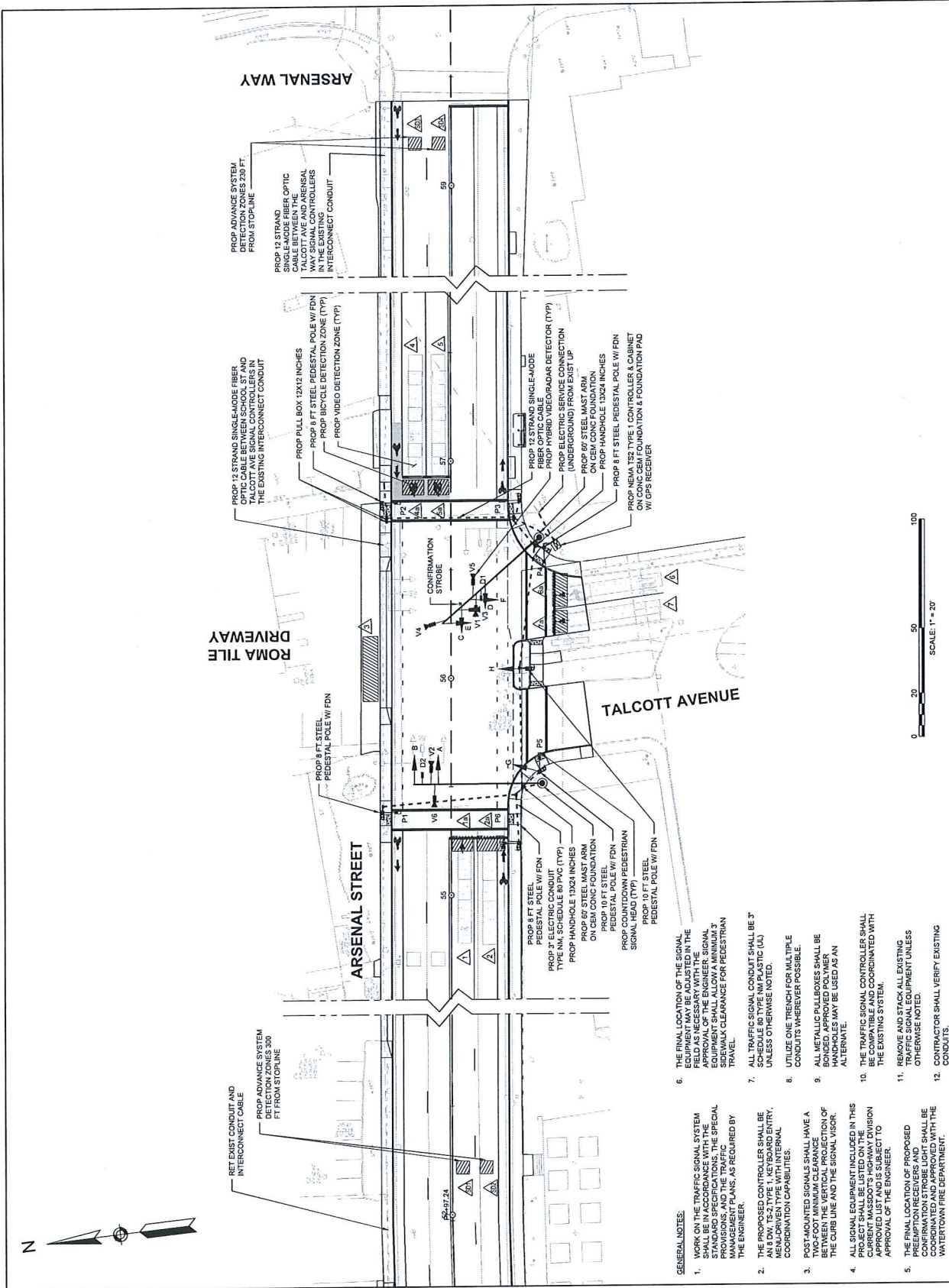
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DATE	OCTOBER 2022
SCALE	AS NOTED
STAMP	

REVIEWS		DATE
NO.	DESCRIPTION	
D	100% SUBMISSION	10/21/22
C	90% REV. SUBMISSION	4/15/22
B	90% SUBMISSION	3/25/22
A	75% SUBMISSION	2/12/19

