



Watertown Public Schools

Hosmer Elementary School

1 Concord Rd.
Watertown, Massachusetts 02472-3492
Phone: (617) 926-7740
Fax: (617) 926-3259

Erin Moulton – Principal
erin.moulton@watertown.k12.ma.us

MaryKate Fitzpatrick – Assistant Principal
marykatherine.fitzpatrick@watertown.k12.ma.us

NOTICE: Watertown Traffic Commission Meeting

Dear Neighbors,

As we come to the close of the construction project we have been working with the police department to determine the best ways to facilitate student safety and minimize congestion on Winthrop Street and Chauncey Street throughout the day. Through these discussions, we will be making the following recommendations at the October Traffic Commission meeting.

To comply with the parking regulation, motorists will not be allowed to park on the newly raised intersection on Winthrop Street at Hancock Street. In addition, motorists are also not allowed to park within 20 feet of the crosswalks.

Hosmer will need to continue to have the large school buses utilize Hancock Street for drop-off and pick-up due to their inability to exit onto Concord Road during these times because of the traffic from the drop-and-go zone.

To increase the safety of students arriving, departing, and participating in recess the parking lot connecting Winthrop Street and Concord Road will be closed to through traffic. The lot will be accessible for staff parking only. The Concord Road side will be closed off to traffic with the installation of a gate.

In addition, to facilitate a safe and orderly drop-off/pick-up system for the Hosmer School and Early Steps Preschool families, the following traffic regulations will be proposed.

- Remove the drop-and-go designation on Winthrop Street and return the area to public parking
- Restrict parking on both sides of Winthrop Street from a point 44 feet north of Hancock Street to Hancock Street. This will prevent parking on the raised intersection and within 20 feet of the crosswalk.





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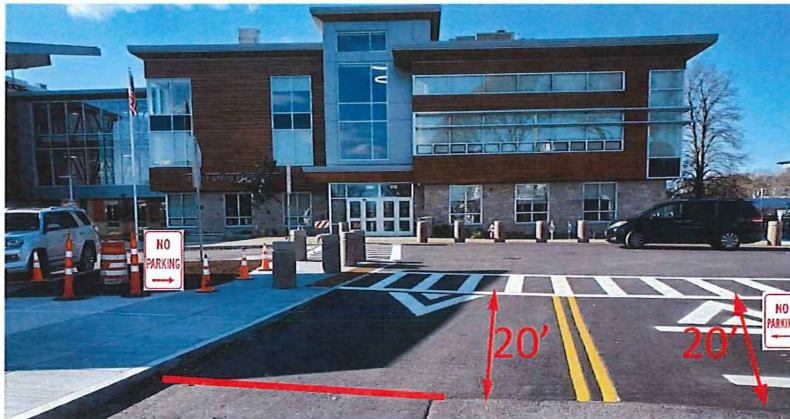
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- Restrict parking on both sides of Hancock Street from Winthrop Street to a point 35 feet east of Winthrop Street. This will prevent parking on the raised intersection and within 20 feet of the crosswalk



- Restrict parking on the south side of Hancock Street (playground side) from a point 35 feet east of Winthrop Street to Chauncey Street as No Parking from 7:45 am to 2:45 pm when school is in session. This will facilitate the Early Steps Preschool drop-off/pick-up procedure and the Hosmer School buses.





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- Remove the Do Not Enter restriction from the top of Winthrop Street. The restriction is Do Not Enter 7:30 – 3:30 when school is in session, EXCEPT for residents, buses, and school staff is no longer necessary.



- Remove the No Parking restriction on Chauncey Street that was originally intended for buses, and return the area to public parking.
- Remove the old sign on the north side of Hancock Street at #56 No Parking from 7 am-9 am. This was posted for the old traffic pattern many years ago.
- Remove the two HP-only parking spaces that were on Hancock Street during construction.

Hosmer School administration is scheduled to attend the upcoming Traffic Commission Meeting, which is set to take place on **Wednesday, October 25, 2023**, in City Hall, 149 Main Street. Currently, the time is TBD. The posted time will be confirmed on Wednesday, October 18th. The information will be in the Meetings section of the City's website <https://www.watertown-ma.gov/>

We are pleased to have this opportunity to engage with the esteemed members of the commission and discuss the various matters of utmost importance to our community.

