



MEMORANDUM

TO: Carl Valente, Town Manager

FROM: Jeanette Rebecchi, Transportation Manager

DATE: May 7, 2015

SUBJECT: Proposed FY16 Lexpress Changes & Community Center Service

FY16 Proposed Route Changes

Transportation Services staff and Transportation Advisory Committee members are in agreement that modifications to Lexpress Routes 1 and 4 are needed due to the opening of the Community Center and long headway times. The attached maps provide a visual of the proposed changes.

Route 1 Adjustments

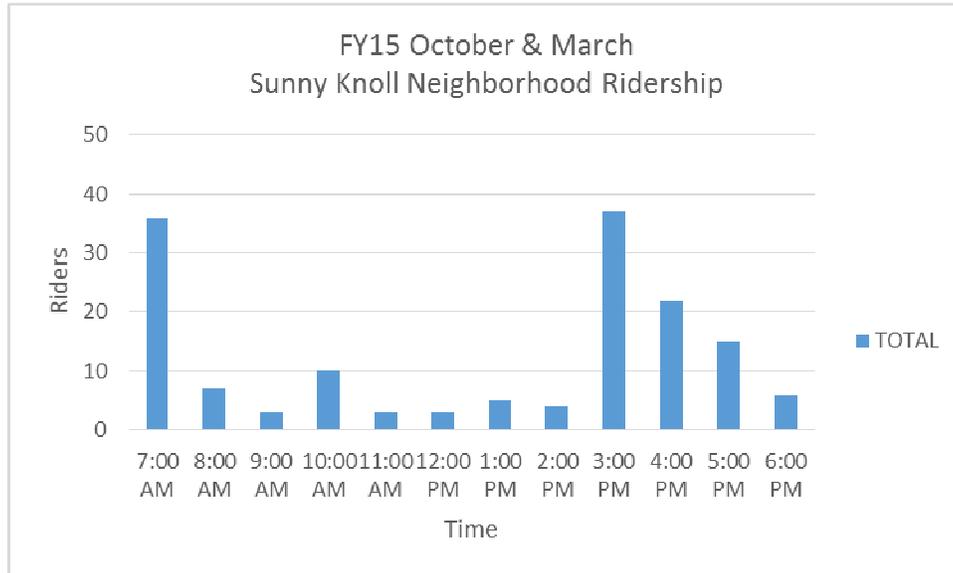
In order to accommodate all the competing users on this route, it is proposed that we implement a peak and off-peak schedule. Route 1 will stop at the Community Center and the former Muzzey Senior Center outbound from 8:30AM through 2:35PM. To ensure that there is enough time to do so, we will be reverting back to shorter FY14 Route 1 during these times. This will have the added benefit of restoring service to the Hillcrest/Bow Street neighborhood during part of the day, and allow the bus to bring students directly to the Community Center after school.

During peak-hour service (6:35AM – 7:30AM & 3:30PM – 5:30PM), Route 1 will follow the current FY15 schedule, which serves Lowell St/Arlington Heights. Riders wishing to go to the Community Center during peak-hours will be dropped off on Mass Ave. Ridership is highest in this area 3:30PM and later.



Route 4 Adjustments

Route 4 serves many high-traffic areas in town. As a result, it is still experiencing on-time performance issues. It is proposed that Route 4 only serve the Sunny Knoll neighborhood during peak-hours (7:00AM & 3:00PM – 6:00PM). During off-peak hours Lexpress will turn left on to Hill Street and skip this area. The ridership data collected supports implementing peak-hour only service in this neighborhood.



Additionally, based on resident requests it is proposed that Lexpress pull into Greeley Village one hour earlier (from 9AM – 1PM). The stop in Countryside Village will remain the same (10AM – 2PM). Staggering these special stops will reduce the number of trips where the bus has to pull into both villages.

