

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
HELD: June 17, 2021 AT 10:00 A.M.
GOVERNMENT CENTER AUDITORIUM**

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

1. PETITIONED ITEMS:

A. Fourth of July Parking Restrictions - Mayor McCarthy is requesting the following parking restrictions.

Voted to approve the temporary parking restrictions and street closing on Sunday July 4 from 12:00 P.M. to 12:00 A.M. Vender parking allowed on Athletic Field Road. Handicapped Parking on Athletic Field Road and Leary Field Bacon Street lot.

B. Waverley Oaks Rd. at Linden St. – Proposed change of signage from Yield to Stop control

Councillor Durkee and David Matayabas, # 25 Summer St., Apt. 5 are requesting this intersection be reviewed for a change in signage. At present, southbound Linden Street has a Yield sign at Waverley Oaks Road. Vehicles on Waverley Oaks Road often stop to allow southbound Linden Street to proceed. The petitioners are asking for consideration of an All-Way Stop. **Voted to have the Traffic Engineer, conduct a study to determine if the existing Yield should be changed to an All-Way Stop control.**

C. Lexington St. – No Engine Braking

Councillor Durkee is requesting these signs from Athletic Field Rd. to School St.

Due to the construction of the new High School at 554 Lexington Street, large heavy trucks are using Lexington Street in the area of Emerson Road to Pond Street. Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin recommended posting the street. **Voted to install temporary No Engine Braking signs on Lexington Street in both directions from Emerson Road to Pond Street. Once the Waltham High School is completed then these signs will be removed.**

D. Princeton Ave. at Lake St. – Extend No Parking to Corner

Councillor Dunn is requesting that the existing No Parking to Corner be extended to 50'

This location, the southwest corner of Princeton Ave, has No Parking for 30 feet from the intersection of Lake Street. Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin recommended this be increased to 50 feet.

Voted to approve this request and amend Schedule 1, No Parking as follows:

Princeton Ave. west side, from Lake Street to a pt. 50' south. No Parking

E. # 118 Central St. – Proposed Disabled Parking Space

Golden Way, Inc. is requesting a parking space in front of their business.

There is an Adult Day Center that presently has a Handicapped Parking Space. This request is for an additional space. Mr. Mark Johnson, Chairperson, Waltham Disability Services Commission reviewed this request and found the request not to be justified due to an existing HP sign to the left of the building. **Voted to deny**

F. # 143 Church St., Apt. 2 – Proposed Disabled Parking Space

Mr. Shahid Hasan is requesting a parking space along Church St. and was present to discuss his request. Currently this section of Church St. has a No Parking restriction. Mr. Mark Johnson, Chairperson, Waltham Disability Services Commission was asked for his opinion. Mr. Johnson replied that this should be denied due to adequate off-street parking. **Voted to deny this request**

G. 221 Bear Hill Rd. – Traffic Impact Study

Attorney Daniel Glissmen and Traffic Consultant Matthew Skelly were present to discuss the Traffic Impact Study for this proposed Marijuana establishment. Mr. Matthew Skelly Traffic Engineer for Fuss & O'Neil gave the presentation. He reported the three existing driveways will be reduced to two, with the north drive enter only and the south drive exit. There will be approximately 22 onsite parking spaces. The anticipated vehicle trips will be 152 weekday peak hour and 254 trips on Saturday peak hour. Councillor Darcy requested a study for the intersection of Main/Bear Hill Road be provided by our Traffic Engineer Mr. Garvin since a previous submittal was LOS D, not LOS C. He also noted that there is no bus service to this location, on-site bicycle parking should be provided and a sidewalk should be included. Member Mr. Chiasson agreed that this should be part of the proposal. Member Fire Chief MacInnis stated that the Fire Department has concerns with the 13 foot width and turning radius at the northeast corner of the site. Member Mr. Magno agreed the Main St/Bear Hill Road should be studied. **The Commission recommended the proponent provide bicycle parking, and consider parking alternatives for employees. Voted to accept the traffic study submitted by Fuss & O'Neal for the proposed recreational Marijuana facility at 221 Bear Hill Road and forward it to the City Council for their deliberations with the following provisions:**

