

# CITY OF MARLBOROUGH MEETING POSTING

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CITY OF MARLBOROUGH

Meeting Name: Traffic Commission

Date: February 26, 2020

Time: 9:00 am

Location: 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor City Hall – Memorial Hall

Agenda Items to be addressed:

2020 FEB 21 P 5:25

## 1) MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

- a) Review draft from 1-29-20

## 2) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Crosswalk Request from Meadowbrook Child Garden – Concord Rd. @ Mosher Ln.
- b) Parking Issues on Lakeside Ave.
- c) Brigham Street Concerns
- d) Request for “No Right on Red” sign at intersection of Farm Rd./Boston Post Rd. E/Mustang Ave.
- e) Request from Vin Bin for designated parking space for order pick up.

## 3) OLD BUSINESS

- a) Poor Streetlight Conditions – West Main St./Winthrop St.
- b) Request for Crosswalk Warning Signage – West Main St. @ Winthrop

THE LISTING OF TOPICS THAT THE CHAIR REASONABLY ANTICIPATES WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING IS NOT INTENDED AS A GUARANTEE OF THE TOPICS THAT WILL HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED. NOT ALL TOPICS LISTED MAY IN FACT BE DISCUSSED, AND OTHER TOPICS NOT LISTED MAY ALSO BE BROUGHT UP FOR DISCUSSION TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.



**CITY OF MARLBOROUGH  
OFFICE OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
140 MAIN STREET  
MARLBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS 01752**

**DRAFT**

**Traffic Commission Minutes**

The Regular Meeting of the Traffic Commission was held on Wednesday, January 29, 2020 at 10:00 am in Memorial Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, City Hall. Members present: Chairman - Police Chief David Giorgi, DPW Commissioner John Ghiloni, Fire Chief Kevin Breen and City Clerk Steve Kerrigan. Also present: Assistant City Engineer Tim Collins, Sgt. Zac Attaway and Officer Andy Larose from the MPD Traffic Services Unit and City Councilor Christian Dumais. Minutes taken by Karen Lambert, MPD Records Clerk.

**1- Minutes**

The minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of Wednesday, November 27, 2019.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

TO APPROVE – All in Favor - Accept and Place on File.

**2 - New Business - (2a & 2b discussed together)**

**2a) Poor Streetlight Conditions – West Main St./Winthrop St.**

Councilor Irish submitted this issue on behalf of a concerned resident after the recent pedestrian accident at this location. He referred to it as “the subpar street lighting situation on West Main St./Winthrop St.”

**2b) Request for Crosswalk Warning Signage – West Main St. @ Winthrop.**

Sgt. Attaway submitted this request for the same intersection. In addition to the recent pedestrian accident here, he also noted that “the crosswalk is commonly used for foot traffic going to and from Short Funeral Home and it leads to a school on Orchard St.”

Officer Larose was on scene the night of the pedestrian accident. He is a member of the CEMLAC Reconstruction Team and is the lead investigator for this accident. As background, he explained that the female pedestrian was crossing from the South side to the North side at Short Funeral Home with 2 dogs when she was hit in the crosswalk. Both dogs were killed. The pedestrian was seriously injured but will be OK.

The investigation is ongoing, however, he pulled up photos of the intersection along with video of the roadway showing both dry and wet conditions from different views. In the daylight when dry, the visibility was pretty good even though the crosswalk is faded. The video showing wet conditions was taken the same night as the accident. He noted that the rain and the glare from the lights makes the crosswalk almost invisible. He doesn't think it is due to the street lighting. Even in the daylight it can be difficult to see the crosswalk. The accident occurred at 8:26 pm. It had been raining during the day and was misty at the time of the accident. The speed limit here is 30 mph (not posted) and there are no advance warning signs for the crosswalk. He explained that a vehicle travels 44 feet per second at 30mph and would need 114 feet to see, react and stop. Chief Giorgi asked if you could see the crosswalk with better paint? Or if not, because of the grade of the road? Tim Collins said that the safe thing is to not enter the crosswalk until the road is clear. The pedestrian also has some responsibility. All agreed that the crosswalk should be repainted. Another issue is that this particular crosswalk is almost a midblock crosswalk and a driver doesn't expect to stop here.

Officer Larose said that he has been monitoring the area since the accident and that this is a very busy crosswalk. He said that he didn't realize how many people actually cross here. It would also be helpful if Short Funeral Home had a sign that they could put out during services that would designate, "Yield to Pedestrians".

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING to paint the crosswalk and install advance warning signs and to REFER to Sgt. Attaway to reach out to Short Funeral Home on the sign. Also, Chief Giorgi will talk to Councilor Irish and advise him of the discussion.

### **3-Old Business**

#### **3a) Parking Issues on John Street around the playground area.**

Chief Giorgi prepared the amended regulation for the "Time Limit parking" on John Street (i.e. No Parking from Dawn to Dusk) near the playground and presented it for a vote.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to APPROVE the regulation as drafted.

#### **3c) Hillside School – Dangers on Robin Hill Street.**

**Update:** Tim Collins advised that there was nothing on the site plan about putting in a crosswalk. It was discussed that the Traffic Commission can create the safety zone for children to cross, however, the regulation should be contingent upon the school putting in the crosswalk. Chief Giorgi advised that he can talk to the school or Priscilla regarding the site plan.

Tim Collins said that the members of Site Plan brought up these traffic enhancements and now the finance people want to make sure the plan is approved. The plan has been "conceptually" approved by Site Plan. All agreed the plan was "conceptually" OK.

That there being no further business of the Traffic Commission held on this date, the meeting adjourned at 10:31 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Lambert  
Records Clerk  
Marlborough Police Department

**List of documents and other exhibits used at the meeting:**

- City of Marlborough Meeting Posting for Traffic Commission Meeting on Wednesday, January 29, 2020 including meeting agenda.
- Draft of Traffic Commission Minutes from Wednesday, November 27, 2019.
- Email from Councilor Irish to Chief Giorgi, dated 1/15/20, re: West Main St./Winthrop St.
- Email from Sgt. Attaway to the Traffic Commission, dated 1/15/20, re: Request for crosswalk warning signage for West Main @ Winthrop.
- Copy of amended regulation re: Time Limit Parking on John Street.
- Copy of amended regulation re: Creation of Safety Zone Speed Limit of 20 MPH on Robin Hill Street.

**Additional Handouts:**

- Copy of email from Officer Snapp to Chief Giorgi re: Incident Report #20-327-OF – Disturbance Call.
- Aerial photo and diagram of Simarano Drive and I495 Intersection.

## Karen Lambert

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**From:** Mark Parente  
**Sent:** Friday, February 7, 2020 4:40 PM  
**To:** David Giorgi; Zachary Attaway  
**Subject:** Crosswalk request

Gentlemen,

The owner of Meadowbrook Child Garden, 1110 Concord Rd., inquired about putting a crosswalk on the road. She requested it run from Mosher Ln. to the entrance of the lot. I was told the DPW advised her it was a request that goes through the Police Department. She would also like some signs posted in the area as well. Let me know how she needs to go about it. So I can pass the information along.