Outreach Regarding Changes

A public comment period was offered from April 2 – April 13. The proposed changes were advertised via:

- Flyers on Lexpress buses and at Senior Center
- Lexpress website
- LexEngage
- Lexington Listserve
- TMMA Listserve
- Twitter

Residents also had the opportunity to provide feedback via phone, email, or in person at the April 13th TAC meeting. To date, only a handful of responses have been received, with most not directly related to the changes proposed.

FY16 Lexpress Service to the Community Center

Lexpress Routes 1 and 2 will stop at the Community Center front door every half hour from 8:30AM through 4:00PM. Due to scheduling, there will be no 3:30PM Route 1 stop at the Community Center. As part of Lexpress' normal service, Routes 1, 2 and 4 will stop at or near the Community Center from 6:35AM until 6:30PM at a frequency of approximately every 15 minutes. The map and tables below indicate when and where the bus can safely pick-up/drop-off Community Center patrons.

Lexpress Community Center Stop Locations



Community Center Lexpress Service		
	Outbound	Inbound
Route	Time	Time
1	6:39AM*	6:57AM*
2	7:08	-
4	-	7:21
1	7:34**	7:52**
2	8:08	-
4	-	8:19
1	8:35	8:46
2	9:08	-
4	-	9:20
1	9:35	9:46
2	10:08	-
4	-	10:21
1	10:35	10:46

Routes 1 & 2
outbound stop at
the Community
Center front door

2	11:08	-
4	-	11:21
1	11:35	11:46
2	12:08PM	-
4	-	12:21PM
1	12:35	12:46
2	1:08	-
4	-	1:21
1	1:35	1:46
2	2:08	-
4	-	2:20
1	2:40	2:51
2	3:08	-
4	-	3:21
1	3:34	3:52
2	4:08	-
4	-	4:21
1	4:34	4:52
2	5:08	-
4	-	5:21
1	5:34	5:52
2	6:08	-
4	-	6:21

**Service school year only **Service summer only*

<u>Additional</u> Lexpress Stops Near Community Center					
Route	Time	Direction	Location	Distance	Approx. time to walk (uphill) to front door
1	6:39AM - 5:34PM	Outbound	Mass Ave & Marrett Rd	0.3 miles	8 minute walk
1	6:57AM - 5:52PM	Inbound	Mass Ave & Tower Park Crosswalk	0.4 miles	9 minute walk
2	7:08AM - 6:08PM	Outbound	Marrett Rd at Follen Rd	0.3 miles	7 minute walk <i>(if using driveway)</i>
4	7:21AM - 6:21PM	Inbound	Mass Ave at Tower Park Crosswalk	0.4 miles	9 minute walk

Pedestrian Safety

The safety of residents accessing the Community Center via Lexpress is highly important. There are two crosswalks located 1/3 of a mile from the Community Center front door near the intersection of Marrett Rd and Mass Ave as shown in the pictures below. This would take the average person about 7-9 minutes to walk. The Transportation Services office will initiate an educational campaign to encourage residents to use these two crosswalks. Additionally, a formal request has been made to the Traffic Safety Group to install more robust ped-crossing signs at the Tower Park crosswalk this summer as an interim measure, and, if feasible, move the Tower Park crosswalk closer to Marrett Rd. Yield to pedestrian signs are already located at the other crosswalk located closer to Maple Street as shown in the pictures below.



Existing crosswalk at Tower Park and Mass Ave



Existing Crosswalk at Rhodes St and Mass Ave

The following pedestrian safety improvements are also supported by the Transportation Services Division:

- Signalizing the Marrett Rd and Mass Ave intersection as proposed by the DPW.
 - It is highly important to provide safe access to the Community Center via transit, walking or biking. A signalized crosswalk would greatly improve the safety of this busy corridor.
- Constructing a sidewalk along the north side of Marrett Rd.
- Painting a crosswalk at Marrett Rd and Follen Rd.
- Constructing a sidewalk along the entire driveway of the Community Center
- Constructing a sidewalk and/or access road on Community Center property that would allow pedestrians to walk directly up to the building from the Marrett/Follen intersection