



Warwick Police Department
Incident Report

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03/15/2023

Incident #: 23-1188-OF
Call #: 23-11988

Date/Time Reported: 03/03/2023 1132
Report Date/Time: 03/03/2023 1150
Status: No Crime Involved

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

Signature: _____

Signature: _____



EVENTS (S)

LOCATION TYPE: Zone: RD 379 (POST 4)
WARWICK NECK SCHOOL
155 ROCKY POINT AVE
WARWICK RI

1 WARWICK NECK SCHOOL START/DISMISSAL PARKING ISSUES

PERSON(S) PERSON TYPE SEX RACE AGE SSN PHONE

1 LADOUCEUR, EDGAR N PARTICIPANT M W 71 *****
106 CHANNEL VIEW Apt. #2
WARWICK RI 02886
DOB: 07/03/1951

EMPLOYER: *****

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Home Phone (Primary) 401-447-7181
Home Phone (Primary) 401-738-2000
Home Phone 401-738-4749
Work Phone (Primary) 401-781-9251
CallBack Number (Primary) 401-921-5253

2 GALLIGAN, FRANK PARTICIPANT M W 37 NOT AVAIL *****
150 LENNOX AVE
WARWICK RI 02889
DOB: 10/05/1985

EMPLOYER: *****

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Home Phone (Primary) 401-439-4237
Work Phone (Primary) 401-734-3480

2023-09

On 2/10/23, I, Traffic Sgt. Kay attended a meeting at the Warwick Neck School with Councilman Edgar Ladoucer, Warwick Neck School Principal Frank Galligan, Coordinator of Warwick Schools Safety and Security Daniel Maggiacomo to discuss parent parking, drop off/pick up safety, traffic flow and concerns that had built up over the course of the school year. Through my response and surveying several issues at this school in the past, I was familiar with many of the problems and found that some corrective action had already been implemented. By having a coordinated meeting on this date, we were able to discuss other areas outside of my scope as Police that may have a positive impact on formulating a solution to these issues.

A cause of concern was the fact that Principal Galligan had established the school front parking lot (that leads to the Main Office from Lennox Ave) as a school bus only drop off/pick up area. This front lot was only to be used by the school buses in order to establish a safe drop off and pick up loading area for the children to depart and board the bus. Galligan noted that over the course of the year, especially during inclement weather, parents were filtering into this lot, mixing with the bus traffic, in order to drop their child off at the door. This posed a safety concern for the school as now vehicles were passing the buses while they were off loading, or vehicles were conducting unsafe turn-arounds or driving against the suggested traffic flow in order to enter or leave the parking lot area. Galligan advised that he wanted to make this more of an enforceable school bus only area so that parents would abide by it and if not, be subject to some sort of enforcement. Upon reviewing this policy, as it stood now without an ordinance in place for the Police to bring forth monetary fines, there wasn't much for a police officer to enforce. I suggested that if the Police were to enforce it, we would need City Council to establish a **"Do Not Enter- School bus only between 8:30-9:30 and 2:30-3:30"** signs to be put into the city ordinance. With it in the ordinance, we could steer people away from this entrance and issue violations to those who do not abide by the given traffic control device, "Do Not Enter School bus only" sign. The only issue that was brought up was the fact that this front entrance off Lennox Ave also has a parking lot that the school staff use to park in. The staff would have to arrive prior to or after the times on the bus only sign so as not to be in violation. The staff vehicles arriving during bus time would still pose a safety concern for the departing or loading children. With that being presented, I suggested that this **"Do Not Enter- School bus only between 8:30-9:30 and 2:30-3:30"** sign be brought forth for discussion and approval amongst City Council. I suggest there be two signs installed, one on each corner of Lennox Ave, north and south corner, at Warwick Neck Ave. These signs should be visible to approaching traffic on Warwick Neck Ave so that the operator can view it prior to conducting the turn onto Lennox Ave.