Thanks,  
Mark

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**Karen Lambert**

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**From:** Robert Tunnera  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 13, 2020 11:26 AM  
**To:** John Ghiloni; David Giorgi  
**Subject:** FW: Parking on Lakeside Avenue  
**Attachments:** IMG\_0497.JPG; IMG\_0498.JPG; IMG\_0499.JPG; IMG\_0500.JPG

Just an FYI for the Traffic commission

See you soon

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**From:** Copeland, Vera  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 12, 2020 5:16 PM  
**To:** Robert Tunnera  
**Subject:** FW: Parking on Lakeside Avenue

Dear Councilman Tunnera:

I am following up on the below email, which I sent Monday. Is there any update?

Coming home today, there was a van exiting Lakeside Avenue, which I didn't see until the last minute due to the cars parked alongside Lakeside Avenue. We both couldn't fit the roadway; the van driver was kind enough to pull into the dead end street off Lakeside to let me pass so that I wouldn't have to back up onto Route 20 to let him pass.

On Monday morning when I left for work, there was an SUV parked on Lakeside Avenue. This morning, there were 2 cars and a van parked – I leave for work at 5:30 a.m. so am not understanding why anyone would be parked on the road.

The line of parked cars is getting longer & longer in the evening. The white van in the last picture is practically @ the enter to our complex.

The parking lot @ The Fix today was practically empty. So again, I ask if these cars are associated with something other than The Fix.

If you could update me on what's going I would really appreciate it.

Thank you.

Vera Copeland  
Waterwind Knolls

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**From:** Copeland, Vera  
**Sent:** Monday, February 10, 2020 5:36 PM  
**To:** [ward\\_4@marlborough-ma.gov](mailto:ward_4@marlborough-ma.gov)  
**Subject:** Parking on Lakeside Avenue

Dear Councilman Tunnera:

I am a unit owner at 45 Lakeside Avenue and now that The Fix has opened I am finding people parking on Lakeside Avenue has become a traffic hazard that didn't exist prior.

If you are entering Lakeside Avenue from Route 20 east, due to the cars parked on the side of the road, you are unable to see if a car is exiting Lakeside Avenue onto Route 20. The other issue is that the parked cars only allow for one car at a time to either exit or enter, as the roadway is not wide enough for two cars to travel when cars are parked on the side of the road. Entering Lakeside Avenue from Route 20 west is even more dangerous due to the hairpin turn you take into a blocked view area.

The weather has been rainy & snowy these past couple of weeks & the tire tracks left in the mud onto the grass is a problem; whether this will be a long-term problem once the mud has dried, I'm unsure. In other words, will the "well" created by tires be permanent or will it fix itself?.

I'm not sure I understand why parking is allowed on this road considering it impedes the safety of the residents entering & existing the complex; it may also be an issue for those who are parking on the road. .

I'm not 100% sure that this parking issue is due to The Fix. I say this because on several occasions I've arrived home & the parking lot @ The Fix is practically empty, yet cars are parked on Lakeside Avenue. Today (2/10/2020), I arrived home @ 3:45 p.m. The Fix parking lot had about 8 cars in it yet there were just as many parked on Lakeside Avenue.

Your response will be appreciated.

