



Warwick Police Department  
Incident Report

Incident #: 22-6887-OF  
Call #: 22-68234

Date/Time Reported: 12/01/2022 0816  
Report Date/Time: 12/07/2022 0914  
Status: No Crime Involved

Reporting Officer: Sergeant Aaron Kay  
Approving Officer: Sergeant Aaron Kay

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



# EVENTS(S)

LOCATION TYPE: Highway/Road/Alley/Street      Zone: RD 308 (POST 10)  
PILGRIM HIGH SCHOOL  
111 PILGRIM PKWY  
WARWICK RI 02888

- 1 Traffic Survey- NO PARKING SIGNS PILGRIM PKWY

On 12/1/22, I, Traffic Sergeant Kay initiated a traffic survey for the area of Pilgrim Parkway in front of the Pilgrim High School at 111 Pilgrim Parkway. Over the prior several weeks, the Police Department was made aware of a traffic flow and safety concern in front of the High School during afternoon pick up times. Traffic Officers had responded out there several of these times to assist with the safety of the parents and students, as well as regular traffic during this time. The school, bus drivers and others parents had made complaints of the difficulty of maneuvering into and out of the parking lot as well as traveling this portion of Pilgrim Pkwy. This was due to vehicles parking along the roadway, protruding into the lanes of travel and parking over the paved sidewalks present, inhibiting pedestrian traffic from walking safely in this area.

While being present at the school during this time, I did observe old No Parking this Side 7A-5P signs along the roadway as well as one No Parking sign. These signs weren't clear as to where exactly you were not allowed to park. The No Parking this Side 7A-5P signs were located on both the north and south side of the street, which made it no parking either side in some areas. Officers spoke to the those motorist parked along the road in this area asking them to not stop here and use the back parking lot for pick up as it's designated. However, as soon as one person moved, another parked along the road at various locations.

On another instance, I was not able to arrive at the school prior to the dismissal time, and observed cars lining the roadway waiting for the students while there was a line of cars attempting to exit and enter the lot. Also the buses were leaving and the roadway was extremely congested. Due to the vehicles stopped along Pilgrim Parkway, the travel lanes were smaller and with vehicles traveling both directions on the roadway, it created a traffic flow and safety issue. Vehicles exiting the lot had a difficult line of sight while trying to see if it was safe to pull out. The parked cars impeded their view. Bus drivers have also noted that they cannot safely conduct turns out from their section of the parking lot due to the way vehicles are being parked along the roadway. With the student walkers, many were forced to walk around the cars parked on the sidewalk and either walk off the paved section onto the grass, or into the restricted, high volume traffic roadway. This obstruction of the sidewalk was unsafe and unacceptable. This problem will soon be exasperated during the winter months when snow fall and snow banks become an added factor.

Upon investigation into the matter and reviewing the City Ordinance for the no parking signs, these signs were not found in the ordinance, thus making them non-enforceable. I reached out to City Hall to confirm that they were put in place in the 60's but never brought before the Board of Public Safety. Based off of this information, I determined to conduct this survey in order to improve the safety concerns that were brought forth and that I witnessed during dismissal time.

I took photographs and measurements of Pilgrim Parkway along the stretch from Fairfax Drive to just east of Folwer Ave at the western entrance to the Pilgrim Senior Center, 27 Pilgrim Pkwy. The roadway is an east/west road and connects Fairfax Drive to Warwick Avenue. It is two lanes, one eastbound and one westbound, with painted lanes and a double yellow center divider line. It is approximately 32 feet wide with 12 foot travel lanes. This roadway is regularly traveled as it is a cut through from Warwick Ave to Post Rd. Due to Pilgrim High School, this traffic dramatically increases during school drop off and pick up times. Pilgrim High School has a feasible parking and drop off/pick up plan implemented utilizing the large back lot, however, parents are choosing to not follow this plan and park along the heavily traveled roadway causing safety issues and traffic concerns.

