

Question 1

Jacqueline Fiore, 73 Laconia Street

“There is a traffic light that was put in at Lowell Street and Woburn Street, and also one replaced at Marrett Road and Waltham Street. Both of those are very different looking traffic lights, the one on Woburn Street where I live is very ugly while the one at Marrett Road is pretty. Would be curious if you could post what these actual lights will look like from the street level or crosswalk level. Thank you.”

- *As the town replaces traffic signals, they are installing the “Metropolitan Style” which they adopted in the early 2000s. This style can be seen at the intersection of Mass Ave at Waltham Street and Marrett Road at Spring Street and the Location you mentioned, Marrett at Waltham.*

Question 2

Pete Kovner, 12 Independence Ave

“People are brutal and have become more inconsiderate in my 30 years of being here and they don’t let you in whether you are a car or pedestrian.

1. How safe are you going to make it, and possible for pedestrians to enter roundabouts and get through there?
 - *The roundabout alternative is under consideration and is being reviewed by the town. At this point no decisions regarding roundabouts have been made. Any construction that takes place will conform the latest safety standards. If roundabouts are installed proper signing and pavement markings will be installed alerting drivers to yield to pedestrians. If Signals are installed the pedestrians will have an exclusive protected phase*
2. Are you going to put in a sidewalk between Pelham and Percy so I don’t have to cross Mass Ave and then cross Mass Ave?”
 - *This project’s limits are located 300 feet north of Marrett Road so there is no work proposed between Percy Road and Pelham Road.*

Question 3

Unidentified speaker

“This relates to Marrett Road and the fact that through a long period of time when I was in a home office with a view of the intersection, so literally thousands of hours, the only category of traffic accidents I saw and with great regularity, as I have mentioned before, was as a car was coming down to Mass Ave from Marrett Road, yielding and taking a right and then being hit by the car behind it. That was the one accident that happened over and over. There was just recently referenced to a non-signalized solution with a stop sign that would apparently end that but I just wanted to emphasize again that it is an ongoing situation guaranteed every week so is there something that can be done in the meantime?”

- *The town is evaluating short term measures. Several regulatory and warning signs have been installed in this area. This location is being studied now, but a simple solution is not obvious at this time.*

Question 4

Mark Connor, 16 Highland Avenue

“My question is an aesthetic question. Have any street views been created in terms of prospective or eye level views of these intersections because what I have noticed in my travels through Belmont and Waltham is that a lot of these new intersections that involve signals are really quite ugly other than just the signals themselves and the poles that support them. A lot of signage comes along with them and a lot of graphics on the street. They really change the character of what that streetscape really looks like when you are travelling through it and if you are multiplying that by multiple intersections that have this aesthetic it becomes a different place to experience as you travel through our town and I think that has an impact on how people perceive where they live and how they live in the town.”

- *No. At this point no street view renderings have been completed. The signals themselves will be the “Metropolitan Style” which is the style the town adopted in the early 2000s. This style can be seen at the intersection of Mass Ave at Waltham Street and Marrett Road at Spring Street. As far as signage goes, signing as required by the MUTCD for safety reasons will be installed. Which will be similar to the aforementioned intersections.*

Question 5

Michael Mooney, 1145 Mass Ave

“Question about emissions, because now with signalization I understand you save a trip when a car is waiting to enter. Do you have any data? How is this going to affect air quality with cars being stopped because normally in downtime traffic moves, now in downtime traffic stops, you have idling vehicles, what about air quality?”

- *The Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization Central Transportation Planning Staff analysis indicated this project, as currently designed will reduce co2 emissions by 80 tons annually, by reducing the overall average delays.*

Question 6

Louis Postel, Hancock Street

“There is a youtube I saw from the department of Highway Administration (DOT) FHWA, youtube that they put out in 2011 that said that roundabouts are by far the safest method of addressing an intersection so I am wondering why we are considering anything else?”

- *The town has designed and analyzed both signal and roundabouts in this project. The safety merits are and have been a point of discussion throughout the planning process and this is not a simple “Black and white issue”. Many factors need to be considered and this issue has not been decided.*