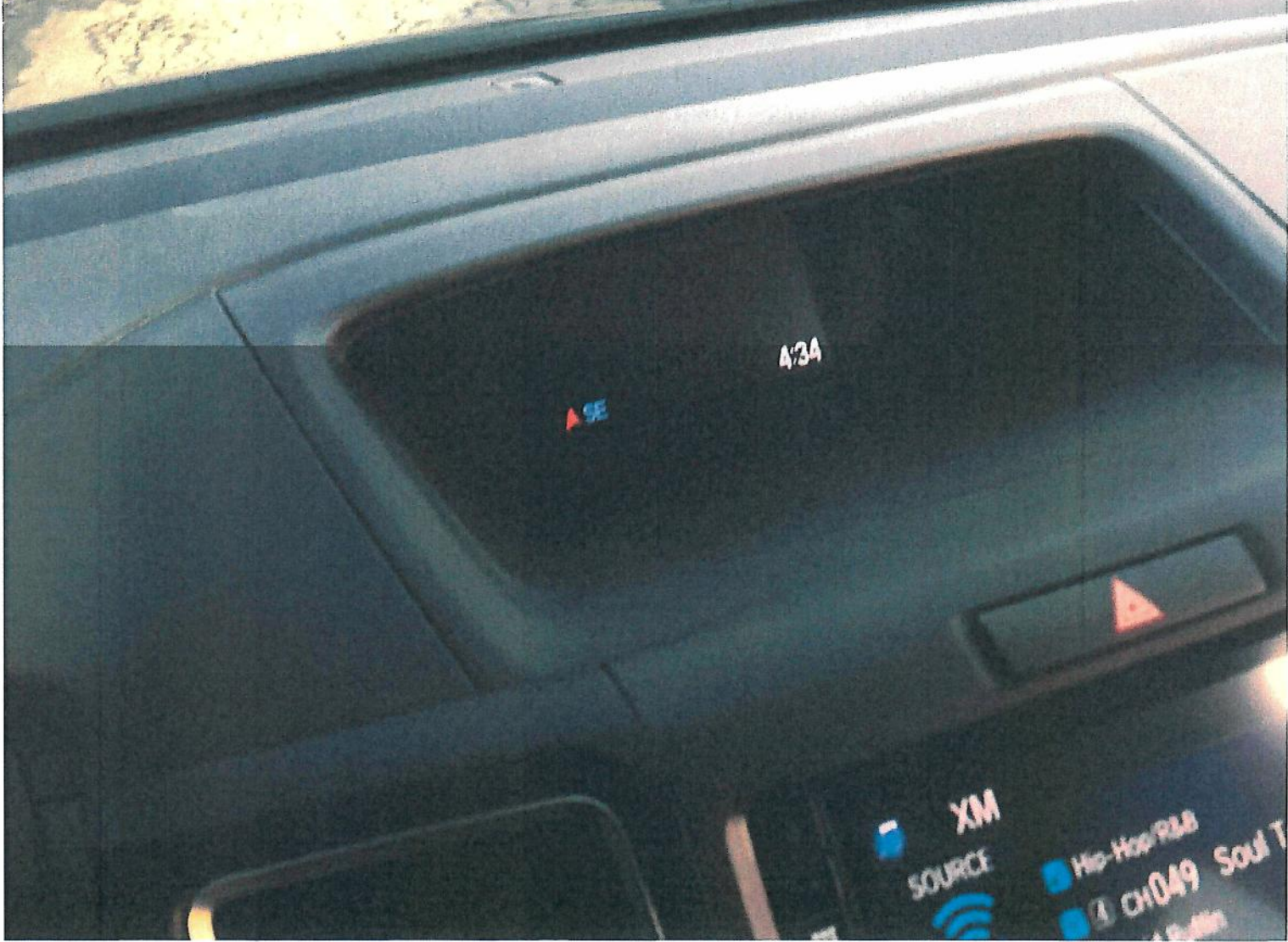
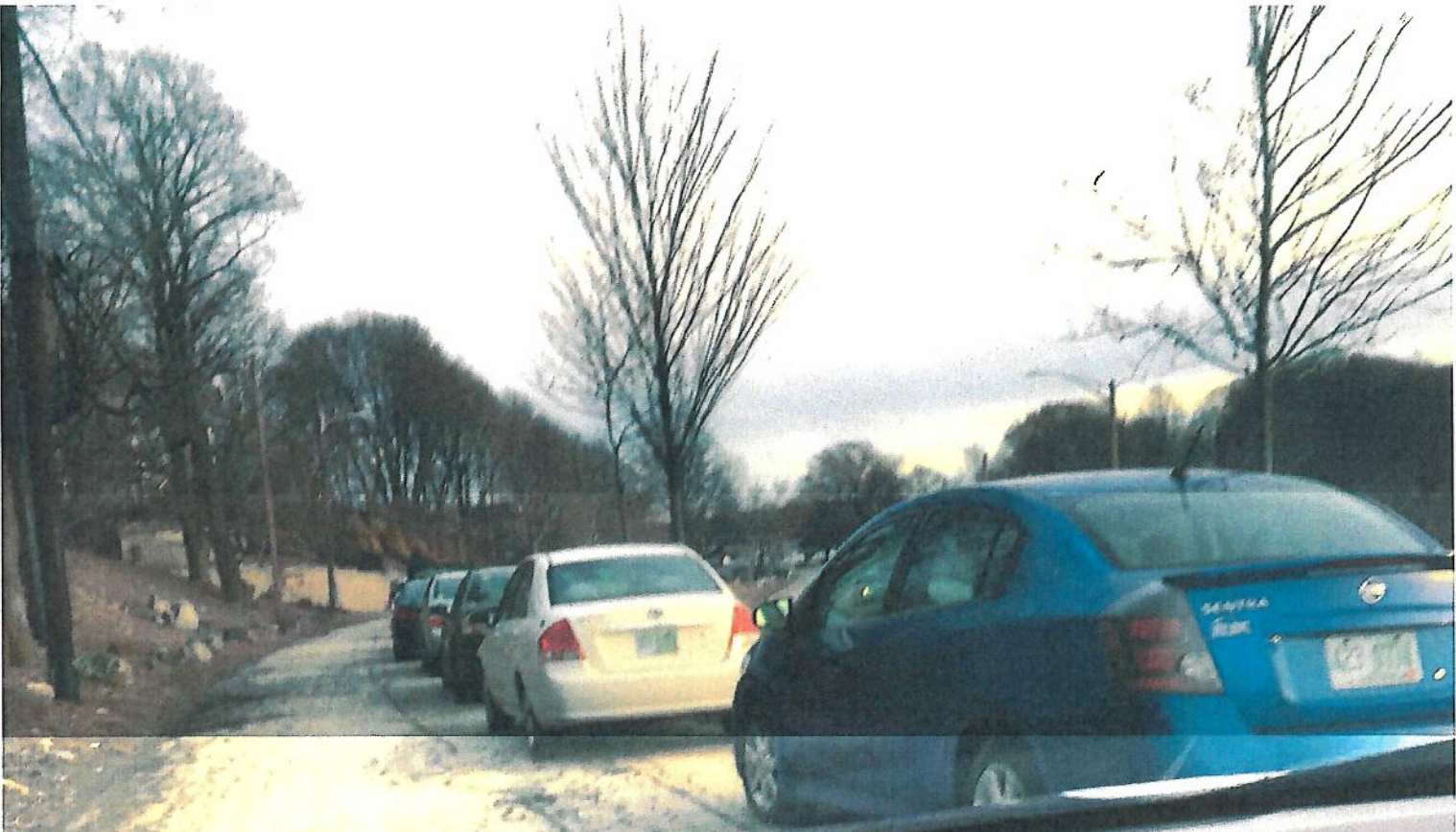
Thank you in advance.

Vera Copeland

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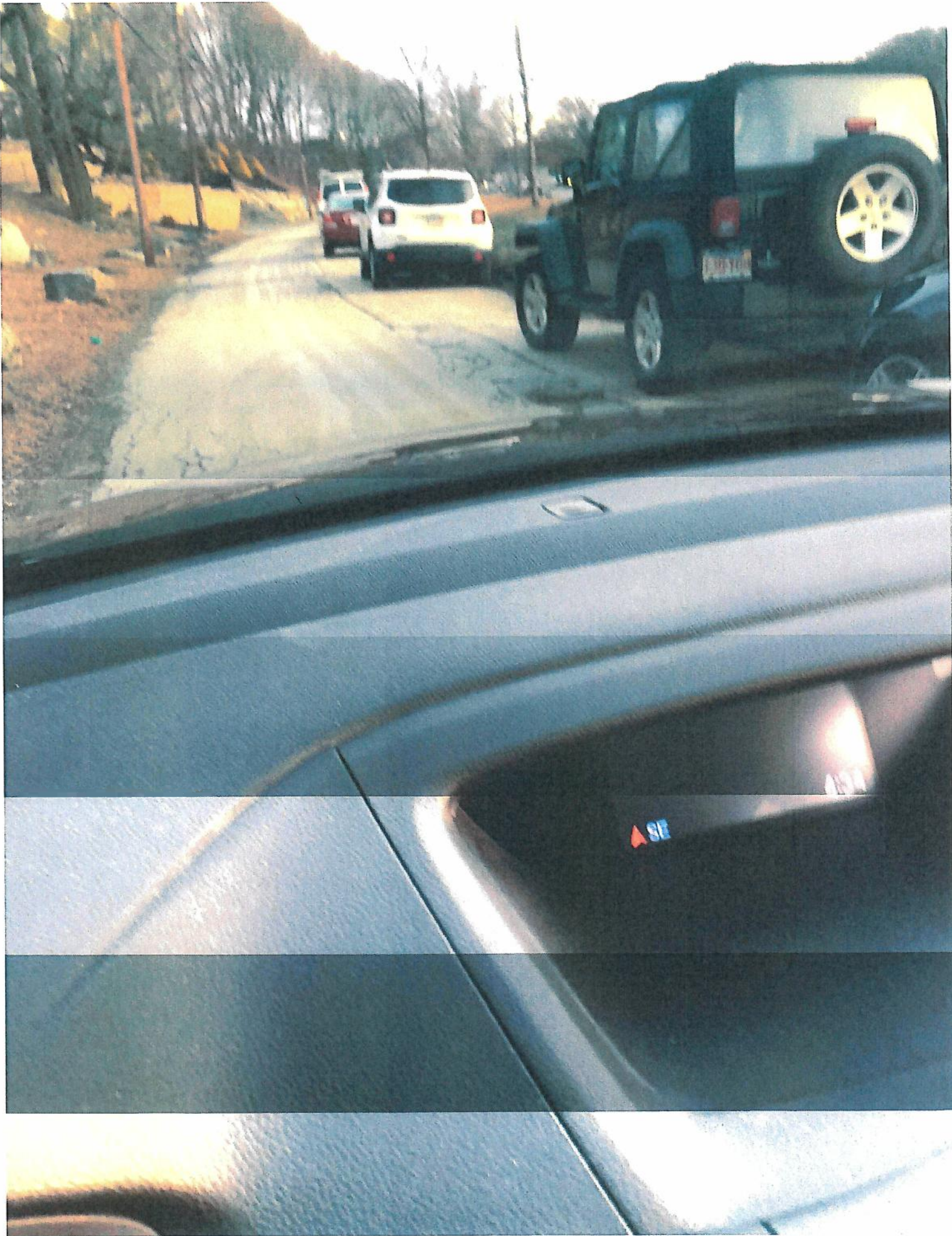




