

# Statement of the Sleepy Hollow Environmental Advisory Committee on the Proposed Removal of Pocantico Street's Mid-block Crosswalk

before the Sleepy Hollow Board of Trustees, November 8, 2016

The Environmental Advisory Committee knows each of the Trustees wants to make Sleepy Hollow a lovely, vibrant, walkable community. This is why the Village must keep the crosswalk between Morse School and the Van Tassel Apartments.

A crosswalk exists at this location because it is where people actually cross. Nearly everyone using the crosswalk is traveling to or from the VT. Some people using the crosswalk are going to/from their cars parked on Pocantico St. It's a natural crossing location. People will cross here no matter what. So we, as a Village, need to make it safe.

Asking people to cross at Elm St or Beekman Ave will add at least 2 minutes to each person's trip in each direction. So 4 minutes extra to get to school and back, resulting in parents having to travel an extra 8 minutes per day.

Several Board members mentioned thinking the Morse side of the crosswalk being in the school's driveway. It is not. The crosswalk starts at the sidewalk next to the driveway. (See photo at right.)



This issue is before us because the loading zone straddles the crosswalk. Fixing the loading zone disruption is simple. (See diagram on back.)

- Shift the loading zone 15' to the north of the crosswalk.
- Improve visibility by "daylighting" the crosswalk by adding flexible posts 9' south of the crosswalk and 10' north of the crosswalk.
- Provide openings between the scaffolding posts at both the loading zone and handicapped spot.
- Install "R1-5" Yield Here to Pedestrians signs. (See example at right.)



These measures have additional benefits:

- They will prevent people who are parallel parking from blocking and backing through the crosswalk.
- They slightly enlarge the parking/loading spaces next to the crosswalk, making it easier to enter and exit them, thereby reducing congestion delays.
- They use one space of free long term storage for one private car to make a short term space that can be used by many people.

**KEEP THE  
HANDICAPPED  
SPACE**

(and provide opening  
between posts)

Add flexible posts to improve sight distances  
(aka "daylighting").  
Bonus: keeps parallel parkers from blocking  
& backing through crosswalk.

**MAKE THIS THE  
LOADING ZONE**  
(and provide opening between  
scafolding posts)



**PROPOSAL FOR POCANTICO ST MID-BLOCK SAFETY**

by the  
Sleepy Hollow  
Environmental  
Advisory  
Committee  
Nov 8, 2016