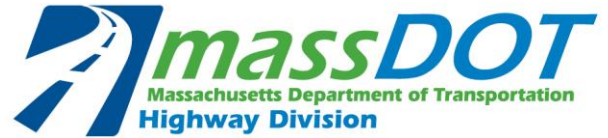




Charles D. Baker, Governor
Karyn E. Polito, Lieutenant Governor
Jamey Tesler, Acting Secretary & CEO
Jonathan L. Gulliver, Highway Administrator



February 25, 2021

Angus Jennings
West Newbury Town Manager
381 Main Street
West Newbury, MA 01985

Dear Mr. Jennings,

Thank you for your letter regarding crosswalk improvements at two locations on Main Street in West Newbury. We have considered your request and offer the following response:

We have recently met with West Newbury DPW Director Wayne Amaral to discuss these locations in greater detail. Both locations are important crossing locations for the two schools in the town of West Newbury and any efforts to improve the crosswalk visibility is desirable.

As noted in your letter, the crosswalk at Pentucket Regional High School has been recently improved with the construction of ADA compliant curb ramps and painted thermoplastic crosswalk markings. The crosswalk at the Page School has a painted thermoplastic crosswalk from the school across Main street to the recreational facility. There is currently no sidewalk or ADA compliant curb ramps at this location.

As part of the discussions, it was suggested that the town should investigate the Massachusetts Department of Transportation's Shared Streets and Spaces Program application process for potential funding for the purchase and installation of the Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB's). The Shared Streets and Spaces program has been initiated to help municipalities address the particular challenges of winter amid the ongoing public health crisis. Pedestrian improvements are considered for that funding.

If the Shared Streets application is not successful, MassDOT will work with the town to explore other avenues to enhance the visibility at these crosswalks including the possibility of installing the RRFB's.

Thank you for contacting us and if you need any more information or would like to discuss this issue further, please contact Frank Suszynski, P.E., Deputy District Highway Director at (857) 368-4011.

Sincerely,

Paul D. Stedman
District 4 Highway Director

PDS/bmf