

Riley, Kate

From: Kenneth Brown [redacted]
Sent: Saturday, December 14, 2019 8:46 AM
To: Riley, Kate
Cc: City Council
Subject: Tobin School and Callanan Field Projects

To Cambridge officials and project managers and architects;

I have lived on Vassal Lane at the corner of Alpine for 25 years now and have directly observed difficult traffic situations (Vassal at my corner is only 25.5 feet wide) with crashes of cars and school busses outside my house. I understand the number of children will be doubled and do not see that traffic studies have been done to address safety in developing the plans.

One of the largest groups of students expanding is pre-school, who by necessity will need to be escorted to and from school by parents in their cars. Parents currently park outside our house and since it is a long walk for them are gone for a while. If parking is tight, they will use my driveway or block it so there are already inconveniences, but I can't imagine the snarl and parking problems with 160 additional pre-schoolers in the new building and the additional busses for the older kids. While underground parking and pick-up/drop/off will help and preserve some park and playground area on the lot, the increases in students overall have not been adequately explained, or as I see it planned for. Additionally, young children ideally should be as close to their own neighborhoods as possible. Why are there so many additional programs?

Kids need open space and playgrounds so please reconsider moving so many programs into this traffic congested area. Our fields and playgrounds are valuable to both our neighborhood and to the children at the school.

Ken Brown
[redacted]