



Shawn Machado
Assistant City Manager

MEMORANDUM

TO: Thomas A. Golden, Jr., City Manager 

FROM: Shawn Machado, Assistant City Manager

CC: Doreen Burgess & Conor Baldwin

DATE: 2/12/2026

SUBJECT: C.Laing 2/10/2026 Request the City Manager working collaboratively with the University of Massachusetts Lowell to explore pedestrian safety improvement crosswalks by installing rectangular rapid flashing beacons (RRFB) at the intersection of Pawtucket-Walker and Pawtucket-Wilder streets by the start of the Summer.

Pedestrian safety is a fundamental priority for the City of Lowell. With thousands of students, residents, and visitors walking through our streets every day, ensuring safe and accessible crossings is critical to preventing accidents and promoting a walkable community. High-traffic intersections near the University of Massachusetts Lowell, such as Pawtucket Street, present unique challenges due to heavy vehicle flow and frequent pedestrian activity. Implementing proven safety measures like Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs) can significantly reduce risk and enhance visibility, creating a safer environment for everyone. This initiative reflects our ongoing commitment to improving public safety and fostering strong partnerships with community stakeholders.

Dear Chancellor Chen,

I am respectfully reaching out to request a meeting to discuss the extremely important issue of pedestrian safety. Specifically, we would like to explore the installation of **Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFBs)** at the intersections of **Pawtucket & Wilder Streets** and **Pawtucket & Walker Streets**, as well as other locations where needed.

Pedestrian safety is a top priority for the City Council, our residents, and this administration. We believe that working collaboratively with UMass Lowell will help ensure safer crossings for students, faculty, and the community.

We look forward to meeting with you and your team to discuss this initiative and next steps.

Best regards,
Thomas A. Golden Jr.