Having addressed the front lot drop off/pick-up area, discussion began regarding the Rocky Point Ave parent parking issues for arrival and dismissal. I had previously conducted a Traffic Survey in September of 2022 addressing these concerns and some solutions (ref. 22-5244-OF). This survey references the following issues about this area:

The school childrens' parents are allowed to follow the city ordinance No Parking signs and only park on the north (school) side of Rocky Point Ave.. The south side has No Parking signs installed that have time limits pertaining to the drop off and pick up times at the school. This is needed in order to not have parking on both sides of the street which would cause congestion issues. There is a painted crosswalk at this school entrance for Rocky Point Ave which allows pedestrians to cross from school side (north side) to the opposite side (south side) of the road. The Crossing Guard in this area, Julie Peters advised that parents will also park along Lauren Ct. and walk over to the crosswalk with their children and cross at the crosswalk to access the school entrance.

The crosswalk in this area was lacking crosswalk signs. The City since installed the crosswalk signs for both approaching directions, however, the crosswalk sign for the eastbound direction is on the wrong side of the road. It was installed on the pre-existing pole on the north side of the road, across from the eastbound lane to the left. It should be mounted on the same side as the travel lane, the right side (south side) of the road for approaching traffic. There is not a pre-existing pole on the south side of the road to mount it on, so one should be installed on the south side of the road prior to the crosswalk so the sign can be more easily viewed by the eastbound motoring public as they approach the crosswalk. Reference Image "**Rocky Pt Sidewalk No Parking Signs**" where the yellow diamond is placed should be the proper location for the crosswalk sign.

There is also an issue with the No Parking Signs in place on the south side of the roadway. They are in the city ordinance and legal, but some of the No Parking signs are missing or too spaced apart to be easily viewed. Additional signs should be installed on metal poles in locations depicted in Image "**Rocky Pt Sidewalk No Parking Signs**". These additional locations are east of the crosswalk on Rocky Point Ave. Reference Image "**Rocky Pt Sidewalk No Parking Signs**". The red circles on the south side of the road are the additional locations the signs should be installed.

While the parking itself is not a concern on the north side where it is allowed, there is no designated walking area for the parents and children to then safely make their way to/from the school. Parents are parking along the school side of the road (north side) and they then have to walk in the roadway between the parked cars and moving traffic since there is no paved sidewalks. At the edge of the roadway in this area of Rocky Point Ave, it is either unlevel wooded area or plantings and shrubbery along the edge of the roadway preventing any safe pedestrian travel. The only option is for the parents to walk in the roadway, which is still two directional vehicular flow and unsafe due to the circumstances and congestion during these times. The parked vehicles line along the north side of the road extends eastward down Rocky Point Ave. towards the Rocky Point park. I observed the line to end well past the start of the blueberry field property which is several hundred feet down the roadway. During this drop-off/pick-up time, there are many parents still arriving/leaving in vehicles, normal motorists traveling on the road and many parents and children already on foot walking in the street.

I recommend that the city install sidewalks along the north side of Rocky Point from Warwick Neck Ave all the way down to the intersection of Palmer Ave. Reference Image "**Rocky Pt Sidewalk No Parking Signs**". The green areas on the Image indicate side walks. These should continue all the way down to Palmer Ave. Since, school buses aren't designated to pick up students within a certain distance from the school, this requires these children to either walk to/from school or be driven by a parent. The residences within the no school bus pick up routes should have ADA sidewalks to be able to safely walk to/from the school. If the sidewalks were installed along the north side (school side) of Rocky Point Ave from Warwick Neck Ave. to Palmer Ave., it would be able to accommodate these walkers and the parents who are doing drop-off/pick-up as well. It would solve the current safety concern that is occurring on a daily basis. Installing sidewalks will be a much needed safety feature to all parents, students and any normal walkers in the area. Warwick Neck Ave already has sidewalks installed along its length and is not an issue. There also a sidewalk on Lennox Ave from Warwick Neck Ave to the school which accommodates walkers to this main entrance. These sidewalks on Rocky Point Ave would make this area more compliant for the children walkers to be able to safely make it to their school.