DRAWING TITLE

Traffic Signal Plan
Arsenal Street at
Talcott Avenue

SHEET 21 OF 75
 JOB NO. 179411035
 CAD
 DRAWING NUMBER
T-106



NOTES:

1. ALL SIGNALS SHALL HAVE CUT-AWAY TUNNEL VISORS
2. ALL SIGNALS SHALL HAVE 12" LED LENSES WITH 5" LOUVERED BACKPLATES PAINTED GLOSS BLACK AND 2" YELLOW RETROREFLECTIVE BORDER

DETECTOR NO.	SIZE (FT.)	DIRECTION	CAMERA	DELAY, EXTEND	0 CALLED	0 EXTEND
1	6 x 50	EB LT	V1	0	06	06
2	6 x 50	EB TR	V1	0	06	06
3	30 x 7	SB LTR	V4	5	08	08
4	6 x 50	WB TR	V2	0	02	02
5	6 x 50	WB LT	V2	0	05	05/02
6	10 x 7	EB LT	V1	0	06	06
7	13 x 7	EB TR	V1	0	06	06
8	10 x 7	WB TR	V2	0	02	02
9	10 x 7	WB LT	V2	0	05	05/02
10	6 x 50	NB RT	V3	5	04	04
11	15 x 7	NB RT	V3	0	04	04
12	6 x 50	NB LT	V3	0	04	04
13	10 x 7	NB LT	V3	0	04	04
14	6 x 6	EB	V6	0	SYSTEM	-
15	6 x 6	EB	V6	0	SYSTEM	-
16	6 x 6	WB	V5	0	SYSTEM	-
17	6 x 6	WB	V5	0	SYSTEM	-

- CAPABLE OF BICYCLE DETECTION



October 19, 2022

Ref: 14844.01

Thomas F. Rocca, Chair
Provisional Police Department Chief
Watertown Traffic Commission
149 Main St Watertown, MA 02474

Re: Transportation Improvements to Coolidge Avenue
Potential Changes to Existing Traffic Control and Regulations

Dear Chief Rocca:

On behalf of the Applicant, ARE-MA Region No. 77, LLC, VHB is submitting the attached exhibits in advance of the Traffic Commission Meeting on October 26, 2022. The exhibits outline certain changes to the existing traffic control features at some locations, which in turn may also require modifications to applicable Regulations. Below is a brief outline of the material that is enclosed.

- **Page 1 of 8:** Existing view of the corridor with some of the current constraints/opportunities for improvement highlighted.
- **Page 2 of 8:** Aerial view of future conditions identifying six (6) areas of improvements that are pertinent to review and input from the Commission (the 6 items are called out in the 4 grey colored text callouts).
- **Page 3 of 8:** A listing of applicable Regulations along the roadway, including the yellow highlighted changes that are new traffic elements for Commission input. Regulations highlighted in green remain unchanged.
- **Page 4 of 8:** This sheet covers two elements of traffic control; change in the traffic control at Grove Street/Coolidge Avenue from a 4-way stop control to a fully actuated traffic control signal. The design also proposes the addition of a "no turn on red" restriction on the intersection approaches to enhance pedestrian safety.
- **Page 5 of 8:** Proposed crosswalk configuration at the Grove Street/Coolidge Avenue signalized intersection. This includes modifying two existing unsignalized crosswalks and installation of two new crosswalks. A push button actuated exclusive pedestrian phase is also proposed as part of the signal operation.
- **Page 6 of 8:** A proposed new midblock crosswalk at the 99 Coolidge Avenue driveway that will be furnished with a solar powered, push-button actuated Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) assembly to improve the visibility of the crossing location.

Engineers | Scientists | Planners | Designers

101 Walnut Street, PO Box 9151, Watertown, Massachusetts 02471

P 617.924.1770 F 617.924.2286 www.vhb.com

Chief Thomas F. Rocca
Watertown Traffic Commission Chair
Ref: 14844.01
October 19, 2022
Page 2



- **Page 7 of 8:** A new drop-off bay in front of 99 Coolidge Avenue to accommodate employee shuttles, TNCs and taxi drop-off/pickup.
- **Page 8 of 8:** A new actuated sign with a flasher at the garage driveway for 125 Coolidge Avenue to warn bicyclists/pedestrians traveling on the proposed path of vehicles exiting the garage.