Erin Moulton
Principal

MaryKate Fitzpatrick
Assistant Principal

Sampson, David

From: Sampson, David
Sent: Wednesday, October 18, 2023 7:16 AM
To: Cheryl Rohlicek; Feltner, Lisa
Cc: Piccirilli, Vincent; citymgr; Rocca, Thomas; Glode, Tyler; St. Louis, Gregory
Subject: RE: Pedestrian Safety at Intersection of Bellevue & Common

Good morning Ms. Rohlicek,

I received a copy of your concerns and requests regarding the intersection of Common Street at Bellevue Road.

It is important to note that as a general rule, crosswalks are installed in locations that are deemed safe.

In 2015, a similar request for a crosswalk was submitted. At that time, the City's traffic engineering consultant conducted a cursory review of the location. It was reported that it did not appear that a crosswalk is desirable at this location due to sight distance for vehicles traveling northbound on Common Street being limited by the horizontal and vertical curvature of the roadway. The report also noted that should the Town determine that existing pedestrian demand warrants a marked crosswalk across Common Street at Bellevue Road, a data collection program including vehicle and pedestrian volumes, vehicle speeds, and crash history should be conducted per MUTCD guidelines to establish a safe and appropriate design.

I have cc'd the City Engineer and Superintendent of Public Works on this correspondence, and have placed your request on the Traffic Commission agenda for discussion. The Traffic Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday October 25, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the Lower Hearing Room. You are not required to attend the meeting, but you are welcome and encouraged to do so. Please let me know whether you intend to be at the meeting.

I caution that even if the Commission supports further study of the area and an engineering study supports a crosswalk, it may be a considerable length of time before any action is taken on this request. National Grid has work scheduled and will likely be in that area in the near future. In addition, a substantial Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) project to address critical water system redundancy and operational flexibility is underway; a portion of the project is going through the intersection of Common Street at Bellevue Road. The work on Common Street is slated to begin sometime next fall.

Please continue to exercise caution when crossing Common Street, and use marked crosswalks and signalized intersections whenever possible. Remember that every pedestrian crossing a roadway at any point other than within a marked crosswalk shall yield the right of way to all vehicles upon the roadway.

I hope you find this information helpful. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me directly.

Respectfully submitted,
Sgt. D. Sampson
617-972-6547

-----Original Message-----

From: Cheryl Rohlicek <cheryl@rohlicek.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 1:12 PM
To: Feltner, Lisa <lfeltner@watertown-ma.gov>
Cc: Piccirilli, Vincent <vincent.piccirilli@gmail.com>; Sampson, David <dsampson@police.watertown-ma.gov>; citymgr <citymgr@watertown-ma.gov>

Subject: Re: Pedestrian Safety at Intersection of Bellevue & Common

Hi Lisa,

Thank you so much for the quick response. I hope that it won't take too long to see some kind of resulting safety measure. Now that fall has arrived, lots of cars and walkers are back on the roads going to work, school, and exercising.

Sincerely,
Cheryl

> On Sep 27, 2023, at 10:46 AM, Feltner, Lisa <lfeltner@watertown-ma.gov> wrote:

>

> Hi Cheryl,

> Thanks for reaching out. I'm forwarding your request to WPD Traffic Division Commander Sgt Sampson for consideration, with copy to your District C Councilor Piccirilli.

> Sincerely, Lisa

>

> Lisa J. Feltner

> Watertown City Council, District B

> Direct (617) 926-5344, or Council Office Clerk (617) 972-6470

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Cheryl Rohlicek <cheryl@rohlicek.com>

> Sent: Wednesday, September 27, 2023 9:35 AM

> To: Piccirilli, Vincent <vincent.piccirilli@gmail.com>; Bays, Caroline <cbays@watertown-ma.gov>; Palomba, Anthony <apalomba@watertown-ma.gov>; Feltner, Lisa <lfeltner@watertown-ma.gov>; Gannon, John <jgannon@watertown-ma.gov>; John Airasian <jairasian@watertown-ma.gov>

> Subject: Pedestrian Safety at Intersection of Bellevue & Common

>

> Dear Councilors,

>

> Pedestrians, young and old alike, are struggling mightily to keep themselves safe when attempting to cross at the intersection of Bellevue and Common streets. I beg you to install flashing lights and a crosswalk. If this is not addressed soon, there could be a terrible accident.

