

August 10,2023

To: Mayor Sean Reardon, and City Council of the City of Newburyport

From: Residents of Colby Farm Lane

RE: Petition to the City of Newburyport

We the undersigned are petitioning the City of Newburyport to address the pedestrian and vehicular safety concerns at the corner of Colby Farm Lane, Low St and North Atkinson St. Our community now has 33 children that walk to school. Over the past 2 years we have had over 6 near-accidents involving children with parents crossing Low St. We have had 2+ reported car accidents including 1 that crossed over the curb, passed thru a fence and almost hit a child in his own yard.

This situation still exists despite the safety measures already taken by the City: Placing a crosswalk with an on-demand crossing light, in-street crosswalk sign. We are asking for more, specifically, we are asking the Mayor and City Council to address the following:

- Conduct a traffic engineering review of this corner to improve site lines, to impact traffic speeds, to reduce "passing on the right" at the intersection, and
- Provide better signaling that encourages all traffic to stop and provides safe crossing and turning.

We understand that these steps will take time, and respectfully ask that temporary measures be taken in the interim, which may include:

- Assign a Crossing Guard for morning and afternoon school walkers (assistance from School Dept).
- Station a NPD cruiser with visible presence on-site at a minimum of 3 days per week (morning and afternoon).
- Activate the blinking light and install a speed hump on Colby Farm Lane by the Playground.

With the fast-approaching school date start date of September 7th, we ask that these issues be addressed, and a plan be proposed prior to the first day of school.

Respectfully submitted,

NAME

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