

Estabrook Elementary School 117 Grove Street Lexington, Massachusetts 02420

Sandra A. Trach *Principal*

strach@sch.ci.lexington.ma.us

Tel: (781) 861-2520 Fax: (781) 862-5610

To: Dr. Paul B. Ash, Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools

From: Sandra A. Trach, Principal, Estabrook School

Date: June 12, 2014

R/E: Traffic Design for the new Estabrook School 2014-2015

I am writing to send you the new Estabrook School traffic design for 2014-2015. The attached presentation outlines the Estabrook School Access Ad Hoc Task Force (ETF) recommendations and the Estabrook 2014-2015 traffic design. The new traffic design offers the Estabrook School flexible transportation options to ensure safety for students, staff and parents.

The attached presentation also provides for a collaborative approach to implementation, continued study and ongoing education.

I look forward to sharing the new Estabrook School traffic design with the Lexington School Committee and implementing its new features in 2014-2015.

Estabrook School Traffic Plan 2014-2015

Sandra A. Trach, Estabrook School Principal Mark Corr, Chief of Police

June 17, 2014

Estabrook School Access Ad Hoc Task Force (ETF)

ETF Charge: To advise the School Committee and Board of Selectmen on providing

- Safe access during construction of the new Estabrook Schoolby the vehicular traffic of parents, faculty and construction vehicles, including pedestrians;
- Safe access for public safety(police and fire department) purposes after the new school is constructed and in use; and
- Access necessary for safe access by students who walk to the school, and by parents/guardians who use school busesto drop off or pick up students.

Problems identified

- Vehicle queuing & traffic congestion at the school entrance
- Inadequate public safety access
- Poor pedestrian access
- Parking spilling over onto private streets causing hazardous conditions on nearby roads

Main access

Task Force recommended:

Grove Street remain the primary access

with Robinson Road being the secondary access

Why Grove St. should be the main access

- Sight lines are better at Grove & Access Road than at Robinson & Grove St.
- Grove Street is more direct and can accommodate more vehicular volume
- Robinson Road has a 90 degree turn which would be difficult for vehicles to navigate
- Accessing the school from Grove Street will allow for a longer internal vehicular queue, which helps to resolve a major safety concern

ETF recommendations

- Eliminate queuing on all public streets
- Upgrade Robinson Rd. to a minimum of 18 feet
- Install a sidewalk the length of Robinson Rd. to Grove St.
- Provide turn around area at end of Robinson
- Improve corner of Robinson Road at Turning Mill Road
- Improve the Robinson Road and Grove Street intersection
- Improve site lines on Grove Street by the school entrance

Further recommendations

In lieu of further aggressive & costly off-site improvements

Community should work towards modifying behavior & improving procedural methods for arrival & dismissal

Queue conclusions

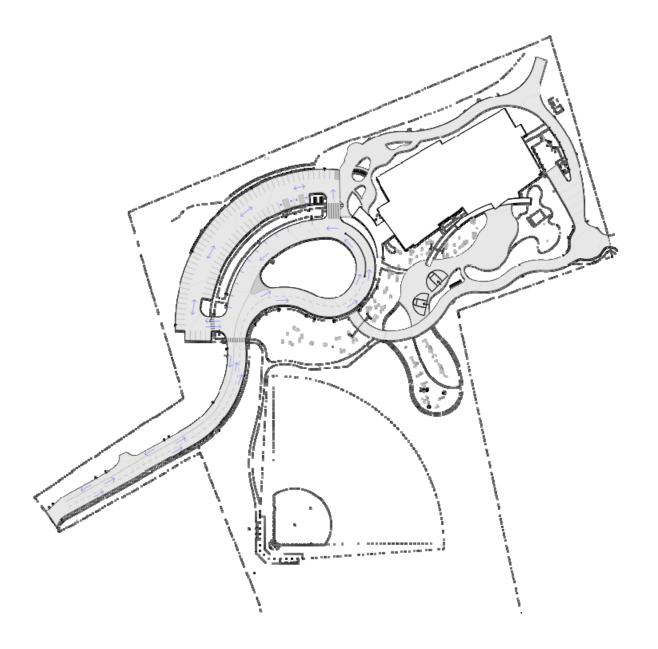
- New site will be able to accommodate existing queue
- New site will have added queue capacity for school if at full occupancy

