

**Kenneth Blanchard**

**From:** Lawrence Worden  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 21, 2008 4:06 PM  
**To:** Kenneth Blanchard  
**Subject:** FW: Brownell Ave expansion

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Laurie Robertson-Lorant [mailto:laurielorant@earthlink.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 21, 2008 9:45 AM  
**To:** Richard Leary  
**Cc:** Buttonwood@googlegroups.com; 'John Bullard'; brocha@whalingmuseum.org; jmarshall@seeal.org; dvanlaarhoven@marioninstitute.org; carol@carol-steinfeld.com; f\_gellman@yahoo.com; 'gig lang'; rach70@comcast.net; Ronald Labelle; David A. Kennedy; Lawrence Worden; 'Ken Hartnett'; 'Roland Hebert'  
**Subject:** Re: Brownell Ave expansion

From past experience as the Lenox delegate to the Berkshire County Regional Transportation Group that reviewed the environmental impact statement for SuperSeven through our narrow corridor of Route 7, I concur wholeheartedly with Richard's concerns. I have similar concerns about the proposed widening of Dartmouth Street, which does not involve the precious park lands of New Bedford. Creating roads creates traffic; widening roads creates faster traffic. I've waited impatiently at that intersection many times to get on to Rt. 140, but that is my stupid human nature asserting itself in a manic civilization that is making us all over-busy and over-stressed to get places, do things. When I have the sense to step back and take a few deep breaths to recover "the better angels of my nature," my lungs are delighted to fill themselves with the breath for which I can thank the TREES.

Laurie Robertson-Lorant

On Thursday, August 21, 2008, at 08:47 AM, Richard Leary wrote:

The City of New Bedford is proposing an expansion of Brownell Ave. (August 13, 2008 9:11 AM communication below) to relieve congestion of northbound traffic approaching Rt. 6.

Click on the following to see the area in question - <http://maps.google.com/maps?f=q&hl=en&geocode=&q=02740&ie=UTF8&ll=41.635592,-70.956541&spn=0.002353,0.003782&t=h&z=18>

If three trees are to be removed as part of this expansion, then I would place the extent of the expansion along Brownell Ave to reach to approximately halfway between Exeter St. and Huntington Ave. Likewise, if trees are to be removed, I would expect the curbing border to be pushed into the park about halfway or more toward the perimeter walking path. I think this loss of park land would be most unfortunate, even if necessary. My question is, how necessary is such a widening of Brownell Ave. and the taking of what is effectively, if not technically, park land? Is congestion at that intersection really that bad? Are waiting times that long? So long that park land has to be taken? And will this not promote more northbound traffic on Brownell, and more traffic through the park?