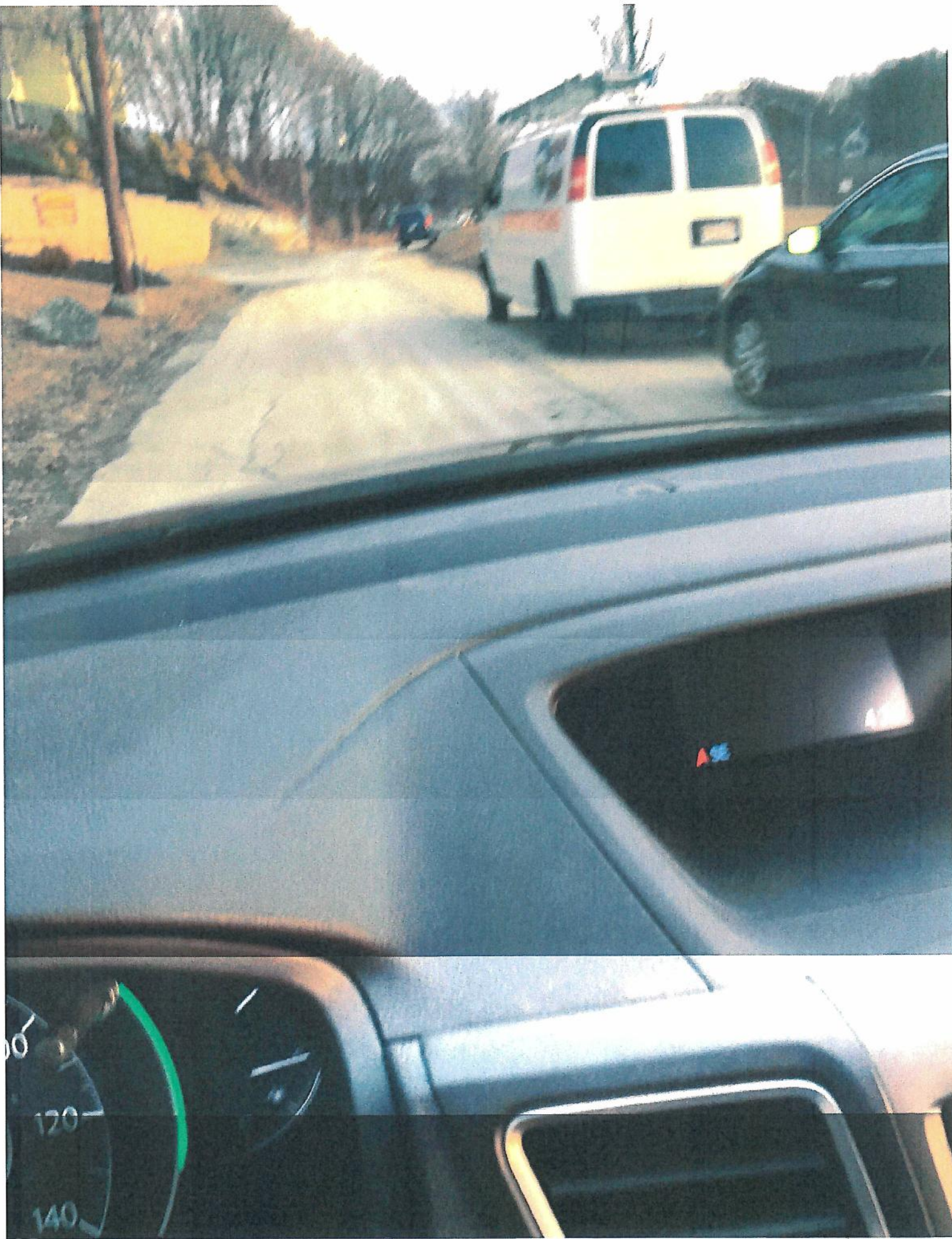














<https://www.marlborough-ma.gov/traffic-commission>

For dealing with the parking problem on Lakeside Ave.

Steven W. Kerrigan  
City Clerk  
(508) 460-3775

Alice Wertheimer  
45 LAKESIDE AVE,  
APT 1  
Marlborough MA  
01752

THE PROBLEM:

Dangerous driving and pedestrian walking conditions caused by a sudden big increase in cars parked by the berm on Lakeside Avenue, making this street essentially into a single narrow lane where the cars are parked with terrible visibility. The street is in poor repair, but two cars could see and pass with safety at low speed.

In addition to danger to person and property, the berm is being torn up by the wheels. This is public property but the visual degradation is less important than the potential accidents waiting to happen.

DESIRED ACTION:

An immediate sign and enforcement of no parking on that side of the street. This should be done before the winter weather sets in.

It seems that the main problem is that The Fix is using this area for their valet parking. That is a rumor, but I wonder if they have permission for using this area or if they need it.

IF the problem is due to The Fix using this area for valet parking, have them cease. Park elsewhere on a legal street area or an agreed on private property. There are many cars, as in 10 to 20, and I believe they are also using the Real Estate parking lot. They may have permission for that though.

ACTION TAKEN SO FAR:

Several of the people I know at our condos have called to complain, with no effect. The police say they only enforce the law. Well, what is the law or regulation for that area?

I have called my councillor (Robert Tunnera) who might have spoken to someone. I also spoke with someone at the DPW, who said she'd pass on my concerns but to address my councillor.

THIS CAN'T REALLY WAIT!!!

It could be that there is already a no-parking ordinance but the sign has disappeared.

I don't think this can wait until the next Traffic Commission meeting for these reasons:

- Dangerous because parked cars block view of both pedestrians and on-coming cars.
- Especially bad at night.