All the elements depicted on these exhibits, along with various other roadway and traffic features that will be improved along the Coolidge Avenue corridor have been extensively discussed with the City at public hearings, neighborhood meetings and staff level meetings. Various design submittals for the corridor have undergone third part peer-reviews by an independent Consultant hired by the City. The final design plans have been submitted to the Department of Public Works (DPW). The Applicant is awaiting the issuance of a Street Opening permit pending approval of the improvement elements depicted in the attached exhibits by the Traffic Commission.

We are looking forward to a productive discussion at the Commission meeting on October 26, 2022 regarding the material included in this submittal.

In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact me at vkalikiri@vhb.com or (508) 513-2741 should have any questions or if you would like to review the final roadway design plans for the corridor.

Sincerely,

VHB

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Vinod Kalikiri", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Vinod Kalikiri, PE, PTOE
Senior Project Manager

cc: Katie Snyder, National Development
Tracie Lenhardt, VHB

-- Enclosures

Current Roadway Configuration



- All-way stop control; inefficient traffic flow
- Vehicle-pedestrian conflicts

- Only double yellow center line
- No bicycle accommodations
- Intermittent sidewalk on the south side of the roadway

CONCEPT PLAN REVIEWED BY THE PLANNING BOARD



10' PATH BETWEEN ARSENAL
ST AND GROVE ST; 8' MIN. AT
ONE LOCATION

- FULLY ACTUATED SIGNAL AT COOLIDGE AVE/GROVE ST -
- 'RIGHT TURN ON RED' PROHIBITED -
- IMPROVED PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALKS -



Note: The plan above is conceptual in nature and is intended to identify opportunities and constraints for the development of a shared use path alignment along Coolidge Avenue through town staff and abutter input. As part of the next phase of design development, driveway crossings along the corridor will be reviewed in detail to identify appropriate signage and pavement markings that will clearly demarcate the rights-of-way between the pedestrian/bicycle realm along the path and vehicular travel into/out of the driveway.

MIDBLOCK CROSSING WITH RRFB

DROP-OFF AREA IN FRONT
OF 99 COOLIDGE AVENUE

ACTUATED VEHICLE
DETECTION SIGN

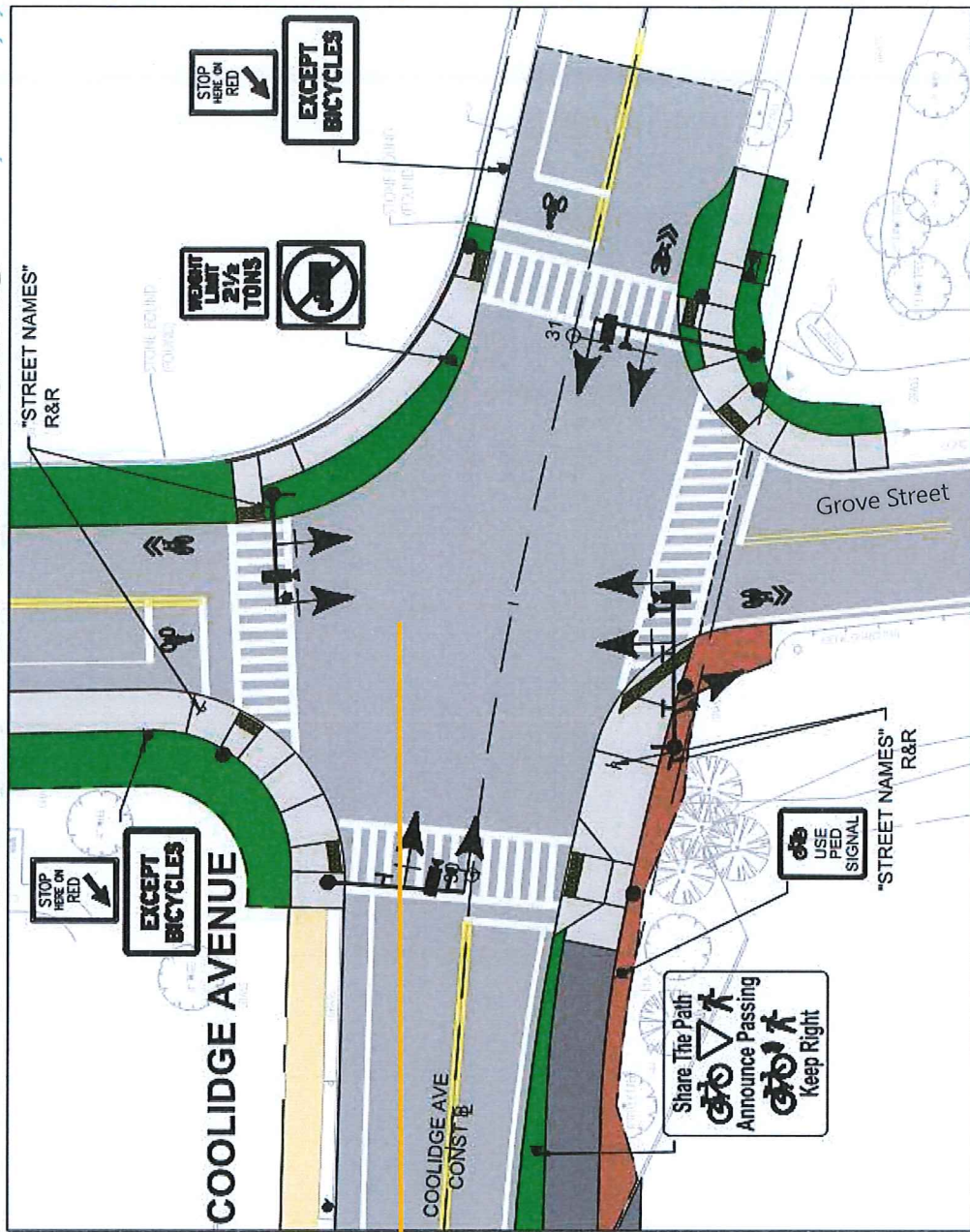
Regulations – **Unchanged** Vs. **Modified/Proposed**

