

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING  
HELD ON: JANUARY 21, 2021 AT 10:00 A.M.  
ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING**

**Tom Magno is Acting Chair  
A roll call attendance was taken.**

**The Acting Chair accept a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting.**

**1. PETITIONED ITEMS:**

**A. Waltham High School – Draft Traffic Signal Plan**

Todd Brayton from Bryant Associates and Lorraine Finnegan with SMMA presented the draft traffic signal plans for Commission approval. In July 2020 the Commission approved the concept for the new signals on Lexington St. Some of the features of the new traffic signal design include: Two separate signalized intersections controlled by a single controller - one at the high school entrance and the second at the high school exit; the signals will be spaced 60 feet. There are three crosswalks proposed at the northerly intersection including one across Lexington St. At the southerly intersection two crosswalks are proposed, including one across Lexington St. The design will include four mast arms and nine traffic signal posts (including pedestrian posts). **Voted to accept the design for the new traffic signals on Lexington St., including all signs and pavement markings on the plans.**

**B. 130 Lexington St. Drive-Up ATM – Traffic Impact Study**

Shaun Kelly with Vanasse & Associates, Inc. (VAI) presented this traffic study. This proposed Drive-Up ATM will be located in the southeast corner of the parking lot. This will be a drive-up structure only with a one-way lane so that the ATM will be at the driver's side window. A STOP sign will be placed at the exit from the ATM lane. This project will eliminate 10 parking spaces in this section of the parking lot, but will relocate those spaces to the rear of the building. VAI determined that the ATM will generate a total of 82 new vehicles trips per day, with 7 new trips in the AM peak hours and 17 in the PM peak hour. The study proposes to improve the existing driveway access at Lexington St. by painting a yellow center line and installing a STOP sign for the exiting traffic onto Lexington St. **Voted to accept this traffic study.**

**C. MBTA Bus Stop Accessibility and Safety Improvement Program**

Sandra Clarey with McMahon Assoc. along with Natasha Vance with the MBTA presented the proposed modifications and or eliminations of bus stops. The MBTA is proposing modifications to improve the accessibility and safety at several stops. McMahon Associates has submitted 30% design plans for Traffic Commission approval. These design plans must have buy in from both MBTA and Traffic Commission. The MBTA is looking to start in March 2021. Commission member Tim Kelly is concerned that Totten Pond Rd. at Winter St. Extension still has signal detection loops cut and wondered if the MBTA will be replacing them. Ms. Vance, Transit Project Manager for the MBTA stated that they should be getting them replaced. Commission member Fire Chief Tom MacInnis asked if bus shelters will be part of the designs and the answer was no. Commission member Catherine Cagle is concerned about the need for a public process, especially to eliminate bus stops without input from users. Councillors McMenimen, McLaughlin and Harris have not seen these plans or knew anything about them until now and feel there should be Council input. **Voted to Table and have this information forwarded to City Council as a Resolution (Councillor McLaughlin will write up the Resolution) to be placed on their docket and have MBTA attend and do a presentation.**

**D. Hall St. at Chestnut St. – Proposed Crosswalk**

Nick Abruzzi, Recreation Director, requested a crosswalk for people crossing Hall St. to get to Gilmore Playground. **Voted to study the intersection and report back with our findings.**

**E. Upton Rd. at Trapelo Rd. – Parking Restriction**

Councillor McLaughlin requested this be on the agenda. Motorists are having a problem exiting Upton Rd. due to vehicles parking too close to the intersection on the south side of Trapelo Rd. **Voted to table to study the intersection and report back with our findings.**

**2. TABLED ITEMS: (Only items in Bold and Highlighted will be discussed at this meeting)**

A. Derby St. at Lowell St. – Traffic Improvements (9/18) – Councillor Harris

B. Warren St. – Traffic Safety Issues (5/19) – Councillor McLaughlin

C. Elson Rd. Parking Study (6/19) (10/19) – Councillor Durkee

D. # 80-86 Orange St. – Whalen Housing Authority (9/19) – Councillor Harris

**E. Review Citywide Street Widths for Minimum 25 feet width (12/19)(11/20)(12/20)**

Councillor Dunn was present and agreed with the T.E. recommendations, but wants to know if there is a way to let the Councillors have advance warning to notify the public. Councillor Harris requested that the street listings be sent to the City Clerk to be distributed to all City Councillors. The Fire Chief also agreed with the recommendations and wants to keep moving forward with this process due to safety issues. **Voted to approve the T.E. recommendations and add the following to Schedule 1-Parking Restrictions:**

Gregory St., south side, Smart St. to Lincoln St., No Parking

Indian St., west side, Hiawatha Ave. to Lake St., No Parking

Lake Rd., south side, entire length, No Parking

Malvern St., west side, entire length, No Parking (replacing No Parking exc. Sat., Sun., Holi)

Mokema Ave., west side, Hibiscus Ave. to Seminole Ave., No Parking

Montview Ave., west side, entire length, No Parking

Mount Walley Rd., east side, from 220' south of Piedmont Ave. to Piedmont Ave. (only to be enacted if and when City Council passes the proposed ordinance giving T.C. jurisdiction on private ways).