Another issue that has come up is the parent parking along Lauren Court which is off of Rocky Point Ave near the entrance to Warwick Neck School and the pedestrian crosswalk. Lauren Court is a short cul-de-sac street that runs perpendicular to Rocky Point Ave in a north-south direction. There are only 6 houses located on this street. As of now there are no parking restrictions on this roadway and is commonly used by parents during pick-up/drop-off. With parents parking along the east and west sides of the road, it limits vehicular traffic to a

single vehicle passage roadway. When parked along both sides of the road, it restricts any large fire apparatus from traveling freely down this road. It only becomes this restricted during the morning pick-up and afternoon drop-off times. Having viewed this parking situation frequently and the congestion it causes on Lauren Court with a potential obstruction to fire apparatus, I recommend that the west side of Lauren Court have "**No Parking This Side 8:30-9:30AM and 2:30-3:30PM School Days Only**". These signs should be installed on metal poles so as to be visible along this entire stretch of road. I included an image of sign placement I recommend. With this spacing, from Rocky Point Ave to the opening of the cul-de-sac area, there is room for 4 of these poles and signs to be installed (reference image "**Lauren Ct No parking sign placement**").

Discussion about a pull-up parent drop-off/pick-up location also occurred. Different routes and plans were in place in the past, but due to issues, growth and main door remodeling, it has transformed to the situation that is currently in place now and previously mentioned. Upon reviewing the school property with members in attendance at the meeting, a discussion came about regarding the Rocky Point Ave school entrance and whether it could be used for parents to pull in and out to make a pull-up drop-off/pick-up location. If this pull-up parent drop-off/pick-up location were to be established, it would alleviate some of the parking and pedestrian safety concerns because parents would be able to conduct a door drop delivery for their child instead of parking and walking them in. Aforementioned recommendations would still need to be implemented due to parents who still choose to walk their child in and the need for them to park.

Topics discussed below were drawn out utilizing a Google Maps image and are not to scale. It is simply a guide to understand my recommendations. The image is attached to this report, reference image "**W. Neck pull up drop off lanes**".

The rear lot area of the school in this area is nearly wide enough to establish a loop around area for passenger vehicles to pull in, conduct a drop-off/pick-up and then loop around and leave through the same passage. This paved area near the basketball hoops could be widened by reconfiguring the overflow drainage grates and paving the level grass area to the south of the lot area (closest to Rocky Point Ave). With a widening of this area, travel lanes could be painted on the pavement to guide parent vehicular flow around a loop and return back to Rocky Point Ave. A land/property survey would have to be conducted if effort was made for widening the entrance to this lot. While the current entrance paved portion would suffice to allow two way traffic to pass at the same time, widening this entrance would make it safer for motorists to travel and allow for a raised sidewalk to be established for pedestrian traffic still flowing in from Rocky Point Ave to the school grounds here.

If this pull-up parent drop-off/pick-up location were to be established, I would suggest protective poles or barriers be installed or brought in to separate the vehicle travel area from the child play/waiting area. This would help to protect any person/child from being struck by a vehicle veering off of the designated travel lanes created.

Image Key for the attached Image W. Neck pull up drop off lanes:

- Green lines establish the vehicle travel lanes.
- Red arrows indicate traffic flow direction.
- Pink dots are for protective poles/barriers location.
- Yellow line is approximate distance to be widened, leveled and paved.
- Purple lines could be a location for the sidewalk if still within school property boundaries.
- Blue X could be where the children are dropped off.
- White lines for a pedestrian crosswalk

DPW

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Install 2 "Do Not Enter- School bus only between 8:30-9:30 and 2:30-3:30" Signs passed through City Council for the Lennox Ave entrance at Warwick Neck Ave.

2. Move the Rocky Point Ave eastbound Crosswalk sign from where it is installed on the north side of the road to a new metal pole to be installed on the south side of the road just west of the crosswalk.

DPW

3. Install proper ADA compliant sidewalks on the north (school) side of Rocky Point Ave. from Warwick Neck Ave. down to the intersection of Palmer Ave..

DPW

4. Install 4 metal poles with "No Parking This Side 8:30-9:30AM and 2:30-3:30PM School Days Only" signs on the west side of Lauren Court from Rocky Point Ave to the cul-de-sac widening circle.