1. Operation of Heavy Commercial – **no changes**
2. Parking – **no changes**
3. Tow Away Zones – **no changes**
4. Isolated Stop Signs – **no changes**
5. Turn Right on Red Prohibited – **COOLIDGE @ GROVE - PROPOSED**
6. Four Way Stop Signs – **COOLIDGE @ GROVE - CHANGE OF CONTROL TO FULL TRAFFIC SIGNAL**
7. TRO Fire Lanes – **no changes** – just outside of project limits
8. Approved Crosswalks – **COOLIDGE @ GROVE - EXISTING AND ADD NEW CROSSWALKS**
9. Approved Crosswalks – **PROPOSED MIDBLOCK CROSSING AT 99 COOLIDGE WITH RRFB**
10. Drop off area in front of 99 Coolidge – **PROPOSED**
11. Vehicle Detection Sign at the garage exit for 125 Coolidge – **PROPOSED**

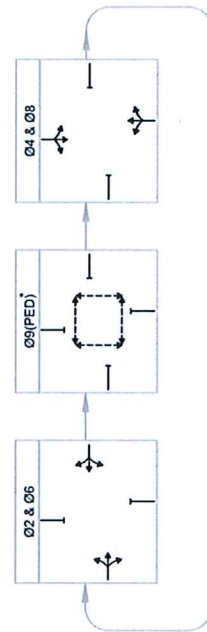


Coolidge Avenue at Grove Street – Crosswalks

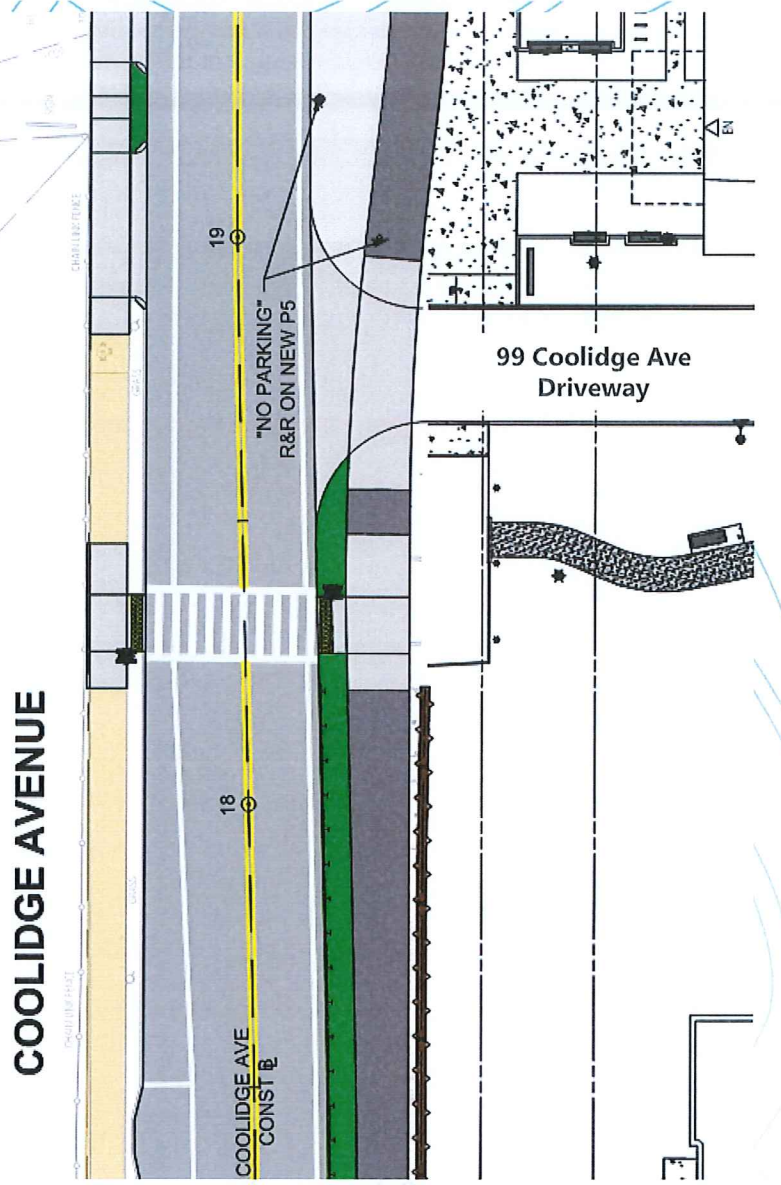
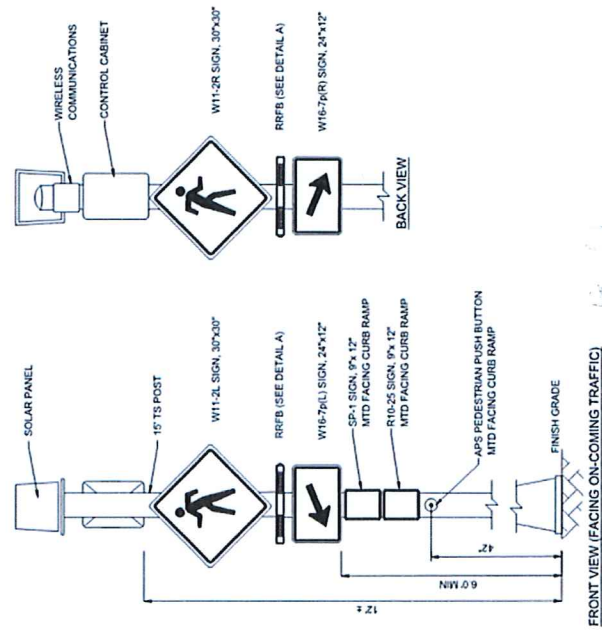
MODIFY WEST AND SOUTH CROSSWALKS; INSTALL NORTH AND EAST CROSSWALKS; FULL AND EAST CROSSWALKS; FULL PEDESTRIAN ACTUATION