1: Customer visits be by appointment only for the first two weeks, and that appointments are limited to 40 per hour

2: Waltham Police Department assistance be used to manage traffic during the first two weeks

H. #86 West St. – Removal of Parking Restriction

Mr. Jay Douglass is requesting the existing No Parking be removed in front of his business. Recently, our Sign crew replaced missing signs at this location, which had been approved in April 2003. Upon review, parking is used by the business at #86 West Street and there appears to be no reason to prohibit parking. Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin recommended to remove this restriction. **Voted to approve and delete the following from Schedule 1- Parking Restrictions:**

Delete: West St., E. side from 60' S. of #86 West St. to #86 West St., No Parking

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) – Recommended a new petition be presented. Councillor Harris was present and voted to File.

B. Warren St. at Chaffee St. – Traffic Safety Issues (5/19)(4/21) – Councillor McLaughlin

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

D. # 80-86 Orange St. – Whalen Housing Authority (9/19) - Recommended a new petition be presented. Councillor Harris was present and she mentioned that she will have a neighborhood meeting over the summer. Voted to keep on the table.

E. Review Citywide Street Widths for Minimum 25 feet width) Ward 7

Voted to approve the Traffic Engineer's recommendation regulating parking on the following streets:

Add to Schedule 1 the following:

Albert St. - No Parking, East side entire length
Andrea Rd. - No Parking, North side entire length
Hayes Rd. - No Parking, South side (odd) entire length
Sunnyside St. - No Parking, South side, entire length

Delete from Schedule 1 the following:

Sunnyside St. South side, from Morton St. to South St No Parking

In addition, the Traffic Engineer will contact Charlesbank Apartment complex to submit a formal request for No Parking on Sagamore Way, and Charlesbank Way. Additional signage will be placed on Cutting Lane.

- F. Cutting Ln. at Stow St. – Proposed RRFB (2/20)
- G. Spruce St. – 5 Minute Parking (5/20)
- H. Crescent St. at Cherry St. – Proposed RRFB (5/20)
- I. Main St./Lafayette St. and Gore St./Lawndale Ave. – Proposed RRFB's (5/20)
- J. City Wide Speed Study - (5/20)

K. 560 Moody St. – Coldwell Banker Business All Day Parking 90 Day Trial (9/20)(12/20)(3/21)

The trial period for the use of placards by employees, will expire at the end of the month. Coldwell Banker has not been able to find an alternative solution for parking. Councillor Harris on behalf of Coldwell Banker requested another 90 days so that a solution could be found. Member Mr. Magno made a motion to terminate the “return to block” violation but it was not seconded and the motion was unsupported. **A vote was taken to extend the use of placards for another 90 days. Member Mr. Kelly opposed.**

- L. Highland St. Spur – Traffic Calming Measures (12/20)
- M. Ellison Pk, Harris St., Summer St., Pleasant St. & Faneuil Rd. – Traffic Calming Measures – Councillor Durkee (3/21)

**N. Gale, Ripley and Pierce Sts. Review of Parking Restrictions –
At the request of Councillor LaCava this item was tabled**

- O. Trapelo Rd. at Pine Vale Rd. – Safety Issues for Bicyclist and Pedestrians – Councillor Darcy (5/21)
- P. Bennett St. at Hastings St. – Proposed All-Way STOP – Councillor LaCava (5/21)
- Q. Elson Rd. – Proposed One-Way – Councillor Durkee (5/21)
- R. Wyman St. – Proposed RRFB (5/21)

