



TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Arlington Planning Department, 730 Mass Ave,
Arlington MA, c/o Laura Wiener

To: Board of Selectmen

From: Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Subject: INFORMATION: Crashes at Palmer Street and Broadway

Date: 9 December 2013

A resident has requested investigation of the intersection of Palmer Street and Broadway, due to a significant number of crashes. Investigation (2013) revealed that

- There were 13 state-reported motor vehicle crashes in the 5 years from 2005-2010, of which 2 were reported as having personal injury. The total number of crashes is higher than average, but not exceptional. Figure 1 shows a plot of all crashes in the area. Broadway / Palmer is circled.
- The intersection already has stop-sign control, with the stop sign facing Palmer southbound. There are no obvious issues with visibility of the stop sign. Between Broadway and Mass Ave, Palmer is one way southbound.
- It was reported that parked cars impede visibility at the intersection, but on all but one of our nine spot observations, visibility was adequate.
- Some drivers may be using Palmer Street to avoid traffic signal delay at Broadway / Franklin and Franklin / Mass Ave.
- Unlike many intersections where the side street ends at the major street (a T intersection), at this intersection, Palmer continues straight across Broadway.

In its November 2013 meeting, TAC voted unanimously to **install a no parking here to corner sign on Broadway 20' from the intersection**. Since this simply reinforces an existing regulation (parking is already forbidden within 20' of an intersection), no action by the Selectmen is required.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Smith – Lead

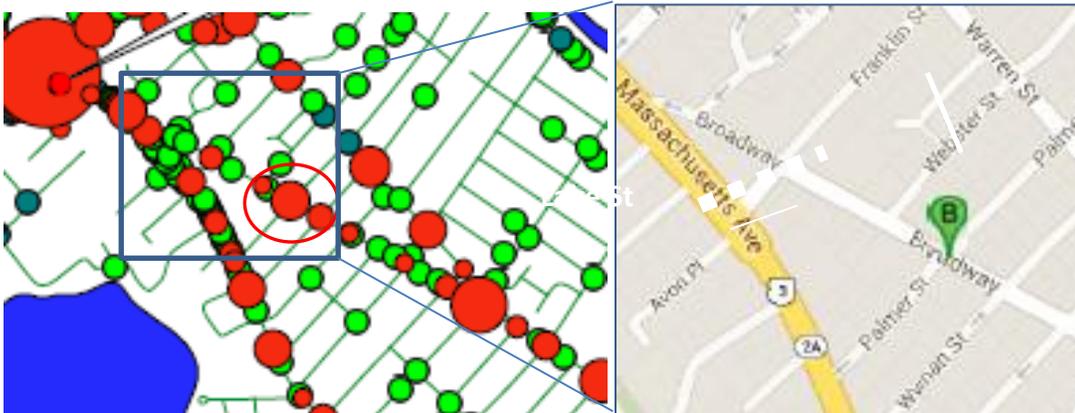


Figure 1 Map showing crashes from 2005- 2010. The green dots represent 1 crash, the blue dots 2 crashes, and the red dots show 3 or more crashes with area of the circle proportional to number of crashes (the large red circle in the upper left is Mass Ave / Rt. 60, with 103 crashes)

Transportation Advisory Committee Members:

Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Wayne Chouinard, Jean Clark, Paul Kent, Jeff Maxtutis, Howard Muise,
Officer Corey Rateau, Scott Smith, Edward Starr, Richard Turcotte, and Laura Wiener

Web site; www.arlingtonma.gov/tac