

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2011 AT 10:00 A.M.**

1. PETITIONED ITEMS:

A. Gore Street – No Jake Breaking

Councilor Marchese is requesting “No Jake Breaking” on Gore Street travelling southbound. Councilor Marchese attended this meeting and explained that trucks from the River Street area are using Gore Street in the early morning hours apparently traveling to the south. The Four-way stop at Gore & Grove is a particular problem with “Jake Braking”. Member Mr. Chiasson expressed concerns on how such a regulation could be enforced. Member Mr. Kelly felt that if approved such a regulation should be all the time and not just at night. I was suggested by Councillor Marchese to install the sign between Colonial Ave. and Winsom Ave. **Voted to approve the sign and post Gore Street “No Jake Braking”.**

B. 1006 Main Street – Panera Restaurant

Traffic Consultant TEC has submitted a proposal for a Panera Restaurant and drive-thru. This would be located in the new Main Street Marketplace. Attorney Joseph Connors and Mr. Kevin Dandrade, Traffic Consultant TEC, presented a plan for a drive-thru at this location. Panera proposes to utilize a drive-thru that was originally anticipated for a bank when the project was reviewed by the Commission in October 2010. The previously submitted plan, envisioned a double-lane drive-thru. This will be replaced with a singular drive-thru for Panera with an advance menu/order board. The drive-thru is designed to accommodate 3 vehicles between the window and the menu/order board, with storage to accommodate an additional 4-5 vehicles. This change will not effect the exit drives (east & west) and will remain “right turn only”. (No left turns onto Weston Street). **The Commission voted to accept the report and forward the plan to the City Council for their deliberations and consideration to issue a Special Permit.**

C. Morton Street at Sunnyside Street – Four-Way STOP

Mr. Edward Dooley is requesting a 4-Way STOP at this location. A review of the accident history showed no accidents and there are no sight issues that would qualify for a 4-way stop. **Voted to deny the request.**

D. 16 Dix Street – Handicap Parking Space

Ms. Anna M. Guigno is requesting a Handicap Parking Space in front of her residence. Mrs. Guigno has limited ability to walk. A letter of support has been received from the Waltham Disability Services Commission. **Voted to approve a HP space in front of #16 Dix Street/**

E. Princeton Avenue – Speed Limit / Speed Humps

Ms. Rebecca Gulla, # 75 Princeton Ave. is requesting speed control in this area. The criteria to install a posted speed limit sign would most likely not be met. The Traffic Commission has not accepted the use of Speed Bumps. **The Commission voted to request the Police Department to give some extra attention for the next 30 days and monitor for speeding vehicles. Voted to Table.**

2. TABLED ITEMS:

A. Barbara Rd./ Chaffee Ave. – Proposed Pedestrian Crosswalk & Four Way Stop (11/09)

B. Brookfield Rd. at Upton Rd. – Stop Sign (2/10)(6/11) Voted to remove from the table

GPI evaluated the traffic volumes along Upton Road to determine if the road is being used as a cut through to avoid the traffic signal at Trapelo Rd. and Waverley Oaks Road. Turning Movement Counts (TMC) indicate that the route is being used as a cut through most heavily in the AM peak

hour and the reverse in the PM peak hour. An all-way stop at Shirley and Upton Rd, based on the traffic volumes and site observations, is not warranted or justified. It was suggested that if this area is still used as a cut-thru after the turning restrictions and new STOP sign is installed then you might want to flip the exiting STOP signs at Upton Rd./Shirley Rd. at a later time. **Voted to approve GPI's recommendation and amend the traffic rules as noted above.**

Add to Schedule 3 Stop Street the following:

Upton Road at Brookfield Road, facing southbound traffic

Add to Schedule 14 Turns Only As Designated the following:

Trapelo Road eastbound – at Upton Road - No Right Turn - 7am to 9am

Waverley Oaks Road northbound at Shirley Rd. - No left Turn - 4pm to 6pm

Waverley Oaks Road northbound at Brookfield Rd. - No left Turn - 4pm to 6pm

- C. #306 Lexington St. – Driveway Opening (4/10)
- D. Lincoln St. at Sanderson Rd./Curve St. – Traffic Improvements (6/10)
- E. Connors Pool # 148 Newton St. – Proposed revision to vehicle access to site (6/10)
- F. 110 Bear Hill Road – Proposed Development (11/10)
- G. Traffic Commission Policy – Revised Petition Policy (11/10) Law Dept. Opinion received
- H. Four-Way Stop Review (11/10) – In Law Dept.
- I. Review of Overnight Parking Enforcement Procedure – (2/11)
- J. Required Parking Spaces (2/11) – Review of Law Dept. Opinion Received
- K. Ellison Park & Summer Street Area – Traffic Calming (Sp. 3/11)
- L. Albemarle Road – Pedestrian Safety (4/11)
- M. 831 Main Street – Proposed Development (6/11)
- N. 850 & 920 Winter Street – Proposed Development (6/11)

O. Warren Street – Truck Restriction (9/11) Voted to Remove from the Table

GPI conducted additional traffic counts along Warren Street from Nov 29 thru Dec. 7. It showed a significant amount of truck traffic northbound in the early morning hours. Based on these findings GPI recommended to proceed with a truck exclusion request for Warren Street. **Voted to have GPI submit a report to MassDOT seeking a 24 hour Heavy Truck Exclusion for Warren Street.**

- P. Smith Street at Trapelo Road – Change in Lane Use (9/11)

- Q. Relocation of Sign and Paint Division (9/11)

R. Plympton St. at Hammond St. – Four Way Stop (9/11) Voted to Remove from the Table

GPI evaluated the traffic operations at the intersection of Plympton and Hammond Streets to determine if a four-way stop is warranted. MUTCD states minimum volumes needed to warrant a four way are 300 vehicles per hour on the major road and 200 vehicles per hour on the minor road for eight hours. Sight lines looking north and south from westbound Plympton Street approach are obstructed by fences on the corner properties. and may be in violation of Corner Clearance City Ordinance Reference Art.4,Sect 224. **Voted to send letter to Building Department to determine if the two corner properties have corner clearance violations. If they are in compliance then we should approve the 4-Way Stop. Voted to table until notice is received from Building Department.**

- S. 511 Totten Pond Road – Proposed Traffic Study (10/11)

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- A. Parking Meter Report - Revenues are at the same levels as last year
- B. Traffic Engineer position – Update – interview process is continuing
- C. Part-Time Maintenance Attendant position - Update – interviews will be held on Dec. 21st
- D. Full-Time MEO position – Update interviews will be held on Dec. 20th
- E. Ice Rink Pedestrian Signal – Update awaiting final work with Verizon and contractor will replace temporary mast arm with permanent sometime after January.
- F. Graverson Playground Pedestrian Signal – Update – Solar signals have been installed, they still need some fine tuning before full operational.
- G: Forest @ Trapelo Rd – GPI and Traffic Engineering are working with Mayor's Office and Purchasing.
- H: Main Street Signals – coordination from Banks Square to Newton Street completed
- I: Lyman @ Main Street – faulty equipment; two traffic loops need to be replaced

Adjourned @ 10:40 AM

Attendance: All members except Chief Quinn (attended Fire Fighters funeral in Worcester). Councillor Marchese for Gore Street; Att. Joseph Connors & Mr. Dandrade for Panera Bread; and Mr. Joseph Guigno for Dix Street HP parking.

Respectfully Submitted

Frank S. Lombardo
Clerk

Off Committee Speakers

Waltham Traffic Commission

Date of the Meeting: Thursday December 15, 2011

Please Print

| Name of Speaker | # Street, City | Affiliation i.e. Attorney - Abutter Interested party - Petitioner | For/Against Item No: |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Gary Marchese | City Councilor | For Petitioner | Gore St 1A |
| Att. Joseph Connors | 404 Main Street Waltham | Attorney | Panera Bread 1B |
| Mr. Kevin Dandrade | 65 Glen Street Lawrence, MA | T.E.C. Traffic Consultant | Panera Bread 1B |
| Joseph Guigno | 66 Mayall Road | For Petitioner | Dix Street 1D |