>

> I have lived on Standish Road since 1992 and have seen too many close calls to continue feeling comfortable with the current situation. If necessary, I will start gathering names for a petition, but I would rather rely on your good leadership to make this change as soon as possible.

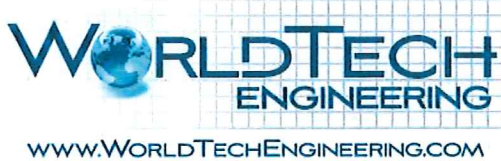
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> Sincerely,

> Cheryl Rohlicek

>

> 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).



April 14, 2015

Mr. Gerald S. Mee, Jr., Superintendent
Town of Watertown Department of Public Works
124 Orchard Street
Watertown, MA 02472

Reference: Common Street at Bellevue Road Crosswalk Markings

Dear Mr. Mee:

As requested, we have performed a brief review of the suitability of providing marked crosswalks across Common Street at its intersection with Bellevue Road.

According to the 2009 Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), "Crosswalk lines should not be used indiscriminately. An engineering study should be performed before a marked crosswalk is installed at a location away from a traffic control signal or an approach controlled by a STOP or YIELD sign. The engineering study should consider the number of lanes, the presence of a median, the distance from adjacent signalized intersections, the pedestrian volumes and delays, the average daily traffic (ADT), the posted or statutory speed limit or 85th-percentile speed, the geometry of the location, the possible consolidation of multiple crossing points, the availability of street lighting, and other appropriate factors."

Based on a cursory review of the location, it does not appear that a crosswalk is desirable at this location due to sight distance for vehicles traveling northbound on Common Street being limited by the horizontal and vertical curvature of the roadway. An existing pedestrian route between the neighborhood west of Common Street and Watertown High School is already established using the recently improved marked crosswalk across Orchard Street at Standish Road, and the signalized crosswalk across Common Street north of Katherine Road. In addition, a marked crosswalk across Common Street is provided one block north of Bellevue Road at Grenville Road, and improvements currently under design at the intersection of Common Street with Orchard Street and Church Street will improve pedestrian connections at that location.

Should the Town determine that existing pedestrian demand warrants a marked crosswalk across Common Street at Bellevue Road, a data collection program including vehicle and pedestrian volumes, vehicle speeds, and crash history should be conducted per MUTCD guidelines to establish a safe and appropriate design.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to contact us directly at any time.

Sincerely,

WORLDTECH ENGINEERING, LLC

Michael V. Pompili, EIT
Project Engineer

Farina's Inc.
61 Galen Street
Watertown, MA 02472

October 18, 2023

City of Watertown
Watertown Traffic Commission

Dear Members of the Commission,

I am writing to express our desire to have proper signage installed in front of our store, located on Galen Street. Due to development in the area over the past few years and the resulting shortage of parking spaces, it is critical that our customers have easy, unencumbered access to our 3 private parking spaces, which are located directly in front of our building. I have discussed this matter with Sgt. D Sampson and Dt. Sgt. K. Swift of the Watertown Police Department.

Many drivers (predominantly Uber, GrubHub and other food delivery providers who visit the restaurant that abuts our property) pull into the area that appears to be parallel parking, not acknowledging the curb cuts for our driveway. By doing so, they prevent our customers from accessing our parking spaces. We are continually asking these drivers to move, but they often respond with "I'll only be a few minutes" or "What's your problem?" or swear obscenities as the pull around the corner onto Aldrich Road and park in the clearly marked "No Parking Here to Corner" area. We have asked the restaurant owners to assist with this issue, but they have not been successful. The parking situation in this area must be addressed as soon as possible as it poses a property access issue on a daily basis.

