



Chickering Elementary & Cross Street Sidewalk Proposal



Presented by
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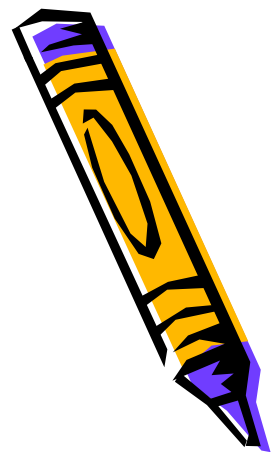
Warrant Article

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to construct a sidewalk on Cross Street from the intersection of Cross Street and Centre Street to the Chickering Elementary School; and a crosswalk at the end point at the existing Centre Street sidewalk.



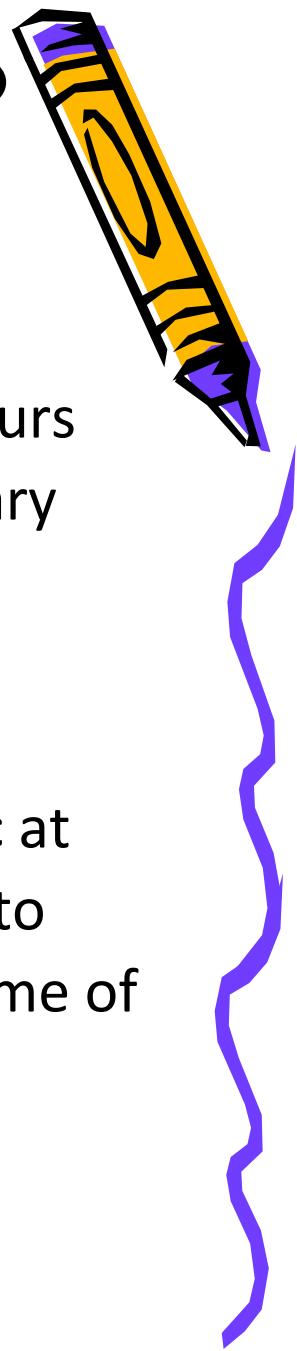
Warrant Article (cont.)

Below are aerial views of the proposed painted crosswalks that are listed in this Warrant Article.



Why do we need a sidewalk?

Safety



- Eliminate existing issues during weekday morning hours when Pedestrians are in the roadway while Elementary staff are arriving for school and busses/parents are dropping off students.
- There has been a dramatic increase in drop off traffic at Chickering Elementary school from September 2020 to present times. This coincides with the earlier start time of 7:50am (and possibly Covid).



Why do we need a sidewalk? (cont.)

Access (safety)

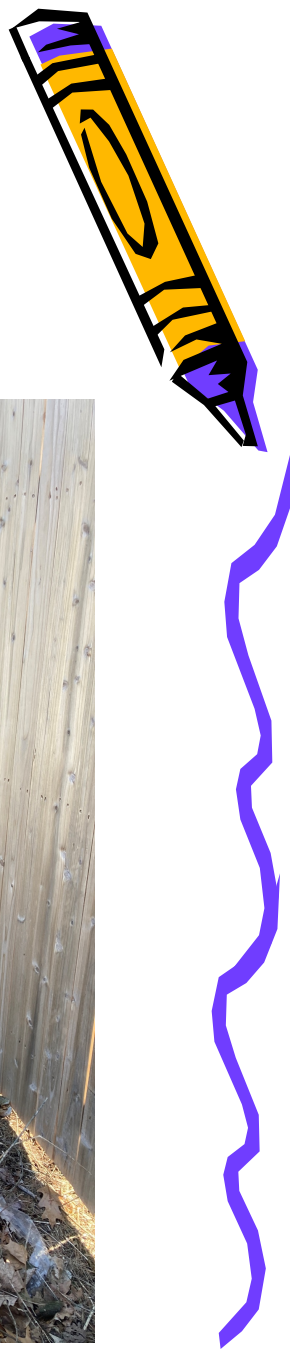
- Provide safe walking to/from the center of town or anything in between for Chickering Elementary students.
- Centre Street pedestrians will have safe walking access to Chickering Fields, Caryl Park, Tennis courts...etc.
- Additional crosswalk at Centre & Cross will provide safe walking for residents who live on the north side of Centre Street who currently only have access to 1 crosswalk at the Dedham and Centre Street intersection.



Design

Should look like existing sidewalks/walkways in Dover

- The anticipated design of this sidewalk is to avoid impact on any existing fences, trees, mailboxes or utility poles.
- For comparison, the Centre Street sidewalk has 12 direct abutters, this sidewalk would have 3 abutters.
- Pictured is the utility pole closest to Centre Street and the abutters fence at the corner of Cross and Centre.



Design (cont.)

- Pictured below is the corner of the fence and the next (2nd) utility pole.



Design (cont.)

- Pictured below is the abutter at 7 Cross and the next (3rd) utility pole.



Design (cont.)

- Pictured below is the abutter at 11 Cross and the next (4th) utility pole.



Design (cont.)

- Pictured below is the approach to Chickering property and the access to the grassed/groomed area. Distance of approx. 700 feet on Cross Street.



Design (cont.)

- For comparison sake of an existing sidewalk, pictured below is a portion of the sidewalk on Centre street. As you can see, the sidewalk goes around a tree and 20 feet onto the property at 34 Centre Street.



Possible Funding

Municipalities have received funds for sidewalk projects for schools from both Federal and State sources.

- US Dept. of Transportation - Safe Routes To School program
- Mass DOT - Shared Streets & Spaces program



FAQ's

- I heard one of the reasons for this sidewalk project is to enable safe travel for Elementary families to access afterschool programs, is this true? Yes, having access to a sidewalk would help facilitate opportunities for children to attend afterschool programs at Precious Beginnings, Most Precious Blood, Town Library, the renovated Caryl Center and other destinations within walking distance.
- Why do pedestrians (especially during morning hours) choose to walk on the western side of Cross Street? Their destination is the Centre Street sidewalk on the south side of Centre Street.
- Why add a sidewalk on a street that's been a Scenic Road since 1910? The proposed design is minimally invasive, also, given the existing aesthetics on Cross Street, it would allow additional opportunities for upkeep.



To Do's

- We are currently waiting on a quote from an engineering firm for Design. Once received we will have a better understanding of design and potentially construction costs.

Questions?