- Lack of sidewalks makes Lakeside Avenue the only way to get from West Main by foot toward 495 and beyond. There was supposed to be a sidewalk, but it was never built.
- This street is used by a lot of dog walkers and people who walk to work at the Apex Center and the Hannaford Plaza, etc. It is especially busy in the better weather.
- With bad weather, the restriction of space is an accident waiting to happen. One skid would do it as there is no maneuvering room.
- There is an uptick in truck traffic because of Amazon and UPS etc. And there are sometimes service vehicles and moving vans. So, any restricted access is, I think, unacceptable.
- I am not sure that the restriction caused by cars and trucks parked by the berm won't impede emergency vehicles and larger trucks.
- Business filing for The Fix -- does it include valet parking? If so, where was approved for their actual parking? If not -- suggest telling them to stop or find a private parking space (for example, the defunct gas station comes to mind. Or an arrangement with some local businesses after hours. Not really satisfactory -- thinking of summer and increased traffic.

#### INFORMATION THAT HAS BEARING ON THIS PROBLEM:

- Does anyone check the rated occupancy? I haven't been there, but the number of cars far exceeds the Allora. That might not mean anything though.
- About the street -- it is a two-way street? No center line. The "berm" (don't ask me) is a poorly constructed dumped earth and the parking is wrecking the edges. People use this for walking dogs and people.
- Parking is not allowed on the side away from the lake, and that is obeyed.
- I believe we had this problem before the old berm was destroyed and there was no parking on either side. A new sign never went up, but until the Fix,, no one has been parking there.
- There was supposed to be a sidewalk that was never constructed in the boondoggie, and so people who walk are forced to share with vehicles. The increase in traffic is making this dangerous, especially at night with reduced visibility.



## Karen Lambert

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**From:** Christian Dumais  
**Sent:** Monday, February 10, 2020 11:09 AM  
**To:** David Giorgi  
**Subject:** Fwd: Brigham Street Concerns

Hello Chief,

I know this is a lengthy email.  
Can we add Brigham street concerns to the traffic agenda for February?

--

Christian Dumais  
Ward 3 City Councilor  
Marlborough

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Michael Kerick  
**Date:** January 25, 2020 at 5:22:28 PM EST  
**To:** Christian Dumais  
**Subject:** Re: Brigham Street Concerns

Hi Councilor Dumais,

Thank you very much for your reply and for taking the time to address each of my ideas below. Since I first wrote you regarding this situation, I have received some additional insight on the Commercial Vehicle Exclusion from Traffic Engineering via the Marlborough SeeClick Fix website.

I asked why commercial trucks over 2.5 tons are banned from Farm and Framingham roads, but not Brigham Street. Please see the discussion below. Please note that "X" is my SeeClickFix user name.

Marlborough Traffic Engineering and MassDOT are focused on two "requirements":

1. Commercial vehicle volume *should* (note that the word "must" was not used) be between 5% and 8% of total traffic volume.
2. The identified alternative route through Marlborough is a "bit circuitous".

My responses to the these two issues are:

1. Twelve years ago truck volume was only 1% below the requirement for an exclusion. Marlborough and MetroWest traffic have increased significantly since then. Can the Engineering Division revisit this and get a current truck traffic volume on Brigham Street?



2. If large commercial vehicles are such a low percentage of total traffic volume, then the alternative route would slightly inconvenience only a small percentage of the drivers.

More importantly, neither Marlborough Traffic Engineering nor MassDOT have considered the unique layout of Brigham Street and the close proximity of the houses to the street. There are several choke points along Brigham Street where it is impossible for tractor-trailers or large box trucks to pass oncoming traffic without one side having to come to a complete stop and move to the extreme edge of the road. Further exacerbating the situation is the fact there are no sidewalks along Brigham Street and many of us in the neighborhood use the road surface for walking, jogging and cycling.

When one compares Brigham Street to Farm Road and considers the width of the two road surfaces, the presence/absence of sidewalks, and the proximity of houses to each road, it makes no sense that Brigham Street does not have Commercial Vehicle Exclusion. Tractor-trailers and large box trucks simply do not belong on Brigham Street.

Thanks again for your time, consideration and representation on these issues. I hope we can make some progress.

Mike Kerick  
9 Larose Drive

- 
- Public Works Dispatch assigned this issue to Engineering - Traffic

11/08/2019 · Flag



**CLOSED** Engineering - Traffic (Verified Official)

The intent of the Commercial Vehicle Exclusion is not to have Framingham Road and Farm Road used a "cut through" for truck traffic to and from Route 85 and Route 20.

Commercial Truck Exclusions must be approved by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT). An original request for a Commercial Vehicle Exclusion of Framingham Road and Farm Road, in October of 1978 was denied. On August 20, 1980 a second request (per Marlborough City Council Order 20960) was submitted to MassDOT. In a letter from Floyd Russel - Police Chief and Paul Sharon - DPW Commissioner to MassDOT, it stated in part that " Farm Road is a narrow, winding, thickly settled road which joins Route 85 and Route 20. An elementary school is located on this road. The heavy traffic is detrimental to the safety and also the peacefulness of this residential area." MassDOT approved the Commercial Truck Exclusion on February 10, 1981. The 1981 Alternate Route for Commercial Vehicles would be "by way of Maple Street, East Main Street and Boston Post Road". The current Alternate Route would be by way of Maple Street, South Bolton Street, Granger Boulevard, East Main Street and Boston Post Road - East.

11/08/2019 · Flag





**REOPENED X (Registered User)**

Thank you for your quick response. My follow up question is: Why is there not a Commercial Vehicle Exclusion on Brigham Street?

With the exception of the elementary school, the same exact situation exists on Brigham Street: Brigham Street is a narrow, winding, thickly settled road which joins Route 85 and points west of downtown Marlborough. The heavy traffic is detrimental to the safety and also the peacefulness of this residential area.

Farm Road has two full-width lanes and sidewalks. Brigham Street is much narrower without sidewalks. If commercial trucks are excluded from Farm Road, it makes sense that they should be excluded from Brigham Street as well.

Large commercial trucks rumble down Brigham Street on a daily basis. Can a request be made to MassDOT for a Commercial Vehicle Exclusion on Brigham Street please?

11/08/2019 · Flag



**CLOSED Engineering - Traffic (Verified Official)**

In order for MassDOT to grant a Commercial Vehicle Truck Exclusion the commercial vehicle volume for the road should have a range between 5% - 8% and the Alternate Route would have to be approved by MassDOT. In 2002, at the request of the Marlborough Traffic Commission, the DPW contacted MassDOT about having a Commercial Truck Exclusion on Brigham Street. The commercial vehicle percentage of traffic volume was around 2%, and the alternate routes either was through Southborough, which required their permission (that they would not give) or was over Maple Street, South Street, West Main Street, Lakeside Avenue, Williams Street, Clover Hill Street to Brigham Street, which is a bit circuitous. MassDOT stated that Brigham Street was not a good candidate for a Commercial Vehicle Exclusion.

In 2007, the Marlborough Traffic Commission had the DPW - Engineering Division research the possibility of Brigham Street meeting the warrants for requesting a Commercial Vehicle Exclusion. The truck volume was below the minimum required (at 4%) and the Alternate Route could not be shortened, so that was still unacceptable.