Council

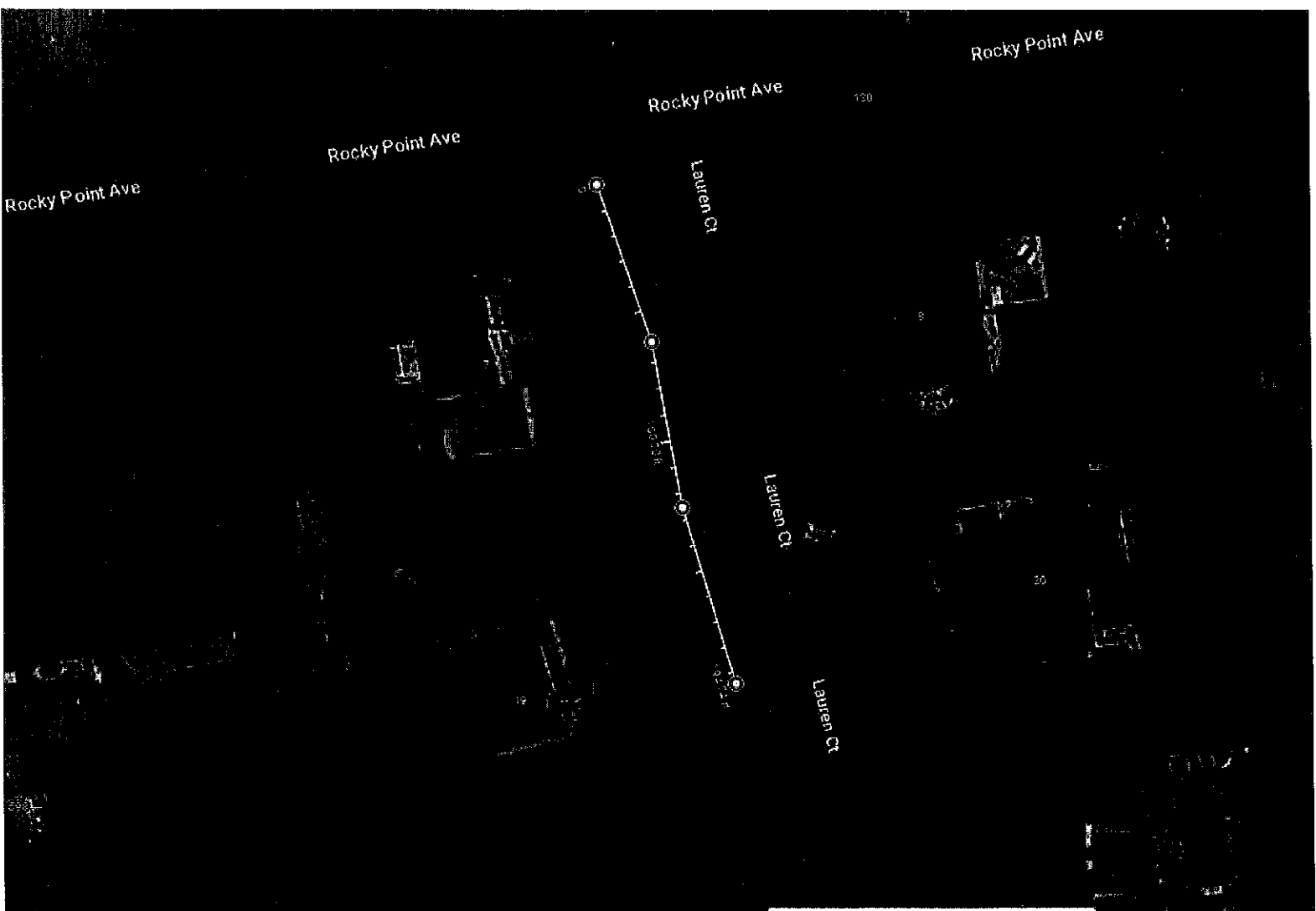
5. Rear lot reconfiguration for parent pull-up drop-off and pick-up location with a sidewalk installed at this entrance as well.

DPW

Warwick Police Department
Image Associated With Case Number 23-1188-OF
Image Description: W Neck pull up drop off lanes



Warwick Police Department
Image Associated With Case Number 23-1188-OF
Image Description: Lauren ct no parking sign placement



Warwick Police Department
Image Associated With Case Number 23-1188-OF
Image Description: Rocky Pt Sidewalk No Parking Signs