Final thoughts from ETF

- School site design should meet ETF Objectives
- Town & Schools should work towards more bussing, walking, biking and car pooling
- Town should work closely with neighborhoods on Grove & Robinson on design of off site improvements

New traffic design

- Longer queue
- Flexible design
- Collaborative approach to implementation
- Continued study in the fall
- Ongoing education



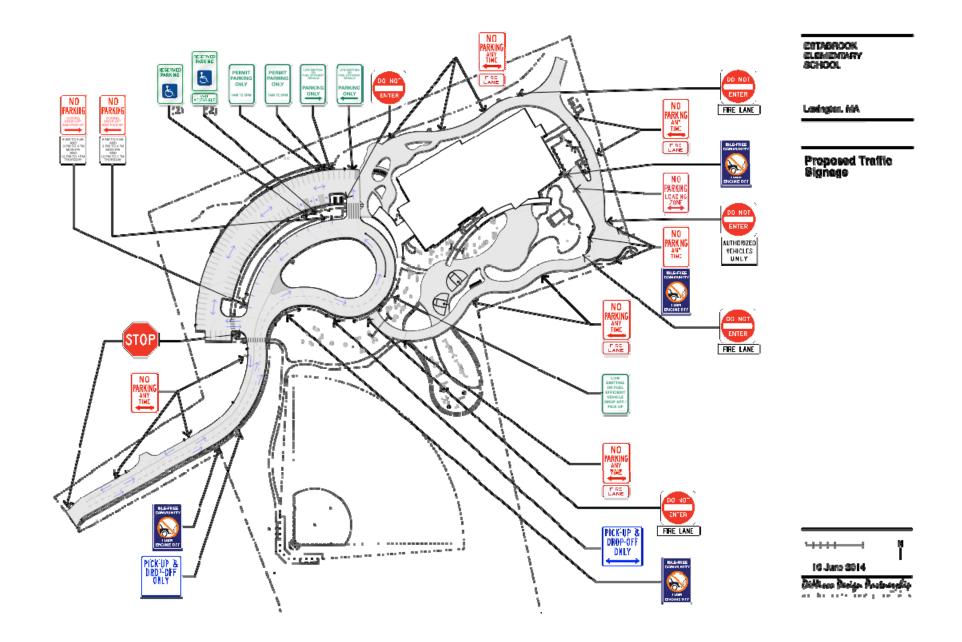
ESTABROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Lasington, MA