11/08/2019 · Flag



**REOPENED X (Registered User)**

Thanks for your detailed reply. Twelve years ago truck volume was only 1% below the requirement for an exclusion. Marlborough and MetroWest traffic have increased significantly since then. Can the Engineering Division revisit this and get a current truck traffic volume on Brigham Street?





**ACKNOWLEDGED Engineering - Traffic (Verified Official)**

I am happy to offer any explanations on traffic related matters, but any traffic related requests have to be made through the Marlborough Traffic Commission. The Traffic Commission meets on the last Wednesday of each month - Contact Police Chief, David Giorgi to have your request put on the agenda and your request reviewed.

On Jan 25, 2020, at 3:37 PM, Christian Dumais

wrote:

Hello Mr. Kerick,

The delay is due to the traffic commission meets once a month and I could not make the November meeting due to a work conflict and they did not meet in December. I should have communicated that to you and I apologize.

Please see my response in red.

Thank you!

--  
Christian Dumais  
Ward 3 City Councilor

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**From:** Michael Kerick  
**Sent:** Friday, January 24, 2020 11:08 AM  
**To:** Christian Dumais  
**Subject:** Re: Brigham Street Concerns

Hi Councilor Dumais,

Did you receive the e-mail below?

Mike

On Nov 8, 2019, at 10:45 AM, Michael Kerick  
wrote:

Hello Councilor Dumais,

Thank you for your letter. I would like to be added to your Ward 3 mailing list.

I do have an issue that I hope you as Ward 3 Councilor can help to resolve. Traffic along Brigham Street is a big problem for us residents who live in the neighborhood. Brigham Street is heavily used as a commuter connector between Maple Street and points West of downtown Marlborough. Every single day I witness speeding, tailgating and reckless driving. The street is also regularly used as a shortcut by large trucks.

Brigham Street was originally laid out back in the 1600s. As such it is a winding road that is very narrow in some spots. Also, there are no sidewalks along the street, so residents must walk on the road surface. Because of these factors, the reckless driving and large trucks create a dangerous situation for both motorists and pedestrians.

I have voiced my concerns to the Police and Traffic Departments. The police do conduct a speed monitoring and enforcement activity twice a year on Brigham Street. While I do appreciate their efforts, it is not enough. Something more needs to be done proactively before there is a serious accident.

Some ideas:

1. Close Brigham Street permanently near where the power lines cross just east of Jericho Hill. Install a remote controlled gate so that emergency vehicles, school buses and other authorized vehicles can pass through. This will completely eliminate the problem.

A gate being installed was brought up in a new development area for a road that was only for emergency vehicles and that was not approved due to a liability if the gate malfunction. This malfunction could / would cause more of a delay when time is off the essence.

2. Install speed humps at various key locations along Brigham Street. Speed humps are used very effectively in other communities.

You are correct speed bumps can be effective however from going to traffic commission meetings there is a lot of hesitation with speed bumps. Once one neighborhood gets them installed then everyone neighborhood will want



them. I know a standard based on need is being looking at by the DPW Commissioner. Also, in other communities speed bumps are installed and they often times removed because they neighbors who deal with them day in and day out get annoyed with them and then wanting them removed.

3. Install permanent electronic flashing speed monitoring signs at key locations. These signs are used effectively on Farm Road, Bigelow Street and West Hill Road in Marlborough.

I will bring this up during the traffic commission meeting.

4. Ban large trucks from Brigham Street (except for those making local deliveries). Commercial trucks over 2.5 tons are prohibited from using Farm and Framingham Roads, but not from Brigham Street. Farm and Framingham Roads have two full width lanes and sidewalks, while Brigham Street is much narrower and has no sidewalks. If large trucks are prohibited from using Farm and Framingham Roads, they should also be prohibited from using Brigham Street.

I will look into this as well with the traffic commission as to what are the qualifications to exclude these vehicles.

Again, I sincerely hope we can do something proactively here, and not wait to react only after something bad has happened. It's only a matter of time.

Thanks for your time and consideration,

Mike Kerick  
9 Larose Drive

**Karen Lambert**

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**From:** EJ Kropp  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 29, 2020 1:16 PM  
**To:** Police Dept  
**Subject:** Note to Traffic Commission  
**Attachments:** Letter to Police Chief David Giorgi.docx; Attachment A.png; Attachment B.pdf

Good day,

I have attached a letter along with two supporting documents for Police Chief David Giorgi in reference to a signage request for the City of Marlborough.

Thank you in advance for your time,

--

- EJ Kropp



Police Chief David Giorgi  
Chair, Traffic Commission  
Marlborough Massachusetts

Chief Giorgi,

I am writing to submit to you a request to add a "No Right on Red" sign at the intersection of Farm Road, Boston Post Road and Mustang Ave. (see attachment A for a map showing this intersection)

There is already a red light at this intersection as well as a crosswalk. I feel that this should be enough to prevent people from driving through the light as if it were a right hand turn. However, in the past two days, I have had two different drivers honking angrily at me for not going through this light.

