

## **DIVERTER FEEDBACK**

Approximately 5 people made phone calls with comments. Most calls were received within the first week of the diverter's installation, and the callers were not in favor of the diverter.

Comments were received from 27 distinct people via the online form. All stated 02130 as their zip code. We also received several emails, some from people who also submitted comments via the online form. We included only one response per email in this summary.

### **NEGATIVE**

*The diverter is a terrible idea. Hatoffs currently has several entrances to its business. If traffic onto the side street is a problem, then the obvious solution is to shut down 1 of their entrances. There is no need to have 5 exit/entrances to a gas station. The addition of speed humps help curb speed in those neighborhoods already. Further, traffic will be reduced once the forest hills overpass project is complete. However these side streets allow some traffic to flow through, that would otherwise be caught in the forest hills traffic area. It was a bad enough idea to take down the Casey Overpass, which streamlined traffic that wasn't local pass the forest hills area; but this construction project is simply taking up too much time and causing too many delays. Dungarven Road serves as a bypass to the madness that the city/state have already created in the Forest Hills Area. The diverter needs to be removed and other avenues need to be explored.*

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*I don't like it. As a visiting nurse in JP, it's very inconvenient to go all the way back to Washington St to get from my patients on Kenton to my patients on Rossmore. The traffic on Washington has increased.*

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*I live on Rossmore Road and do not support the diverter. It has created 2 neighborhoods. It limits my access to a more pleasant ride home and I see my neighbors less. It is ugly. The orange cones placed by abutters make it look like a private street. We were promised notice and a discussion before it was installed and were given none. We have asked what criterion will be used for evaluation and have received no answer. Please explore with us more elegant, innovative and community-minded solutions to the real problems we experience. We have been willing, engaged partners from the start, but BTD you have really let us down on this element of the project.*

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*I am writing to tell you that I am very against cutting of this road to traffic for many reasons.*

*1) With more and more condos going up in JP and many on Washington, traffic is getting worse and worse on Washington making it difficult to take a left onto Washington. By cutting off Kenton and Gartland to Williams you are making it so we (the residents) have no access to a traffic light making it very frustrating to exit the neighborhood*

## **DIVERTER FEEDBACK: NEGATIVE**

2) *On the point above, I am a home care worker that works in Dorchester, my morning commute has increased by at least 5 min due to waiting to take a left on Washington and then a left on Williams.*

3) *There has been more traffic and confusion since the diverter went up, including an accident. I have never seen an accident on my street.*

4) *Kenton and Gartland are both two way and with people trying to get just in and out of both streets, the traffic on both roads has been more difficult to have two way traffic in and out of both roads*

5) *Why are we against people cutting through? We are not a gated community, traffic is all over JP and I would rather have people cut through if it means less of a back up on Washington. I understand trying to slow people down, I think that can be done without cutting it off.*

*ALTERNATIVELY, what about a 3 way stop at the end of Gartland? Then it will slow folks even more before deciding which way to go?*

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*I'm happy to see it gone. I live in the city, and do not want to live in a gated community. Accidents on the street have increased as people drive down, then have to back up and turn around. The residents of the street have lost the option to drive to a stop light when we have to take a left on to Washington - also increasing the likelihood of accidents. We have lost a direct route to 203, increasing gas usage, pollution and traffic on Washington Street. Since the streets are so narrow, the increased two way traffic has also caused issues - if you want to block our outlet onto Williams, the streets should be made one way. I would urge you not to make the diverter permanent.*

## **DIVERTER FEEDBACK: POSITIVE**

*The diverter has provided immediate and significant relief to our neighborhood. The volume of fast and dangerous traffic has decreased considerably. My family is very grateful for the improvement to our quality of life and the improved safety for pedestrians, bikers and children. We hope the diverter is here to stay!*

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*I am impressed by and grateful for the effects of the Dungarven diverter in terms of safety, noise, traffic volume and trash. Bicycling and walking are hazardous without it: I and others have been endangered often by drivers speeding around the corner of Kenton Road. In the short time since the diverter was installed, the street feels far safer, quieter and uncluttered by garbage thrown from cars as they raced by. I'm glad too that neighborhood children feel safer walking home from school, crossing and playing in the streets. Thank you!*