Overlook Rd., north side, entire length, No Parking

Sioux Ave., south side, entire length, No Parking

Walton St., south side, entire length, No Parking

Wampum Ave., north side, 220' west of Indian Rd. to 185' east of Amherst Ave., No Parking.  
South side, Amherst Ave. to 185' east of Amherst Ave., No Parking. South side, 220' west of Indian Rd. to Indian Rd., No Parking

Wamsutta Ave., north side, entire length, No Parking

- F. Cutting Ln. at Stow St. – Proposed RRFB (2/20) – Councillor Mackin
- G. Spruce St. – 5 Minute Parking (5/20) - Mayor
- H. Crescent St. at Cherry St. – Proposed RRFB (5/20) – Councillor Harris
- I. Main St./Lafayette St. and Gore St./Lawndale Ave. – Proposed RRFB's (5/20) – Councillor LaCava
- J. City Wide Speed Study - (5/20)
  
- K. Woburn St. – Traffic Calming Measures (9/20)(11/20)(1/21) – Councillor Darcy**  
**No discussion. Voted to keep tabled.**
  
- L. 560 Moody St. – Coldwell Banker Business All Day Parking 90 Day Trial (9/20)(12/20)
- M. Main St. at Exchange St. – Bus Stop issue (11/20)
  
- N. Trapelo Rd. at Kingston Rd. – Pedestrian Safety (12/20)(1/21) – Councillor Darcy**  
**No discussion. Voted to keep tabled.**
  
- O. 12-22 Cutter St. – No Parking (12/20) – Councillor Paz** brought this to the December meeting on behalf of Matt DiMatteo, property owner at # 12/14 Cutter St. The issue was vehicles parking in front of his residence preventing the tenants from placing trash and recycling in front of the complex to get picked up. Cutter St. is a one-way street travelling eastbound from Newton St. to Cedar St. There is currently No Parking on the north side from Cedar St. to a point 470' west of Cedar St. This would be right to the property line of # 22. This regulation was approved back in 1969. This proposed extended No Parking restriction will then restrict parking in front of all residences on Cutter St. **Voted to approve and make the following revisions to Schedule 1-Parking Restrictions:**
  - Delete: Cutter St., north side, Cedar St. to 470' W. of Cedar St., No Parking**
  - Add: Cutter St., north side, 150' E. of Newton St. to Cedar St., No Parking**
  
- P. Highland St. Spur – Traffic Calming Measures (12/20)
  
- 3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**
  - A. **Parking Meter Report** – Collections down \$178,000 from the same time last year. A reduction of 38%.
  - B. **Piety Corner – Update** – Final Bid Documents have arrived. **Voted to have T.E. work with Purchasing Dept. to get this project out to bid.**
  - C. **Trapelo Rd. / Waverley Oaks Rd. – Update** – Add a sidewalk on the north side of Trapelo Rd.; Add a right turn lane on eastbound approach to Trapelo Rd.; Avoid property takings along the south side of Trapelo Rd.; and push the northerly curb side towards the north, while staying within the roadway Right-of-Way, to minimize the eastbound lane shift through the intersection – this will require the construction of a retaining wall along the northside of the intersection. Both Councillors McMenimen and McLaughlin were concerned about land taking on the south side, which they are happy to see will not be happening and the additional cost of the retaining wall. They also want to make sure this project is coordinated with the Belmont Culvert project. It was asked if the T.E. could study the wall and possibly design in house to reduce the cost. The T.E. stated that No this can not be designed in house. **Voted to approve this design and seek additional funding for the retaining wall design.**

**Adjourned @ 11:49 AM**

**Respectfully Submitted**  
**Lisa Gerlach – Acting Clerk**

**Attendance: All members except Police Chief MacPherson and Robert Waddick.  
Councillors McMenimen, McLaughlin, Harris, Paz, Dunn; Lorraine Finnegan, Todd Brayton  
(Item 1A); Josh Weiland, Curley Champion, Sandra Clarey, Natasha Vance, Angela  
Saunders (item 1C); Barry Glassman, Shaun Kelly, Joey Fonseca (Item 1B) plus 2 other  
attendees.**