Proposed Traffic Signage

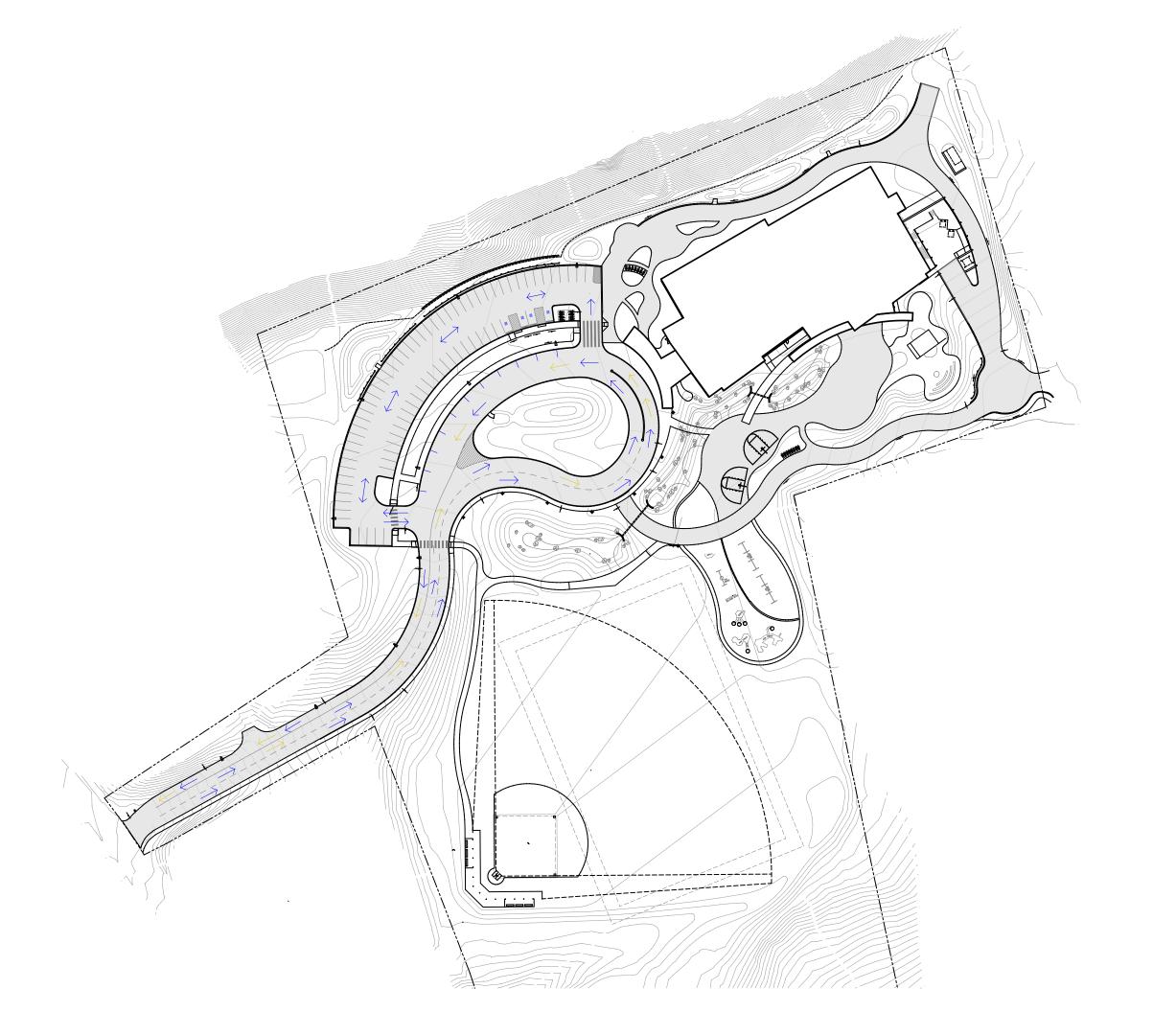
03 June 2014

Dibblicas Design Partmenskij



Ongoing education

- Principal Coffee regarding traffic on April 9, 2014
- Community Letter from Principal Trach and Chief Corr on May 14, 2014
- Estabrook Newsletter May 14, 2014
- Principal Trach and Chief Corr held an Estabrook parent meeting on Monday, May 19, 2014
- August 2014 informational packet arrival, dismissal,
 Safe Routes to School and parking procedures will be mailed to each household
- Fall 2014 principal coffees, PTA meetings, newsletters, community mailings
- PTA sponsored "Make Just One Change" campaign