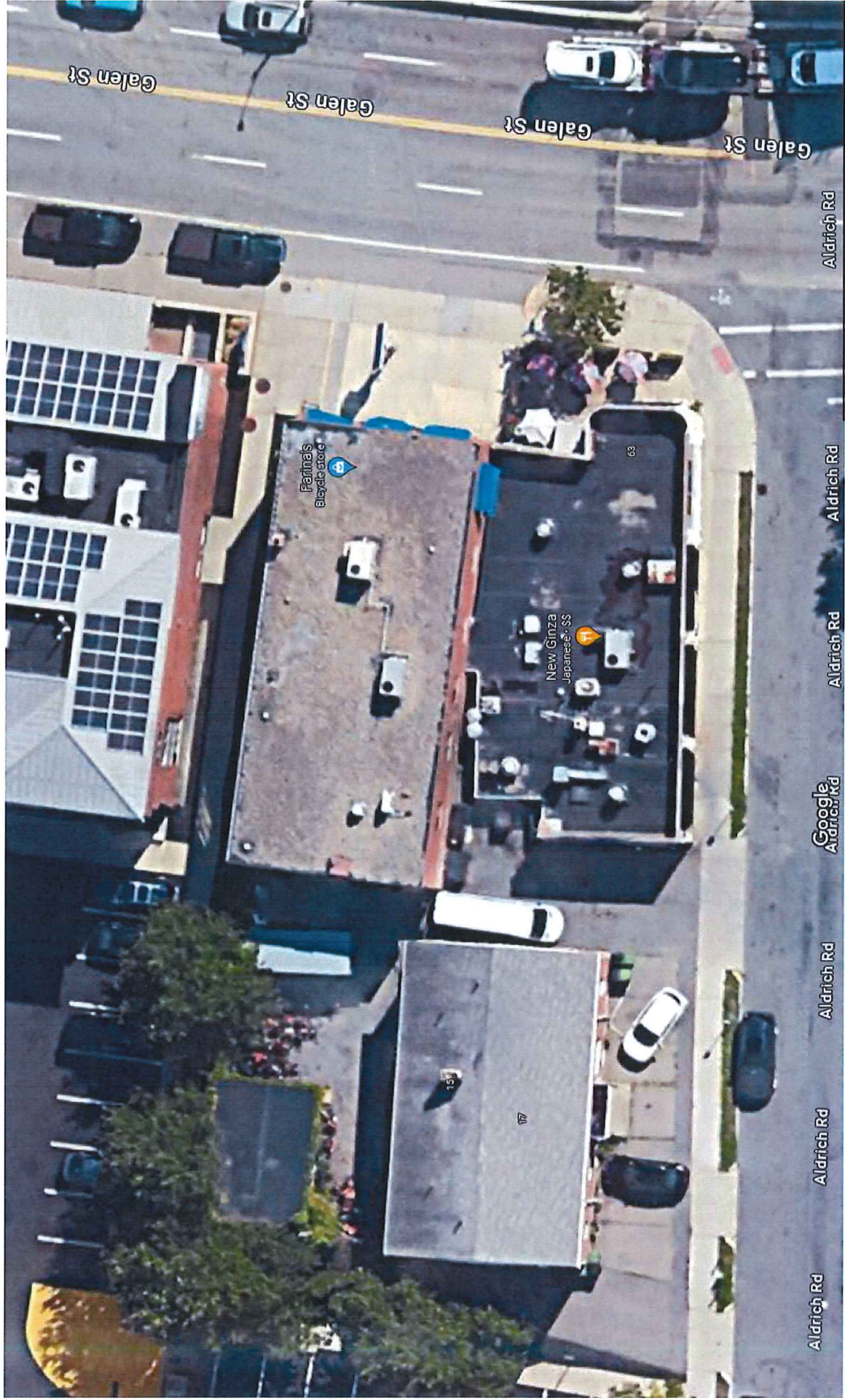
I am requesting a visit to the area by the Committee to discuss where we would like new signs installed on Galen Street and Aldrich Road. The signs would include "No Parking Here to Corner" and "Do Not Block Driveway Access".

I appreciate your prompt attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

Paula Farina Pollis

61 GALEN STREET – Parking Request



61 GALEN STREET – Parking Request



COMMON ST @ BELLEVUE RD – Crosswalk Request