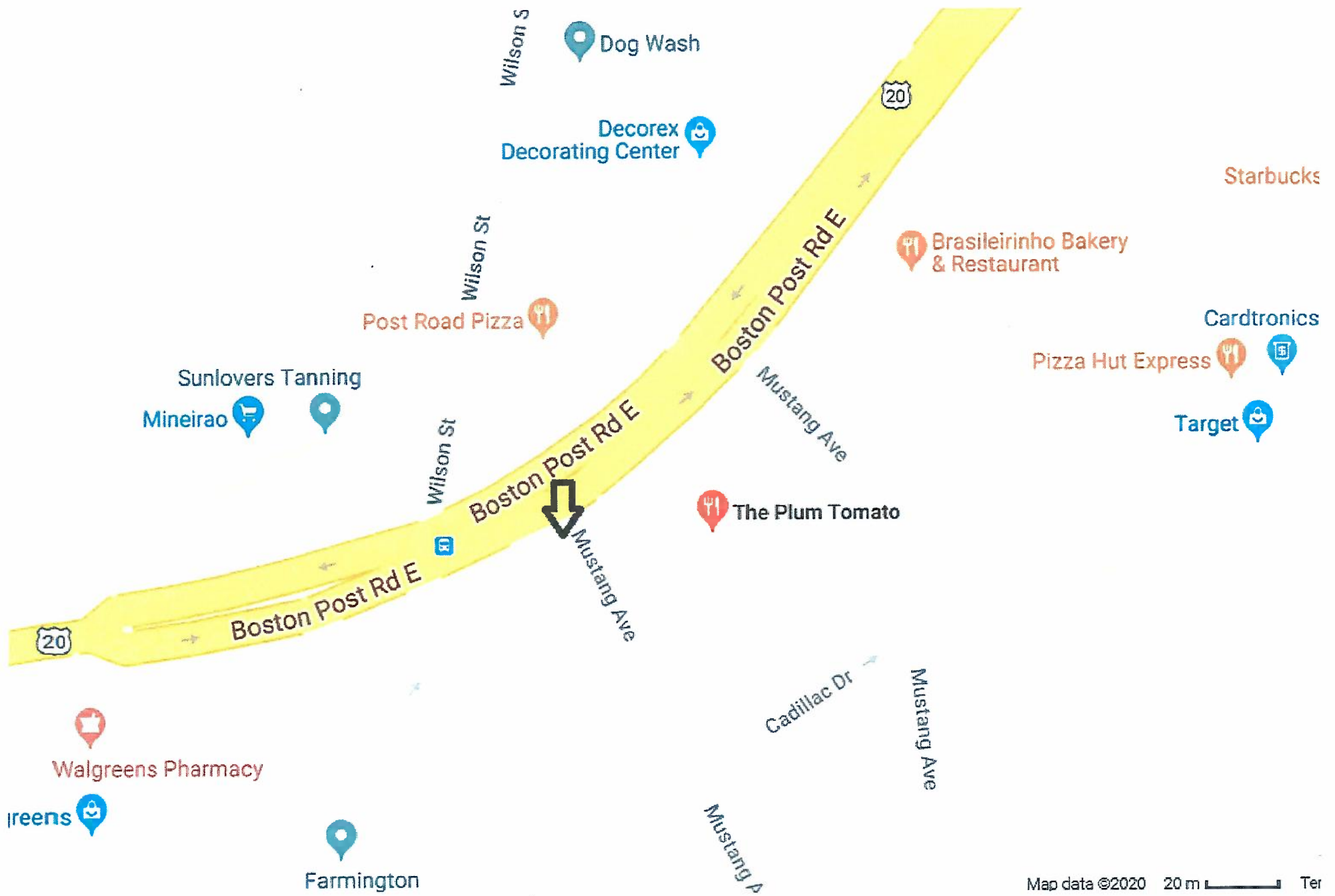
This morning on a Facebook group for residents of the city of Marlborough, I posted about my frustration with this intersection. In short order, it has become obvious that the legality involved in whether or not this intersection is a legal turn is ambiguous. I have attached the transcript of that post (Attachment B) so you can see that residents are, in many ways, confused. Is this a right on red situation? Do I stop at this light and wait for it to turn green? There are people who are passionately debating which interpretation they are choosing. This becomes a problem when it comes to safety.

I do not personally need a sign there to tell me that this is not a legal right hand turn but it appears as many people do. In the interest of public safety (and lets be honest, some people need to be protected from themselves,) I feel that we really need a sign there to prevent traffic accidents. This intersection is merely blocks away from where a UPS driver was hit and killed last year. Anyone who drives Boston Post Road on a daily basis can attest to how dangerous the road is. Not to mention, anyone who lives on Farm Road (as I do,) has a firsthand knowledge of how lead-footed people drive coming off of Farm Road and onto Boston Post Road.

Please feel free to contact me at the below number

Thank you for your time,

EJ Kropp  
740 Farm Rd. #202  
Marlborough, MA 01752





Residents of Marlborough, MA



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## Shortcuts

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Autism Moms of M... 20+  
Needham Yard Sale 20+  
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Write Post Photo/Video Live Video More



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Photo/Video Watch Party Tag Friends

## FROM NOTIFICATIONS



EJ Kropp

1 hr

Two days in a row at the intersection of Farm Rd/Boston Post Road heading east (by Plum Tomato), I have been honked at because the person behind me wanted to blow through the red light there. It's a red light, confirmed by Marlborough PD this morning that it is considered driving straight, not a right turn on red. I even motioned to the driver today that the light is red and they flailed their arms at me like I was doing something wrong. Is waiting another 30 seconds at a red light something to get worked up over?

24

61 Comments

Like

Comment



Andrew Miller It's frustrating that people don't understand that light

Like · Reply · 1h

4



Laura Bachofner They do that to me in my bus, ignore them.

Like · Reply · 1h

2



EJ Kropp That's even worse that they want a bus to run a red light!

Like · Reply · 1h



Laura Bachofner EJ Kropp this has elderly in it!

Like · Reply · 1h

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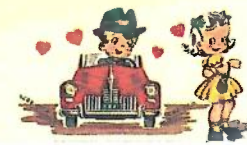
Christine Dezotell There should be a sign there so people understand the simple concept of a red light.

Like · Reply · 1h

6



Michael McGuire Some people are the worst.



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**Damon Michaels** Sign, it's still a right turn. The angle of turning doesn't make it a right. The light and name change of the road make it a right. If you received a citation you'd go to court armed with the law in hand, and it would be dismissed. Done it once (not there, but a similar setup), would do it again.

I don't bother honking, I just figure the person is being cautious and take it in stride.

Like · Reply · 1h



**Robin Grillo Whitman** It's not a right turn. My wheel is going straight when I pull up to that light. Now, if I curved to the left and then there was a right turn that would be different. This is a straight shot. If you won the court case, I would chalk that up to luck, not legality.

Like · Reply · 1h



**Damon Michaels** Nope, brought the law in, plus GIS data. Not luck. The angle of your turn doesn't come to bear here. Take for example a road that has no red light, no stop sign, but the road ends at the exact same angle. By law you must stop, look, and proceed with due caution. The key here is the angle doesn't matter.

Like · Reply · 1h



**Damon Michaels** I'd like to point out I've worked on street navigation software. The angle problem for determining a left/right direction is only one factor in determining the spline, other data comes into play such as a light, stop sign, or name change. In this case ... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 1h



**Robin Grillo Whitman** **Damon Michaels** My old Tom-Tom would say to continue onto... It didn't say straight or turn but to me continue onto denotes going straight. So, by definition, going straight does not a right turn make!!! So perhaps a sign that says THIS IS NOT A TURN, YOU CANNOT CONTINUE AFTER STOP ON RED would be appropriate.

Like · Reply · 1h



**Damon Michaels** Continue onto sometimes means straight, other times it does not. It's one of the middle selections when we're not sure of the appropriate course of action. Each algorithm is based on the same spline algorithm for navigation, and each manufacturer tweak... [See More](#)

Like · Reply · 1h



**Damon Michaels** For all the legal scholars on here... here is a link to right on red.

<https://malegislature.gov/.../titlexiv/chapter89/section8...>  
[See More](#)

MALEGISLATURE.GOV

General Laws: CHAPTER 89,  
Section 8

Like · Reply · 14m



Write a reply...



**Jennifer Chloe Rylton** It's so annoying people don't know the rules. I will be sitting there waiting for green light people be behind me honking away. I just wanna get out of my car and yell at them. Last Friday I was there and the car behind me was trying to pass me.

Like · Reply · 1h



**Jim Cronin** I am impressed MPD confirmed this. I have asked 4 different officers and two said yes, two said no. I asked on a pm on FB but they declined to answer!

Like · Reply · 1h · Edited



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sign. it's pretty necessary there.

Like · Reply · 1h

9

**Jim Cronin** EJ Kropp

I just flip off any one that honks, but that's me.

