

## WVNA Quarterly Meeting

September 28, 2023

7:00 to 8:30 p.m. on Zoom

### **Attendance:**

In addition to neighborhood residents, the following officials were present at this meeting.

- WVNA Board President Eileen Brennan
- WVNA Board Members Alan Wright, Frances Donovan, Kacy Keenahan, Robin Cohen

### **Representatives from other organizations:**

- Dan Merrow, Boston Transportation Department
- Nathaniel Fink, Boston Transportation Department
- Julia Campbell, Deputy Chief of Streets
- Dianna Bronchuk New ONS Coordinator for Roslindale
- Jordan Frias for Councillor Arroyo's office
- Emily Carrara for Rep. Rob Consalvo
- Laurie Radwin of the Roslindale Coalition
- Laurene Schettino, attorney for 34 Cohasset Street
- Mike Keane, owner of 34 Cohasset Street
- Mary Kate Campbell for 4459 Washington Street
- Jeff Drago, attorney for 4459 Washington Street
- Nick Landry, 4459 Washington Street
- Jon Wardrell, owner of 4459 Washington Street

### **Poplar Street Traffic Safety and Proposed Bike Lane**

There was a severe accident right across from Poplar Street Park and speeding was clearly a factor. Safety has been an issue on the corridor btw Roslindale Public Library and the turn at Sacred Heart School. WVNA is happy to learn more about traffic calming efforts by BTM.

- Nathaniel Fink from Boston Transportation Department. Presentation on the contra-flow bike lane proposed for Poplar Street.
- BTM has been doing outreach and office hours since September 2022.
- Looking to bring curb ramps to an accessible state of good repair
- Add more crosswalks – there are currently no crossings btw the Square and Canterbury
- 5 speed humps – not speed bumps. They are gradual, 12-14 feet long, compatible with emergency response.
- Contraflow bike lane – only bicyclists can go two ways. There will be a marked lane with striping
- Has already been
- Raised crosswalks
- Keep it one-way from Washington to Sycamore
- Will add flex posts in front of Roslindale Public Library

- Will move parking to odd side of street
- Keep one accessible spot
- Limiting parking spots to 15 minutes closest to the Square and PS Gourmet
- 29 unrestricted spaces will remain
- At Sycamore, add a stop sign and a double-yellow line where street goes two ways
- Each new crosswalk will require 2-4 parking spaces to be removed for visibility requirements

**Additional information:**

- <https://www.boston.gov/departments/transportation/safer-slower-more-bikable-poplar-street>
- Effort is to make the city more bikeable and safer. Heard a range of feedback both positive and negative
- We are moving forward with this project

Discussion:

- Complaint from one member that the plans have not changed since the walk-through.
- It wasn't until July that there was any information about changes to parking. Member went door to door and no one she spoke to knew that the parking was changing. Complaints that there is not sufficient communication between city and residents. Also concerns about safety from someone who does ride a bike.
- Laurie Radwin echoes concerns about communication and the fact that people who are directly affected haven't been listened to
- Fourth member agrees with other complaints and also mentions that backing out from driveways is going to be very hazardous. Also some people near the Rogers Center (in Roslindale House) need help crossing the street

**Development projects**

*4459 Washington Street –*

- Corner of Washington and Wellsmere
- Have had an abutters' meeting
- Convert to condos. Expand from 3 units to 8 units. Renovate interior, exterior, add a deck in rear. Will remove old garage and lay out seven parking spaces. Abutters were concerned about parking.
- 2 1BR, 6 2BR. All would have deck and patio space
- Neighbor is concerned about going from 3 units to 8 units. It's going to cause a ton of traffic. Way too many cars parking there.
- Wellsmere has a lot of accidents. What can the developers do to make it safer. The way the city is metering Washington Street, more people will be moving

*34 Cohasset Street*

- Renovation of existing 2 unit dwelling

- Unit 1 will have 2 bedrooms
- Unit 2 will have 4 bedrooms
- Enlarging existing dormers

Submitted by Frances Donovan