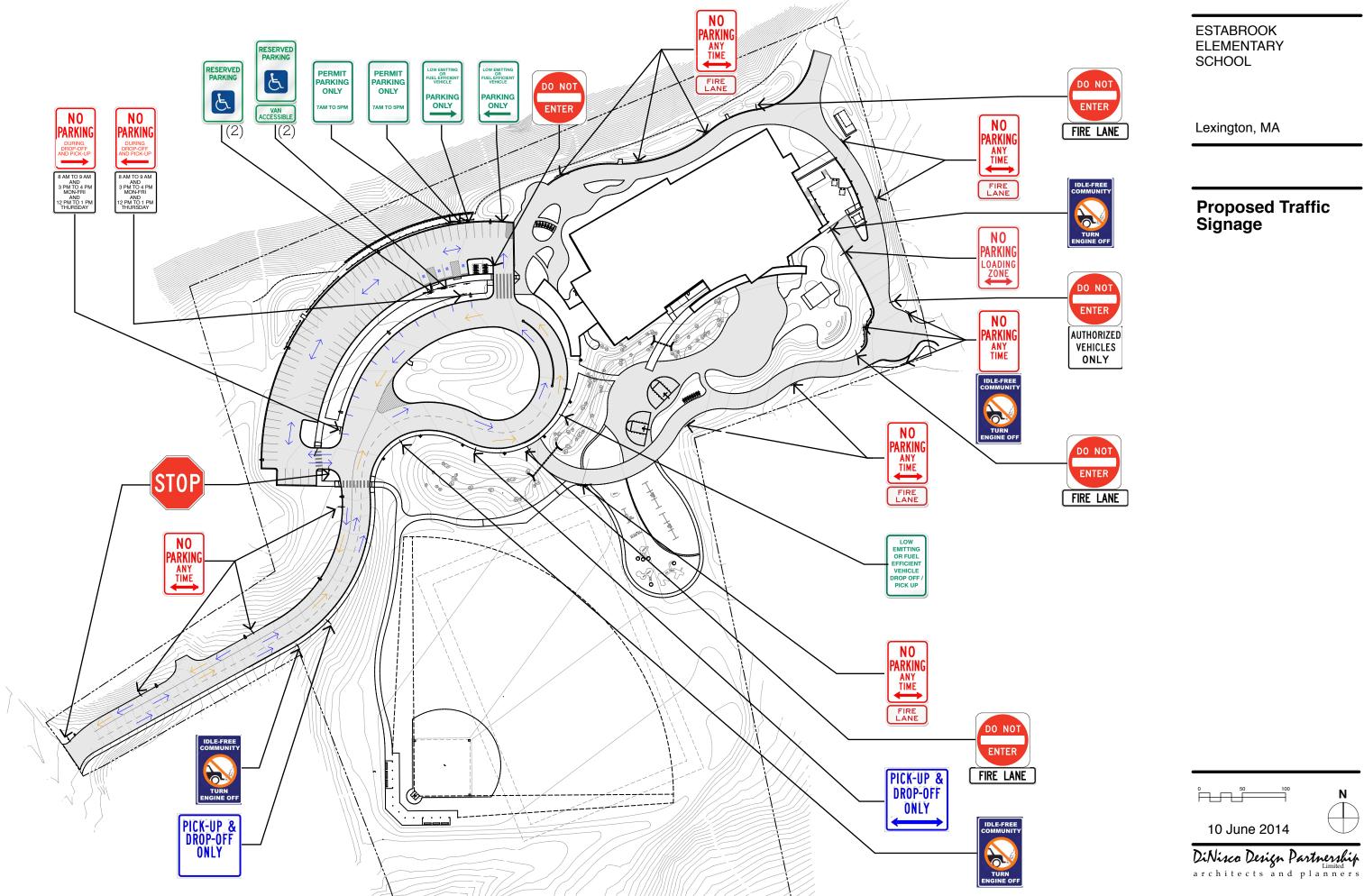


ESTABROOK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Lexington, MA

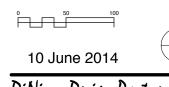
Proposed Traffic Signage





ELEMENTARY

Proposed Traffic Signage



Estabrook School Access Ad Hoc Task Force (ETF)

UPDATE

Task Force Membership

- Michelle Ciccolo, Chair
- Christian Boutwell
- Jim Brown
- Judy Crocker
- Peter Johnson
- Richard Larrabee
- Ed Loturco
- Ben Moroze
- Harold Payson
- Tom Peterson

Liaisons:

- Deb Mauger
- MaryAnn Stewart

Public Safety:

- Police Chief-Mark Corr
- Interim Fire Chief -Keith Hoyle
- Public Works Director -Bill Hadley

Key Staff Participants:

- School Principal Sandra Trach
- Facilities Director Pat Goddard
- Town Engineer John Livsey
- Administrative Assistance Lisa Rozzi

ETF CHARGE:

To advise the School Committee and Board of Selectmen on providing:

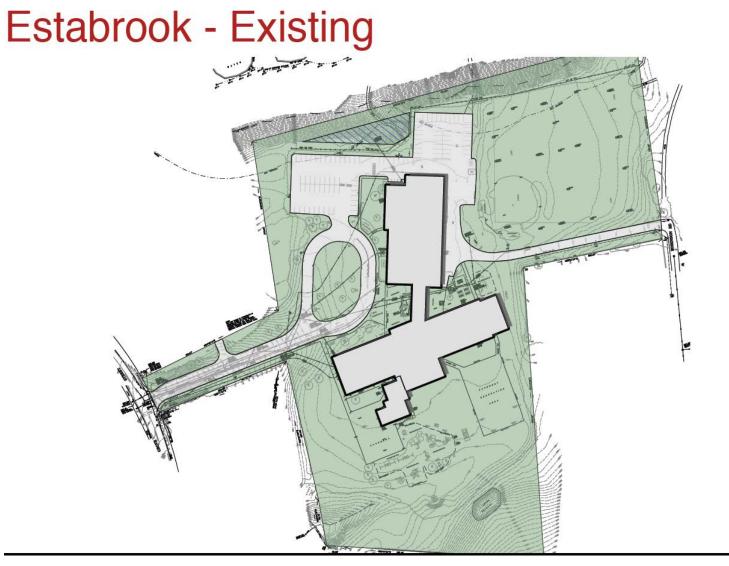
- Safe access during construction of the new Estabrook School by the vehicular traffic of parents, faculty and construction vehicles, including pedestrians;
- Safe access for public safety (police and fire department) purposes after the new school is constructed and in use; and
- Access necessary for safe access by students who walk to the school, school buses and parents/guardians dropping off or picking up students.

Guiding Concepts:

- Maximize safety for students & others accessing site
- Allow for adequate public safety response
- Allow construction to proceed on schedule
- Seek plans that improve safety & efficiency of processing student pick ups and drop offs
- Minimize cost to the town for implementing any solutions
- Minimize negative environmental outcomes
- Minimize impacts to residential neighbors
- Minimize neighborhood disruption during peak times
- Attempt to find solutions that do not merely transfer the problem or burden from one location to another

Process

- TM Authorized funding to explore options
- DPW / ETF hired Beta Group, Inc. to do a traffic study & evaluate access options
- 6 concepts examined
- Public charette held & 11 public meetings overall

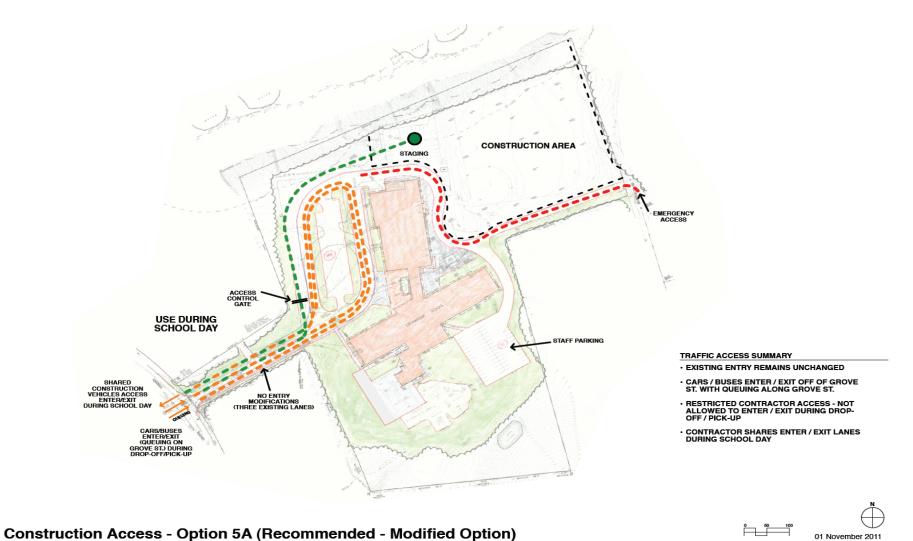




Problems Identified:

- Vehicle queuing & traffic congestion at the school entrance
- Inadequate public safety access
- Poor pedestrian access
- Parking spilling over onto private streets causing hazardous conditions on nearby roads







Main Access:

Task Force recommended :

- Grove Street remain the primary access
- with Robinson Road being the secondary access

