



Public Safety & Transportation Committee Agenda

City of Newton **In City Council**

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

7:00 PM
Room 205

Items Scheduled for Discussion:

Referred to Public Safety & Transportation and Finance Committees

- #420-19** **Transfer \$1,900,000 and \$600,000 for the retroactive pay of Newton Police**
HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to transfer the sum of one million and nine hundred thousand (\$1,900,000) from Prior Year Carry Forward for Wage Reserve and six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) from Current Year Wage Reserve to pay for the retroactive salaries and stipends due to the members of Newton Police Superior Officers' for the period covering July 1, 2014 through FY2020.
- #330-19** **Request for a discussion regarding the Commuter Rail Communities Coalition**
COUNCILORS NORTON, AUCHINCLOSS AND CICCONE, requesting a discussion regarding the Commuter Rail Communities Coalition and the City of Newton's participation goals.
- #489-18** **Traffic study and discussion of Angier School parking and traffic**
COUNCILORS DOWNS, CROSSLEY & RICE requesting a traffic study and discussion of parking and traffic at the arrival and dismissal times at the Angier Elementary School.

All other items before the Committee will be held without discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

Allan Ciccone, Jr. Chair

The location of this meeting is accessible and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities who require assistance. If you need a reasonable accommodation, please contact the city of Newton's ADA Coordinator, Jini Fairley, at least two business days in advance of the meeting: jfairley@newtonma.gov or (617) 796-1253. The city's TTY/TDD direct line is: 617-796-1089. For the Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS), please dial 711.



RUTHANNE FULLER
MAYOR

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Honorable City Council
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459

Councilors:

I respectfully submit a docket item to your Honorable Council requesting authorization to transfer the sum of \$1,900,000 from Acct # 0110498-R519700 Prior Year Carry Forward for Wage Reserve and \$600,000 from 0110498-519700 from Current Year Wage Reserve to pay for the retroactive salaries and stipends due to the members of Newton Police Superior Officers' for the period covering July 1, 2014 through FY2020.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ruthanne Fuller".

Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

November 12, 2019

RECEIVED
CITY OF NEWTON
2019 NOV 12 PM 3:20
DAVID A. OLSON, CHC
NEWTON, MA 02459

City of Newton



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Transportation Division

110 Crafts Street
Newton, MA 02460

Ruthanne Fuller

Mayor

From: Isaac Prizant
Jason S. Sobel, P.E., PTOE

Subject: Angier School Traffic Circulation Evaluation

Date: November 14, 2019

The City of Newton DPW Transportation Division has completed morning school arrival observations at the Angier School on Beacon Street. The focus of the traffic observations was centered at the intersection of Beacon Street, Manitoba Road and Angier School driveway. The initial concerns were raised about congestion and traffic signal timing at the Beacon Street / Manitoba Road intersection during the discussion of a No Turn on Red restriction for the Manitoba Road and Angier School driveway approaches to Beacon Street.

Observations were done on the following mornings and weather conditions:

- Friday October 12, 2018 - clear and cool temperatures
- Tuesday March 26, 2019 - Sunny, moderate temperatures
- Wednesday April 3, 2019 - Cloudy, light rain, cold temperatures

As part of the Angier School project, a new signal installation at the intersection of Beacon Street, Manitoba Road and Angier School driveway. While Beacon Street is the primary carries significantly more traffic than Manitoba Road, DPW Transportation Division received complaints from residents of Manitoba Road regarding the signal timing at the intersection with Beacon Street. The initial observations found that only two to three vehicles from Manitoba Road could turn onto Beacon Street each traffic signal cycle.

As a result of those initial observations, DPW Transportation increased the green time allocated to Manitoba Road from 6 seconds per cycle to 9 seconds per cycle. With the longer green times for Manitoba Road in plans, the subsequent observations indicated that four to five vehicles from Manitoba Road could turn onto Beacon Street each traffic signal cycle. The morning observations between 8:00 – 8:30 AM noted typical queues on Manitoba Road reaching 2-3 vehicles, with a maximum observed queue of 6 vehicles at 8:20 AM on April 3, 2019. Typical queues, as well as a max queue observed of 5 vehicles on March 26, 2019, would clear in one cycle. A max queue of 6 vehicles observed on April 3, 2019, did not clear in one cycle, but the remaining vehicles cleared on the next signal cycle.

Generally, traffic circulation through the Beacon Street corridor abutting the Angier School operated well. Traffic flow would transition from free flowing to heavier flow at 8:10 AM and remain heavy until 8:30 AM. In all observed times, many parents and children walked to school, with little noticeable difference on the light rainy day. Pedestrians would actuate an exclusive pedestrian phase nearly every cycle during the morning school rush, causing increased but reasonable congestion along Beacon Street. Beacon Street eastbound vehicle queues from the intersection with Waban Avenue would occasionally reach the school exit driveway, but generally did not block the intersection with Manitoba Road.

In conclusion, the current revised signal timings allow for manageable vehicle queues and circulation during peak periods of school arrival. The Transportation Division does not recommend any further signal timing adjustments at this time.