S. 510 Moody St. Dual Language School – Traffic Safety Study (5/21)

School Safety Officer Ann Frassica and Councillor Harris, requested a review of the parking around the Dual Language School (old South Junior) at High and Moody Streets particularly at dismissal time in the afternoon. Beech Street (east side of the building) and Alder Street (the south side of the building) become filled with school buses and parental vehicle parking. This prevents through (residential) traffic to pass. Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin suggested the following:

- 1: Maintain the position of the STS at Beech and Alder Sts.
- 2: Add a new STS at the intersection of Moody and Alder Sts.
- 3: At 2:30 pm restrict traffic on Beech St. at High St. to “School Traffic Only”

- 4: At 2:30 pm restrict "No Left Turn" for southbound traffic on Beech St. at Alder St. (must continue straight to Myrtle St. and make a left turn)
- 5: At 2:30 pm restrict "No Right Turn" on Beech St. at Alder St. (must continue straight to High St. and make a right turn)
- 6: At 2:30 pm close "Road Closed/Detour/Left Arrow" on Alder St. at Moody St. (must continue on Moody Street to High Street)
- 7: At 2:30 pm, STS direct traffic from using Alder St. southbound until the school buses and parent vehicles have left the area.
- 8: The STS shall remove the signs and barriers, to restore the traffic movement to normal.

Voted to approve the Traffic Engineer's recommendations for managing traffic at the Dual Language School during student pickup times, starting at the beginning of the new school year in September 2021. Forward these recommendations to the School Safety Officer Ann Frassica

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- A. Parking Meter Report – receipts to date are \$2,000 lower then the same time last year.
- B. Piety Corner – Update – Finalizing the bid documents that will be going out shortly.
- C. Trapelo Rd. / Waverley Oaks Rd. – Update – funding request was sent to Mayor's Office.
- D. Moody St. and Main St. Signage for Mayor's approval – There are currently 13 sign request still pending awaiting her signature, plus now 11 new request to be approved by the Mayor.

4. LATE ITEMS:

A. 2021 Riverfest Festival – Proposed Road Closing

Ms. Sarah Hankins is requesting to hold this event on Saturday, August 7, 2021.

Voted to approve this request and close Moody Street from the Moody Street Bridge to Hall Corner (Moody/Crescent / Pine) on Saturday August 7, 2021 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. One lane will be open for Emergency Vehicles. In addition, free parking is approved on the upper level of the Embassy Parking Facility for vehicles with the proper identifying placard supplied by Riverfest.

B: Tow Contract

Member Mr. Chiasson requested the Traffic Commission renew its efforts to have a contract signed. A Sub-Committee composed of Chief O'Connell, T. E. Mr. Garvin, Mr. Chiasson and a member of the Law Department will initiate the procedures for a R. F. B.

Adjourned @ 11:16 AM

Attendance: All members except Ms. Gagle. Councillors Darcy and Harris.

Respectfully Submitted

Frank S. Lombardo, Clerk

Date of the Meeting: June 17, 2021

Please Print

Name of Speaker	Address # Street, City	Item of Interest	Affiliation i.e. Attorney Abutter Interested party – Traffic Engineer Petitioner
Sarah Hankins	103 Seminole Ave Waltham, MA	Riverfest	Downtown Waltham Partnership
Matthew Skelly	190 High Street Boston, MA	221 Bear Hill Road	Traffic Engineer
Shaiad Hasan	143 Church Street Waltham, MA	Handicapped Parking	Petitioner
Maryellen DiShino	560 Moody St #2 Waltham, MA	Parking Placard	Petitioner
Cathyann Harris	21 Hovey Street Waltham, MA	560 Moody Street Duel Language School	Ward 8 Councillor
Daniel Glissmen	Boston, Ma	221 Bear Hill Road	Attorney
Ann Frassica	Waltham PD 155 Lexington St	School Safety Officer	Petitioner
George Darcy	93 Hobbs Road Waltham, MA	Pine Vale/Trapelo 221 Bear Hill Road	Councillor