Why Grove St. should be main

- Sight lines are better at Grove & Access Road than at Robinson & Grove St.
- Grove Street is more direct and can accommodate more vehicular volume
- Robinson Road has a 90 degree turn which would be difficult for vehicles to navigate
- Accessing the school from Grove Street will allow for a longer internal vehicular queue which helps to resolve a major safety concern



ETF Recommendations:

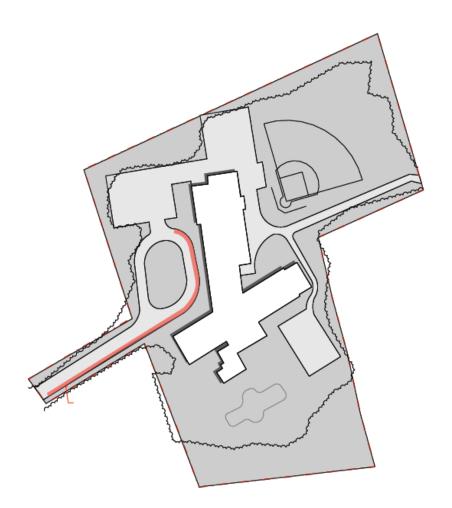
- Eliminate queuing on all public streets
- Upgrade Robinson Rd. to a minimum of 18 feet
- Install a sidewalk the length of Robinson Rd. to Grove St.
- Provide turn around area at end of Robinson
- Improve corner of Robinson Road at Turning Mill Road
- Improve the Robinson Road and Grove Street intersection
- Improve site lines on Grove Street by the school entrance



In lieu of further aggressive & costly off-site improvements –

Community should work towards modifying behavior & improving procedural methods for arrival & dismissal

Queuing - Existing Conditions



QUEUING

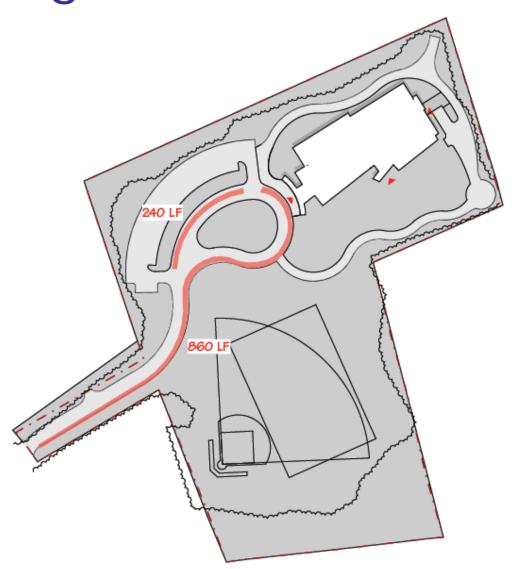
EXISTING

480 LF

Existing Queue

- Approximately 1,000 feet
- Projected Queue = 1,400 feet

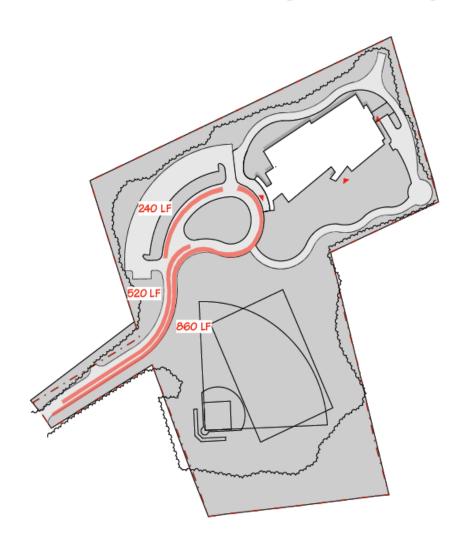
Single Queue Lane Capacity:



QUEUING

EXISTING 480 LF ADDITIONAL 1,100 LF

Queuing Plan - Flexibility if Required



QUEUING

EXISTING FLEXIBILITY

480 LF Y 1.620 LF

Queue Conclusions:

- New site will be able to accommodate existing queue
- New site will have added queue capacity for school if at full occupancy

Final Thoughts:

- School site design should meet ETF Objectives
- Town & Schools should work towards more bussing, walking, biking and car pooling
- Town should work closely with neighborhoods on Grove & Robinson on design of off site improvements