



**Drury, Margaret**

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**From:** Walter McDonald [waltermcdonald40@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:08 AM  
**To:** Drury, Margaret  
**Cc:** Carol O'Hare  
**Subject:** Traffic Light at Magazine St. and Memorial Drive

**Previous copy of this email did not include my name and address**

Dear Mayor Maher, Vice Mayor Davis, City Councilors and Ms. Drury (for the official record):"

I am writing in support of retaining the traffic light at the intersection of Magazine St. and Memorial Drive primarily because it alleviates some of the traffic congestion at the B.U. Bridge rotary, especially at rush hour, as well as a safe crossing for pedestrians and cars leaving the MicroCenter/Trader Joe's parking lot.

1. We have lived for several years with the traffic back-ups generated by the re-construction of the B.U. Bridge. Although this problem has been alleviated somewhat by the opening of the ramp onto the bridge going south, there are still frequent backups at the evening rush hour. Keeping the traffic light on Magazine St. provides a safe route for traffic heading further east past the B.U. Bridge, using the overpass.

Without the traffic light, all traffic heading south on Magazine St. and Pearl St. is forced into the traffic flowing south from Sydney St, which causes further back-ups extending onto Granite St. and up Pearl St. Once this has occurred, impatient drivers speed the wrong way down Glenwood Ave. to circumvent the rotary, endangering residents and other traffic headed in the correct direction. This has been especially problematic during the Red Sox home games and rainy weather.

2. The traffic light provides a safe entrance onto Memorial Drive from the MicroCenter/Trader Joe's parking lot at the light itself and further west directly from the parking lot by metering westward flow on Memorial Drive before it reaches that area. In similar fashion, the metering effect assists eastbound traffic wishing to enter the parking lot from Memorial Drive.

3. Without the traffic light, pedestrians are tempted to try to cross there and at other points along Memorial Drive because they want to avoid the long walk over the pedestrian bridge and the long walks to the Pleasant St. light or the B.U. Bridge crosswalks.

4. By this time, both automobile traffic and pedestrian traffic has grown accustomed to the traffic light at Magazine St., and its removal will encourage hazardous practices by both cars and pedestrians expecting the light's assistance, regardless of signs and legal restrictions.

If a formal study is required, I strongly advocate that it be undertaken as soon as possible.

Walter McDonald  
172 Magazine St.  
Cambridge, MA 02139