



TOWN OF BROOKLINE
Massachusetts
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Andrew M. Pappastergion
Commissioner

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: Select Board of Brookline

From: Todd M. Kirrane, Transportation Administrator
Caitlin Starr, Assistant Director of Diversity, Inclusion, & Community Relations

Date: June 2, 2020

Re: PRIDE Crosswalk and PRIDE Month Proclamation

Cc: Melvin Kleckner, Town Administrator
Andrew M. Pappastergion, Commissioner of Public Works
Peter Ditto, Director of DPW - Engineering & Transportation
Kevin Johnson, Director of DPW – Highways & Sanitation
Lloyd Gellineau, Chief Diversity Officer
Michael Gropman, Deputy Superintendent of Brookline Police

In support of the Town's commitment to create a welcoming environment by encouraging cooperation, tolerance and respect among and by all persons who come in contact with the Town of Brookline and by advancing, promoting and advocating for the human and civil rights through education, outreach and advocacy staff from the Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Community Relations is joined by the Department of Public Works - Transportation Division in recommending that the Town once again join our colleagues in municipalities within Massachusetts and throughout North America in proclaiming the month of June as LGBTQ Pride Month and to demonstrate this commitment publicly through the painting of a PRIDE Crosswalk in the following location:

Across Washington Street at Thayer St near Town Hall

Since at least the early 2000's, communities have used the painting of PRIDE Crosswalks in prominent locations as a symbolic and meaningful public demonstration of their community's commitment to support equal rights for the LGBTQ+ Community. In May 2019, the Select Board approved the painting of a PRIDE Crosswalk outside of Town Hall. In 2019, the Town of Brookline followed in the footsteps of other communities that have made the painting a community event and involved members of the LGBTQ+ community, local elected officials, and other supporters to paint the

**SELECT BOARD OF THE TOWN OF BROOKLINE
PROCLAMATION
Recognizing June as LGBTQ Pride Month in the Town
of Brookline**

WHEREAS, the Town of Brookline has a diverse Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning (LGBTQ) community and is committed to supporting visibility, dignity and equity for all people in the community; and

WHEREAS, many of the residents, students, town employees, and business owners within the Town of Brookline who contribute to the enrichment of our Town are a part of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning community; and

WHEREAS, various advancements have been made with respect to equitable treatment of lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgendered, and questioning persons throughout the nation, but there continues to be discrimination against people from this community and around the world making it important for municipalities like Brookline to stand up and show support for our residents who are affected; and

WHEREAS, several cities across the United States recognize and celebrate June as LGBTQ Pride Month; and

WHEREAS, June has become a symbolic month in which lesbians, gay men, bisexual people, transgender, questioning persons, and supporters come together in various celebrations of pride; and

WHEREAS, the rainbow flag, also known as the LGBTQ Pride flag or gay pride flag, has been used since the 1970s as a symbol of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning pride and LGBTQ social movements; and

WHEREAS, painting the pride crosswalk at Town Hall further symbolizes the Town's celebration of diversity and support for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning community.

NOW THEREFORE, the Select Board of the Town of Brookline, Massachusetts does hereby proclaim the month of June as LGBTQ Pride month in the Town of Brookline, and invites everyone to reflect on ways we all can live and work together with a commitment to mutual respect and understanding, and further, recognizes Pride Month by painting an Inclusive Pride Crosswalk outside of Town Hall.