



TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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

To: Board of Selectmen, Arlington, Mass

From: Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC)

Subject: Crosswalk at Mass Ave/Water St/Spengler Way

Date: 9 January 2012

Request for Extension of 6 Month Trial at Water/Mass/Spengler

The “Right Turn Only” trial at the Water and Spengler intersections with Mass Ave was launched as planned on July 15th 2011. The APD electronic sign was placed across the street from Water initially to increase driver awareness of the change. After the electronic sign was moved for other purposes, we found that the installed signage was not visible enough. The compliance measurements taken in late September showed an improvement (87% making right turns vs. 70% in May), but we believe it should be higher.

Improved signage was designed and installed in mid November, and the trial resumed. To complete the post analysis, two types of measurements are needed. The first is the driver compliance rate – the percent making right turns. The second is the distribution of traffic on alternate routes that drivers use instead of the left turn from Water or Spengler Way. These measurements will be compared to the baseline measurements taken in the spring of 2011. We believe the improved signs should be in place for three or four months before the second set of measurements is taken. In addition, conducting traffic volume counts during the winter is problematic because of snow.

Therefore, we are requesting an extension of the trial period. This will delay our final recommendation to the Board until May 2012 instead of February as originally planned. We hope this is satisfactory.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Starr – Working Group Lead

Jeff Maxtutis and Howard Muise – TAC Co-Chairs

Transportation Advisory Committee Members:

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

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