Like · Reply · 1h

2

**Linda Cook** EJ Kropp I'll sign!

Like · Reply · 1h

**Damon Michaels** EJ - Yep, here is a case where a sign would address a real problem. It's just not clear to everyone on the street. I would sign!

Like · Reply · 1h

1



Write a reply...

**Kathleen Desjardin** For the longest time I thought it was, cause all my friends did it growing up, so if I've been at the front, I've done it (I would never honk) but one day I went to do it with my mom in the car and she yelled at me and now I know apologies.

Like · Reply · 1h

**Karen Giardina Mulvey** I don't see it as a right turn. Right turn would be going into Plum Tomato. You merge straight from Farm Rd.

Like · Reply · 1h · Edited

1

**Damon Michaels** Mustang ave.

Like · Reply · 1h

**Damon Michaels** Karen - It's a Horseshoe that goes before and after according to my GIS data (you can check google maps and it reflects the same, as it should, we all get from same data sources).

Like · Reply · 44m

**Karen Giardina Mulvey** Damon Michaels gottcha Mustang Ave is the right into Plum Tomato.

Like · Reply · 31m



Write a reply...

**Alan Cheney** Its not a right turn.

Like · Reply · 1h

1

**Bill Austin** Yes it is

Like · Reply · 1h

**Alan Cheney** Bill Austin nope

Like · Reply · 1h

View 5 more replies

**Dan Murphy** I know exactly what you're talking about it's not a right on red

Like · Reply · 1h

1

**Laura Rinaldi** They should put up a sign "no right on red" so people can be on the same page

Like · Reply · 1h

3

**Damon Michaels** Exactly. Then everyone would know.

Like · Reply · 1h

**Laura Rinaldi** I have definitely taking that turn when safe to do so during a red

Like · Reply · 1h



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can see as far straight back as the airport!

Like · Reply · 1h

2



**Paul D. Doucette** Next we take on people pulling out of the business behind Target and the trialer park you don't cross yellow lines!

Like · Reply · 1h



**Nick Schiappa** I always wondered what the actual law on that light was

Like · Reply · 1h



**Kevin McPherson** I've been through there hundreds of times. Any stop with two lights posted isn't something I would blow through. But by all means, drivers—continue to have an aneurysm and gesticulate while waiting for the traffic to stop that would sideswipe you should we choose to use your advice.

Like · Reply · 1h

2



**Tara McGrath** Kevin McPherson Love it.

Like · Reply · 1h

1



**Leslie Phelps** That has happened to me too. Its so annoying. For crying out loud I'm not running a red light to satisfy the person behind thats in a rush!!!

Like · Reply · 1h



**Tara McGrath** I don't think people will ever agree on whether it's a right turn. I say no because I spoke to a cop who said as much. So you guys can go through the light if you want but I've seen people almost get creamed because they don't look all the way back to the traffic coming at them.

Like · Reply · 1h



**Rachel Linda** Yea, no. I wouldnt consider that right on red. I'd consider it more of two roads merging but even then, theres no merge sign. So I'd follow the rules of the lights.

Like · Reply · 1h

1



**Tyler Silva** I look at it as a right turn regardless of what MPD says, however you are not required to go right on red (and if you honk at me will take me a while to see it turned green as well).

Like · Reply · 1h · Edited

2



**Damon Michaels** I won't honk. I will sit there patiently waiting my turn to proceed. It's too confusing there.

Like · Reply · 1h

2



**Kevin McPherson** Mass has always been like the Wild West. I've had people lose their \*\*\*\* when they change lanes wildly on Rte 2, and I dared blink my lights letting them know I was there and didn't appreciate it. I've seen people go ballistic when I honked my horn af... See More

Like · Reply · 1h

1



**Tim Maple** Theres aggressive bastards everywhere

Like · Reply · 58m

1



**Brianna Neilsen** I get that a lot too. Is there a mechanism to ask MPD or the city to put a sign up, since there seems to be a lot of confusion?

I was honestly confused about it when I moved here, it's not that clear.

Like · Reply · 48m



**Sue Gaudette** Let them honk thrre horn i live right near there an no you cant go through the red light

Like · Reply · 47m



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Like · Reply · 41m



**Jim Ash** Pretty obvious that you are turning from Farm onto Route 20 and that requires a right turn, no matter how you slice it. Just because you have made half of that turn before the light does not change the fact, you are turning right. Alas, what is obvious to me is not obvious to another. Therefore, by definition, it cannot be obvious, I guess.

Like · Reply · 38m



**Bill Gerow** I had a guy blow by and pass me on the left there. Idiots!!!

Like · Reply · 32m



**Melissa Cannistraro** I was actually heading to Home Depot yesterday and I had stopped at the red light. I sat there and wondered if I should proceed as if it was a right on red (I waited for the green light), so thank you for clarifying this for me.

Like · Reply · 19m



**Rob Santone** I think it's been a little ambiguous as it feels like a right-on-red but I know when I turn into Plum tomato or Up To Me, someone coming out of there could t-bone me.

Like · Reply · 7m



**Damon Michaels** Needs "no right on red" sign there to clarify it, see my links to the law.

Like · Reply · 1m



Write a reply...



**Noel Ketchi** I don't understand why people believe this to be a right turn. If anything, the turn is for those that are heading up Wilson St, or wanting to head West on 20. Farm Rd. to Rt 20E is a straight "merge" (when the light is green). Otherwise you stop at the red light and only proceed upon the light turning green. The only right turn at that light actually occurs roughly 10 feet beyond the light into the plaza that Plum Tomato is in, therefore that is not a right on red either. Again, there is no turn from Farm Rd onto 20E. Your driving straight forward....

Like · Reply · 2m



**Mylissa Tellier** I work at the plum. I cant tell you how many times i almost get hit from someone running the red light

Like · Reply · 1m



Write a reply...



Write a comment...

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**Damon Michaels** shared a photo.

3 hrs

Recently there were some pictures/video of a Beaver or maybe this guy on Fort Meadow Reservoir. Here is a picture of a river otter on Fort Meadow. So maybe we have Beaver and River Otter there.



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**Karen Lambert**

---

**From:** Pamela Wilderman  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 4, 2020 11:57 AM  
**To:** David Giorgi  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Traffic Commission Request

Good morning Chief. I received a call from Christina at the Vin Bin asking a question regarding the limited parking downtown. They were wondering if one or two (at most) of the parking spaces at the lot next to the Vin Bin could have a notice that it is limited parking for pick up at the Vin Bin similar to signs for Starbucks and Crown Chicken.

With the parking nightmare now taking place downtown they are experiencing problems with individuals not being able to find anywhere to park to pick up orders and it definitely affects the business.

I told Christina that I would refer the matter to the commission for review and response.

Thank you.

Pamela A. Wilderman  
Code Enforcement Officer  
City of Marlborough  
140 Main Street  
Marlborough, MA 01752  
508 460-3776 X30201  
pwilderman@marlborough-ma.gov