

ARLINGTON TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

7 Twin Circle Drive, Arlington, MA 02474
781-648-6224

Memorandum

To: Board of Selectmen, Arlington, Mass
From: Transportation Advisory Committee
Subject: Report on Crosswalks
Date: 5 June 2004

In the spring of 2003, the Transportation Advisory Committee established a Working Group for improving crosswalks in Arlington. The Working Group, led by Larry Englisher also included Scott Smith, Paolo Marinelli and Elisabeth Carr-Jones. Their first task was to establish a set of criteria to identify critical crosswalks in Arlington for the application of thermoplastic. The criteria considered pedestrian volume, crash history, roadway size, traffic volume and traffic speed.

Based upon the criteria, seven crosswalks were chosen for installation and observation in 2003:

1. Mass Ave at Marathon
2. Mass Ave at Orvis/Grafton
3. Mass Ave at Wyman
4. Mass Ave at Library Way
5. Mass Ave at Academy
6. Mass Ave at Bartlett
7. Mass Ave at Coleman

As we had hoped, the thermoplastic crosswalks installed last spring are still highly visible, while their painted counterparts on Mass Avenue are mostly faded. Earlier this year, a financial commitment was made by John Sanchez, on the behalf of the Public Works, for further thermoplastic installations. This has enabled the TAC to choose an additional fifteen locations for 2004. This year's list includes a critical school crossing, nearly all of the remaining uncontrolled crosswalks along Massachusetts Avenue, and two major Bikeway crossings. At the completion of this set, twenty –two crosswalks will have been converted to thermoplastic.

1. Gray Street at Quincy & Fountain (2 crosswalks)
2. Mass Ave at Lafayette
3. Mass Ave at Varnum
4. Mass Ave at Town Hall (with advance yield lines)
5. Mass Ave at Robbins
6. Mass Ave at Quincy
7. Mass Ave at Forest

Transportation Advisory Committee Members:

Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Ralph Elwell, Larry Englisher, Jeff Maxtutis, Lt. James McHugh, Kevin O'Brien, Michael Rademacher, John Sanchez, Scott Smith, Edward Starr, David Walkinshaw.

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8. Mass Ave at Davis
9. Mass Ave at Lakota Bakery
10. Mass Ave at Heights Depot
11. Mass Ave at Paul Revere Road
12. Mass Ave at Dundee
13. Mass Ave at Lexington Line
14. Bikeway at Mill Street
15. Bikeway at Lake Street

The four brick-paved crosswalks in Arlington Heights will receive thermoplastic outlines on each side. All other crosswalks will be installed using a standard international design. A Crosswalk Standard (see attached) has been developed by the TAC Working Group for the Town and will be used for this year's thermoplastic installations.

The TAC has also instigated the use of bright yellow green pedestrian signs at critical crosswalk locations in Arlington. More of these signs are to be installed by Public Works this spring and summer. We are proud to continue these efforts and look forward to expanding the use of these important transportation safety technologies in Arlington.

The TAC wants to thank Larry Englisher and the Crosswalk Working Group (Scott Smith, Paolo Marinelli and Elisabeth Carr-Jones) for their work.

Sincerely,

Edward Starr
Chair – Transportation Advisory Committee

Enclosure: Crosswalk Standard; 4/24/04

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