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*I am a Kenton Road resident and based on the positive impacts of the pilot diverter I am highly in favor of installing a permanent diverter on Dungarven Road. There are many young children who live on our street and a lot of pedestrian traffic (headed to the T or to Washington Street businesses). Hatoff's patrons regularly dangerously cut through the Hatoff's parking lot to exit onto Kenton, or cut across Kenton at an angle from Washington to enter Hatoff's lot. The thru traffic is usually fast, noisy and constant. The end of the street has low visibility and even when we are walking with our children, we worry about their safety. Since the installation of the diverter the road is suddenly quiet and safe for walking. The volume of traffic is greatly reduced. It is quieter at evening and night. The traffic is slower, because it's residents who are driving home, not speeding through. It is a huge improvement in our quality of life. Thank you.*

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*The diverter has been a remarkable improvement to our neighborhood. Fast, dangerous traffic has been eliminated and Kenton Road/Gartland have become pedestrian streets. Autos that do drive on the streets are residents that live there and do not drive fast. The corner of Kenton Road and Dungarven is no longer dangerous as well as eliminating traffic going the wrong way on Williams to reach Dungarven. Our neighborhood is now safe for children, adults and animals.*

*It is the best improvement to our neighborhood in many decades.*

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*It's fantastic! You really changed the neighborhood for the better. We have lived on Kenton Road for 9 years, and this is the first time we felt comfortable with the kids riding their up and down Kenton and Dungarven, back and forth to the Minton Community Gardens. It's an enormous improvement to the neighborhood. Thank you!*

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*As a resident of Kenton Road I couldn't be more pleased with the results of the Dungarven Diverter. While we continued to be subject to excessive volume, and speed of cut-through traffic despite the single speed hump installed earlier in the spring, the diverter has eliminated both. With 10 children living in the first four houses on the odd numbered side of*

## **DIVERTER FEEDBACK: POSITIVE**

*Kenton, that traffic pressure was a genuine safety issue, and the diverter has been a positive force. I should mention that my wife formerly left the neighborhood by way of Dungarven to Williams on her way to teach. The diverter is an inconvenience we both accept for the greater good of the neighborhood, and we vote enthusiastically for it to be re-installed next spring.*

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*Although I actually was using the road to travel to Morton Street from where I live on Kenton Road, considering I work at [redacted]. I am willing to accept the inconvenience of having to travel via Washington Street to help reduce traffic in the neighborhood and reduce the number of people driving the wrong way down a one-way road to cut through especially since these drivers have nearly caused head on collisions in several cases.*

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*The diverter has been life-changing for us. We are on Kenton Road. We can pull out of our driveway without worrying that someone is flying up the road (from Hatoff's gas station or at rush hour). Our kids are much safer and we don't have to worry about incidents of road rage, which have resulted in several physical altercations.*

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*The Dungarven Rd. diverter has had a \*very\* positive effect on the neighborhood--I was skeptical, at first, and concerned that we would miss the ability to cut through to Forest Hills Street, but it is worth losing that to have less traffic speeding through the neighborhood. It is quieter, of course, but most importantly, it is safer for pedestrians and cyclists. Please implement this on a permanent basis!*

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*I love the diverter. It has had a major effect on traffic in the neighborhood - it has greatly reduced traffic cutting through the neighborhood, which was the intent. Our streets are safer because of it. Some of my neighbors have said they will now let their children walk through the neighborhood by themselves, whereas before the diverter, they feared their children would get hit by a car. It was dangerous for them to leave their driveway or yard. I hope the diverter becomes a permanent fixture on Dungarven Road. I realize some people are inconvenienced by it but I feel strongly that the community is safer because of the diverter and that should outweigh the inconvenience of a few. The reduced and slowed traffic in our neighborhood because of Slow Streets and the diverter have had a very welcome calming, quieting effect. Thank you.*

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*I was mostly a supporter of this idea before, and now I am a true believer! We've got a quiet, safe, peaceful place to walk, to bike, to visit the Garden, to visit our neighbors, and the speeding cut-throughs are no more! It could be a few drivers have to sit in a longer light, but the neighborhood benefits are wonderful! Thank you BTD!!! Keep the diverter permanently!*

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*It took some getting use to but on a whole I think it makes many of the streets in the neighborhood safer. I would be in favor of it being permanent.*

## **DIVERTER FEEDBACK: POSITIVE**

*The diverter on Dungarven is great! It's truly remarkable how traffic has calmed back to how it was before the Casey overpass came down. Just about a month ago I had to wait 13 cars (I think a new record) to get beyond the corner of Kenton and Dungarven on Kenton Rd at 5:30pm. Of course traffic subsides a bit throughout Boston when schools let out (this/next week). September/October is when the cut-through traffic really starts to pick back up. Thank you for the speed humps and paint on the street, as well as the dead end signs on the end of Kenton Rd. These are all so very much appreciated!*

