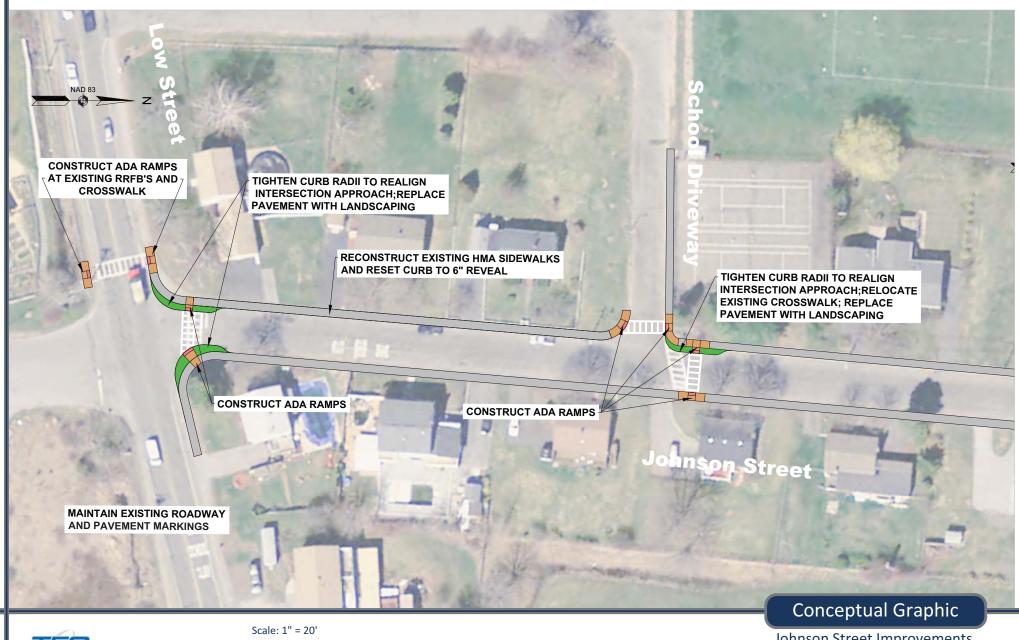
Johnson Street Project

Johnson Street residents consistently report and experience this residential street as too busy and vehicles travelling too fast. Johnson Street is one of the main routes to the Nock and Molin and River Valley Charter schools. Based on recent speed measurements by the Newburyport Police Department, every hour of the day there are dozens of vehicles going down Johnson Street above 35+ mph, including in the school zone where it is supposed to be 20 mph during the morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up times. About 50% of motorists are going faster than the posted 20 mph school speed zone during those drop-off/pick-up times. The data indicate that occasionally vehicles spike up to 40-45 mph speeds.

TEC's proposed concept plan would install three staggered curbing bump-outs known as traffic calming "chokers" or "chicanes" along the hill down from High Street, which would allow two-way traffic but change perception of the road and promote drivers slowing down to negotiate their way through with oncoming drivers in order to decrease vehicle speeds and improve safety. The proposed project would also reconstruct the existing poor condition 5-foot sidewalks on both sides and reset existing curbing. Crosswalks would be improved with re-alignment, curb bump-outs, ADA-compliant ramps, and restriping.

TEC estimates the project would cost \$415,000 to construct.

(Alternatively, the sidewalk work could be deferred and a simplified and less expensive traffic calming project pursued of just the "chokers" or "chicanes.")





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Johnson Street Improvements Safe Routes To School Newburyport, Massachusetts



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