

Bob DeRubeis, Commissioner
Newton Parks & Recreation Department

Dear Bob:

Our area councils are delighted to hear that the Life Course Trail in Cold Spring Park may get some needed maintenance and enhancement.

We are particularly concerned that these occur before the new Zervas Elementary School opens in September of 2017, and particularly to those paths that could and should become a popular way for children to walk to school. Waban Area Council, with help from Newton Highlands Area Council, held two well-attended meetings on traffic and safety around the new school, and these paths were highlighted as quick and safe ways children can access the school.

As you may be aware, Zervas Safe Routes to School volunteers are already planning “walking school buses” that will take groups of pupils from the parking lot loop near Beaconwood Road and the Life Course Trail and from Winslow Road at Wilbur. Both are part of a concerted attempt by the Zervas administration, Zervas PTO and the neighborhood to reduce traffic and congestion on Beethoven and Beacon streets during school arrival and departure.

Having a safer, emission-free route such as Cold Spring, and having enhancements that can keep feet dry, will be immensely helpful in implementing these plans.

Thank you for taking the initiative on this effort.

Yours,

Srdjan Nedeljkovic, President
Newton Highlands Neighborhood Area Council

Sallee Lipshutz, President
Waban Area Council