



Evaluation of "Children Sign Petition"

110 Coolidge Street

July 14, 2023

Petition:	Kenneth Parrish request removal of "Deaf Child" signage in front of 110 Coolidge Rd. # 8g CC February 28, 2023
Scheduled Committee Hearing:	July 19, 2023 Traffic & Parking Committee, Item 4a
Prepared by:	Todd M. Kirrane, Assistant Director

The petitioner is requesting the removal of a DEAF CHILD advisory sign installed in front of 110 and 125 Coolidge Road.

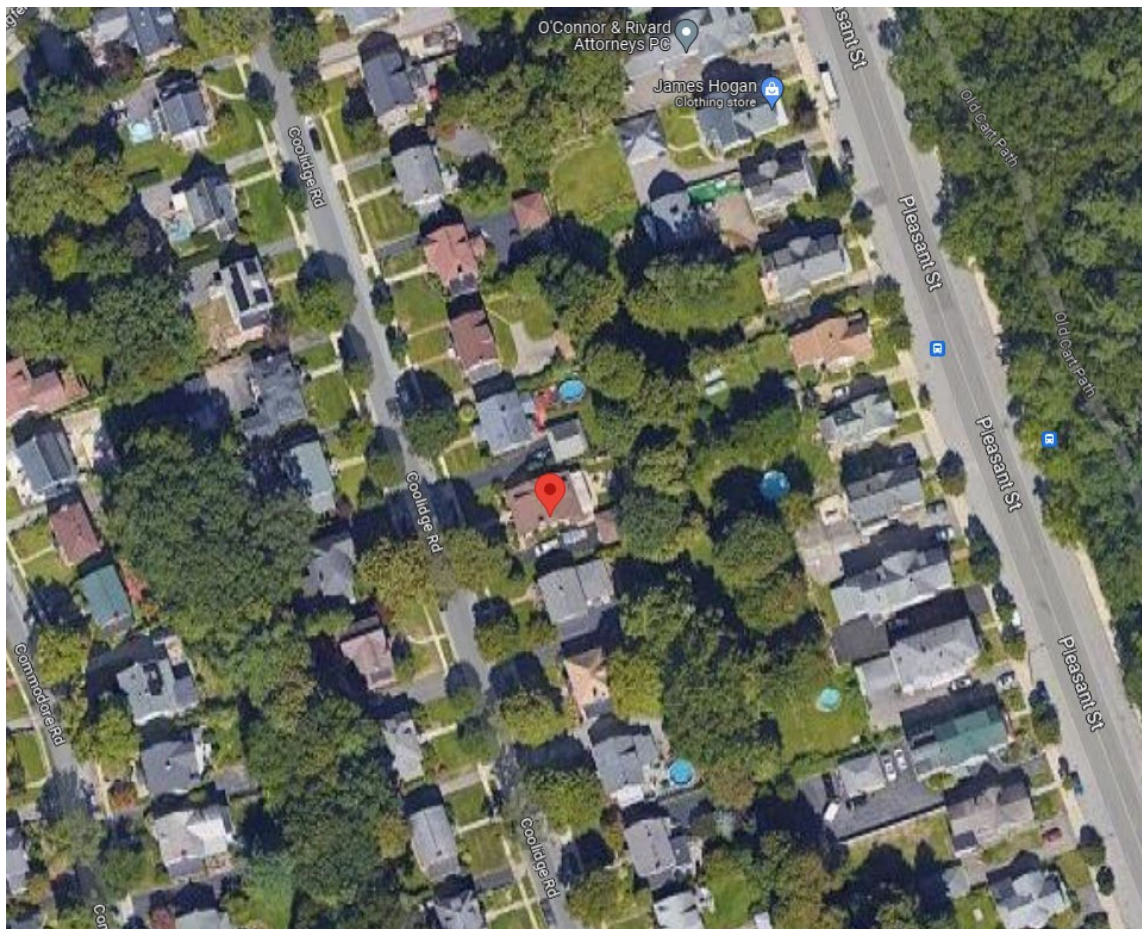


IMAGE 1: Aerial image of location



IMAGE 2: Streetview of 110 Coolidge Rd



IMAGE 3: Streetview of 125 Coolidge Rd

The 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 municipalities are no longer allowed to install them on the public way.

Recommendation: Based on the information provided above, staff recommends the following

- Vote to Support the requested Removal of the 2 signs.