



Evaluation of Traffic Sign Petition

Deaf Person sign at 119 Brookline St
April 19, 2023

Petition:	Artur Czapla request installation of “deaf person” street signage at 119 Brookline Street
Scheduled Committee Hearing:	April 26, 2023 Traffic & Parking Committee, Item 9f
Prepared by:	Todd M. Kirrane., Assistant Director

The petitioner has requested the installation of a DEAF PERSON sign to notify drivers in the vicinity of 119 Brookline St.

Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), issued by Federal Highway Administration and included in Massachusetts General Laws, states that the purposed of “Warning” signs is to call attention to unexpected conditions on or adjacent to a roadway open to public travel and to situations that might not be readily apparent to road users. Warning signs alert road users to conditions that might call for a reduction of speed or an action in the interest of safety and efficient traffic operations. They further advise that the use of warning signs should be kept to a minimum as the unnecessary use of warning signs tends to breed disrespect for all signs. Because of this they removed from allowable use many previous signs including CHILDREN AT PLAY, SLOW, BLIND, DEAF, etc. Though many of these historic signs exist, FHWA and MassDOT believe that they are ineffective, breed a disrespect for all signage, and as a result municipality are no longer allowed to install them on the public way.

Recommendation

DTM recommends a vote to File this request.