PREFERENTIAL PHASE SEQUENCE



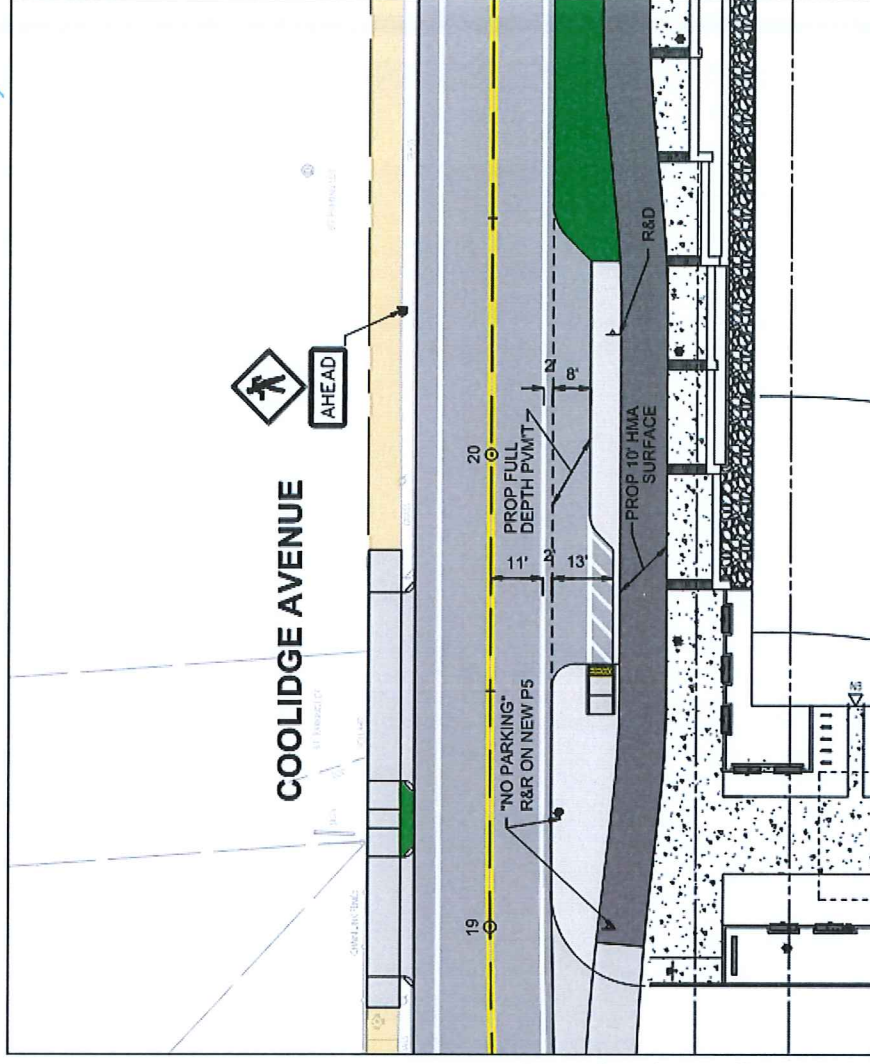
Approved Crosswalks – New Crosswalk w/ RRFB