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*It has obviously cut down on traffic through Dungarven. At this time there are cones at the end of Gartland because cars were getting stuck when they did not know about the diverter. If you do make it permanent I think it needs to be before the curve when you are coming from Gartland. It is helpful for walkers and bikers however as someone who does regularly need to go to Dorchester it adds a lot of time to the commute especially given there is no access to a street light now. I think there should be a way to get to a light given the traffic on Washington during rush hour. Forget trying to take a left, onto Washington from Kenton or Gartland, it is impossible. If you keep it, I wonder if making it a one way loop would be helpful? There are many times when you get caught on the street as it is really not made for two way traffic given its size. Just a thought. Thanks for asking for feedback.*

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*I would like to express my complete and total support of keeping the diverter permanently. The minor inconvenience of going to Washington and then turning onto Williams is worth it for the reduced traffic around where I live. Since the diverter has been installed, there's monumentally less traffic, making it safer for everyone. I no longer fear riding my bike up Gartland to get to my condo because I don't have to dodge cars anymore. Residents no longer fear crossing Dungarven to get to the community garden and dog park. Its amazing how much the simple diverter has transformed the area. Gartland and Kenton are very narrow streets and can't support the two-way traffic that they were being used for before the diverter. Please please please make it permanent!*

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*As a parent of young children, I often walk to the Community Garden. The diverter keeps us safe. It is as close to a life saver as any traffic improvement in the neighborhood. Please, please keep it.*

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*This was a great idea and should definitely be put back. Many of the cars that drive through on Dungarven are using it as a cut through from Washington to get to Forest Hills. The cars would drive quite fast for a residential street and sometimes were not paying attention to the pedestrians or cyclists and then speed through the Williams/Dungarven intersection. The diverter was a great way to prevent higher speed traffic going through an area where many families are walking to and from the Minton Garden and where many of the areas residents take their pets for a walk. Please bring it back.*

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## **DIVERTER FEEDBACK: POSITIVE**

*I and many others like to walk on Dungarven Rd to get to/from the Minton Stable Community Garden. The plastic bollards made us feel much safer while walking down that road, since there was little change of a car going down it. Thanks to this diverter, I never saw a car turn the wrong way on Williams street from Dungarven Rd. Please bring the plastic bollards back and keep them there permanently. Thank you.*

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*My family and I frequently walk along Dungarven to the Minton stable community garden. And many of our neighbors and children use this street as well. Cars often use this road as a cut through from Washington Street. It was much safer and nicer during the pilot diverter project. Please make permanent the diverter on Dungarven.*

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*I was skeptical of the diverter at first, but I really hope a permanent one is installed. Cars would frequently speed down Dungarven Road to avoid traffic on Washington Street before the diverter was installed. This was especially dangerous because of the bend in Dungarven Road and the lack of sidewalks on the street, not to mention the number of people including children crossing Dungarven to get to Minton Stable Garden. The diverter on Dungarven Road made a big difference in terms of cutting down speeding through-traffic and making Dungarven safer for pedestrians and bicyclists.*

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*I wanted to let you know that the Slow Streets project has dramatically improved traffic flow through our neighborhood. The road block on Dungarven has significantly reduced traffic on our section of Stedman (between Rossmore and Williams), completely eliminating the numerous cars that used to come down Rossmore from Forest Hills Street, take a right on Stedman, and then an illegal left on Williams to Dungarven as a way to get to Washington Street.*

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*I think this was great, and really discouraged cut throughs on Stedman where there is a playground, and also discouraged people driving the wrong way on Williams as well. Please don't forget the rest of Stonybrook though! The speed bumps helped a little but drivers routinely run the stop signs at full speed. I have a little toddler and I'm constantly terrified she is going to get hit with the speeds that many people are driving.*

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*I don't mind the diverter. It kind of caught me by surprise, I had heard about it but didn't know when it was going in. Anyway I too think that the amount of traffic on Kenton has decreased dramatically. I am all for it.*

## **DIVERTER FEEDBACK: MIDDLEING**

*Keep the diverter - or better, replace it with something that functions better to achieve the goals of traffic calming, pedestrian safety, and right-way (instead of wrong-way) driving on Williams St. Dungarven needs a total redesign. The diverter was clearly the lowest cost/least effort solution to start. Consider something lots more innovative: a chicane. Install a sidewalk on one side (we need to get pedestrians off of the street!!). Make Dungarven one way.*