

From: Dave Jorgenson,
Chairman of the WECA Public Safety Committee.
Date: March 16, 2007

The Public Safety Committee met on Thursday, March 1st for our monthly meeting. The primary issue on the agenda was, of course, traffic calming. We narrowed the master list of concerns down to some primary concerns and secondary concerns. Unfortunately, we cannot address every single issue presented over the past few months and the decisions on the final list of priorities were voted on subsequently at the Board Meeting on the following Tuesday, March 6th. The list is as follows:

PRIMARY:

1. Girard Ave. and Kenyon St. - Speed tables, crosswalks, possible Law School assistance with Girard - law school needs extra on street parking, we need help funding traffic calming devices and hope that we can meet both needs through comprehensive discussion.
2. Warrenton Ave. - Raised intersections, speed tables. Need to stop traffic from excessive speed and running stop signs.
3. Whitney St. at Noah Webster - raised crosswalks, speed tables. Crossing is extremely dangerous to the children and parents of the school.
4. Enforcement - Will be subject to HPD resources.

The Girard and Kenyon improvements must be made simultaneously as one street will completely affect the other regarding traffic flow.

SECONDARY:

1. Terry Rd. - Speed tables.
2. Sisson Ave. - Raised crosswalk at Shepherd Park.

IMMEDIATE:

1. Parking on one side only on Cone Street between North Beacon and Prospect.
2. Signage and painting to indicate No Parking near all intersections.
3. New "No Parking" signs on Sisson Avenue.

The "IMMEDIATE" improvements were selected as such because they will be very low in cost and effort to the city and will provide some immediate relief in those areas.

I urge ANYONE with concerns in these areas to attend our next General Meeting on April 10th, as we will be discussing our concerns with city officials then.

As for other Public Safety issues, the West End has been fairly quiet over the first few months of the year. However, as the temperature warms so does "activity" - Always be aware of your surroundings, keep houses and driveways well lit (motion sensor lights are a great energy saving idea), and keep your doors and windows locked (even when you are home). While our neighborhood is very safe, we still live in a city and "crimes of opportunity" can happen anywhere.

Please join the Public Safety Committee for our next meeting on Thursday, April 5th at 7:00PM in the West End Community Center. You can also email me with any concerns at jorgie54@comcast.net.

David Jorgensen, Chairman WECA Public Safety Committee