Drop-off area @ 99 Coolidge Ave

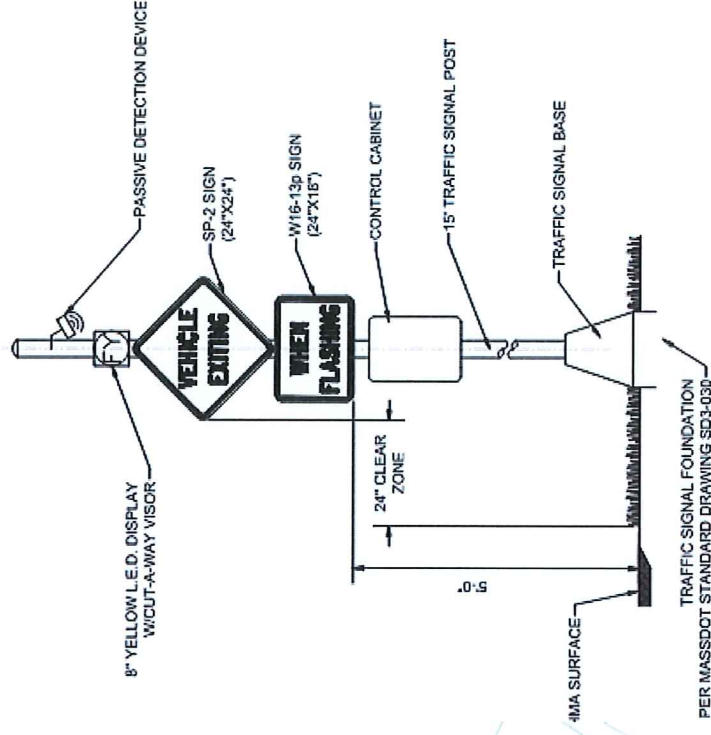
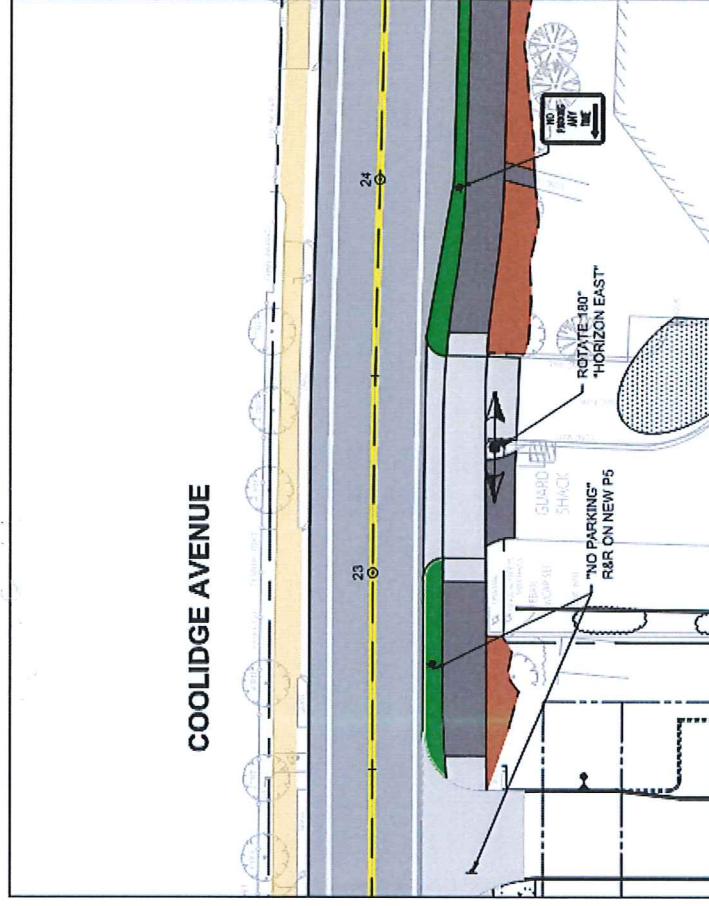
Question:

Would the Commission treat the drop-off area as live parking? If so, this would require a change in the Parking Regulation



Vehicle Warning Beacon

- @ 125 Coolidge Ave



Sergeant David Sampson, Traffic Division Commander
Watertown Police Department
552 Main Street
Watertown, MA 02472

18 Jewett Street
Watertown, MA 02472
October 18, 2022

Dear Sergeant Sampson:

I am writing to request the assignment of a handicapped parking space in front of my house at 18 Jewett Street, Watertown, MA. I have lived in my house for 64 years. I use an electric wheelchair full-time and frequently use The Ride and other wheelchair accessible modes of transportation. There is a wheel chair ramp located in the front of my house so I can easily access The Ride for doctor's appointments, etc.

On several occasions, I was unable to access The Ride or other modes of transportation as cars are often parked on the street in front of my house where the wheel chair ramp ends. I have a handicapped placard, which is attached.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elvira Rosati".

Elvira Rosati

Enclosure: Handicapped Placard

Sampson, David

From: Nicholson, Ryan
Sent: Wednesday, October 05, 2022 10:49 AM
To: Sampson, David
Cc: Magoon, Steve; Proakis, George; St. Louis, Gregory; Rocca, Thomas
Subject: Proposed Parking Changes at Fire Headquarters
Attachments: Fire Headquarters Parking Changes.pdf

Sgt Sampson,

After conferring with Mr. Proakis and Mr. Magoon, I'd like to request parking changes at Fire Headquarters to be added to the Traffic Commission agenda for October. The proposed changes are as follows, referring to the color-coded attachment:

Restrict parking on the east side of Sonny Whooley Way for permit only (yellow highlight).
Further restrict parking in front of the old police station to Emergency Vehicle Only (pink highlight). Currently 1 spot and proposing the entire frontage of the building.

To be noted:

The 8 parallel spots between Church St and Whooley Way will remain permit only – for FD personnel.
The lot on the corner of Winter and Whooley will be temp paved/ lined to be used for non-FD city vehicles – remaining permit only.

If you need anything further from me, please let me know.

Thank you,

Ryan A. Nicholson
Provisional Chief of Department
Watertown Fire Department
99 Main St
Watertown, MA 02472
Office: (617) 972-6511
Fax: (617) 972-6575



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