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There is a paved sidewalk located along the northern side (school side) of the roadway along the entire length. The parameters of the sidewalk differentiate as it moves from west to east. The western portion of the sidewalk, located along the front of the school, is paved but it is not raised and there is no curbing at the edge of the roadway before the sidewalk begins (See photos WB4, School Front). In this area, the paved roadway ends and there is a small section of grass/dirt, then the uneven, cracked sidewalk. This lack of curbing easily enables vehicles to pull partially off the roadway and obstruct the sidewalk. The sidewalk east of the school parking lot entrance (starting at the ball field fence) is paved and does have a raised curbing at the edge of the roadway. This curbing separates the edge of the road and the sidewalk, creating a clear walking area for the student pedestrians (See photos WB1, WB2 and WB3). This curbing continues all the way east until you reach the entrance to the Pilgrim Senior Center parking lot where the sidewalk then becomes raised up from the roadway at the height of the curbing.

In front of the school there are two painted crosswalks for pedestrians to cross north or south across Pilgrim Parkway. There are yellow diamond crosswalk signs upon approach from the east and west prior to each crosswalk. The crosswalks are there, however, the south side of the roadway does not have any sidewalk. Pedestrians who are forced to walk to school because they are within the walking distance limit have no sidewalk on this side of the road to walk on for safer pedestrian travel (See photos EB1 and EB2).

Recommendations for a safer school zone on Pilgrim Parkway would be to enact No Parking Both Sides 7A-3P School Days spanning from the Pilgrim Senior Center and continuing west all the way to the intersection of Fairfax Dr. I recommend placing the signs on metal poles on the north side of the road (school side) every 50-75 feet. Along the section of road by the ball field where the chain link fence is installed, the signs can be mounted to the fence the same distance apart. This would ensure that parents view the signs as they drive westbound along the school side of the road prior to stopping.

In conjunction with these No Parking signs being brought forth to the Board of Public Safety to be implemented in our City Ordinance, I also recommend similar curbing to be installed along the sidewalk section in front of the school area that is now lacking any positive divider. East of the school has a simple curbing and directly in front of the school would benefit from this as well to keep vehicles from crossing from the roadway and traveling on the pedestrian sidewalk area. This would help keep the pedestrians safer as they are walking and deter motorists from parking on this stretch of sidewalk. The current sidewalk in place now is in need of repair as well. There are numerous cracks and holes in the pavement that need to be addressed. To offer a more pedestrian friendly and safe walk to school for the students, the south side of Pilgrim Parkway should have a sidewalk with raised curbing as well. At minimum, the sidewalk portion on the south side of Pilgrim Pkwy should extend from Sabin Ave and continue westbound to Fairfax Drive. This will enable any student walking from the neighborhoods south of the school to have a safe walking path as they travel along the southern side of Fairfax Dr toward the crosswalk in front of the school.

In regards to the crosswalks in front of the school, the crosswalk signs are in place in the proper locations. I would also recommend a Crosswalk Ahead sign for each direction to be installed a couple hundred feet prior to alert the motorists of the crosswalk sooner.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

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- No Parking Both Sides 7A-3P School Days
- Raised curbing along sidewalk edges to separate road and sidewalk
- Sidewalk installed on south side of road for pedestrian traffic

Warwick Police Department  
Image Associated With Case Number 22-6887-OF  
Image Description: EB1



Warwick Police Department  
Image Associated With Case Number 22-6887-OF  
Image Description: EB2



Warwick Police Department  
Image Associated With Case Number 22-6887-OF  
Image Description: SCHOOL FRONT



Warwick Police Department  
Image Associated With Case Number 22-6887-OF  
Image Description: WB1





Warwick Police Department  
Image Associated With Case Number 22-6887-OF  
Image Description: WB2



Warwick Police Department  
Image Associated With Case Number 22-6887-OF  
Image Description: WB3



Warwick Police Department  
Image Associated With Case Number 22-6887-OF  
Image Description: WB4

