



Department of Public Works
and Engineering
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6/13/2019 for immediate release

Have you seen the white curb on Ayers St? It's been yellow for all these years, what are they thinking?

The City of Barre Dept. of Public Works and Engineering is conducting a **trial of parking on the north side of the street** and eliminating parking on the south side of the street.

The reason for the trial is traffic and pedestrian safety.

First, when cars park on the inside of a curve, drivers passing the cars have to look "through" the cars to see oncoming traffic. Pedestrians walking out from the current parking cannot be seen until the driver has come around the curve to see past the cars. When the cars are on the outside of the curve, drivers can see unobstructed through the corner. Pedestrians stepping out from between cars and driver's side door openings are clearly visible in both directions for more than 300 feet.

Secondly, when a vehicle goes around a corner the trailing (rear) wheels also run inside the position of the front wheels. This is especially true of trucks and contributes to greater risk for parked cars and

pedestrians because the trailing wheels run closer to the them. The clearance between vehicles that is lost is measured in inches – and professional drivers are used to accounting for it. But doors opening or a pedestrian stepping out from between cars or an emergency maneuver to the right poses a greater risk. The risk is avoidable.

When parking is on the outside of a curve, the trailing wheels always run to the inside of the curve. Overall, we achieve an increased offset for the trailing wheel about 6 inches further from the cars, a small but real improvement.

Effective Monday June 17, 2019, the parking on Ayers St will be on the even numbered side of the street (north) and prohibited on the odd numbered side of the street (south). This will allow a one-week trial before school closes for the current school year. The trial will continue through the summer.

There will be a public forum hosted at City Hall for residents and travelers to discuss the trial and its results during the week of July 8 with the final date to be determined.

Thank you for your flexibility and I look forward to the results of the trial.

William Ahearn P.E,

Director Public Works and Engineering