

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
HELD: THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2022 AT 10:00 A.M.
WALTHAM CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL**

The Chair accepted a motion and the minutes of the April meeting was approved.

1. PETITIONED ITEMS:

A. Waltham Red Light Camera Enforcement – City Clerk Joseph Vizard

City Clerk Joseph Vizard asks to discuss City of Waltham Red Light Camera Enforcement. The placement of Red Light Cameras requires the State to enact legislation approving this type of enforcement. The State on several occasions has considered red light enforcement, but it has not yet been approved. **Voted to Place on File.**

B. Clark Street Parking – Mark Johnson Waltham Housing Authority

WHA is requesting parking restrictions on Clark Street. The petitioner states area residents are parking in such a manner that causes problems with vehicles passing through. There is also stated to be presence of trash, vandalism, and drug activity. Clark Street is a “private way” and the Commission lacks jurisdiction to prohibit parking. A majority of the residents can ask for a parking restriction if they desire. Parking enforcement is not the most effective way to solving crime issues. Police enforcement is encouraged and this will be forwarded to the Police Department for their consideration. **Voted to deny the request, and refer this item to the Police Department.**

C. July Fourth Fireworks – Waltham Fire Department (Friday July 1, 2022)

Roadway and parking restrictions requested for annual firework display, starting at 9:00 PM.

- 1: Moody Street Bridge will be closed to all traffic on the north and south side of Bridge (4:00 pm).**
- 2: North bound traffic on Moody Street will detour onto Pine Street or Crescent St**
- 3: South bound traffic on Moody Street will detour onto Carter Street or Felton Street**
- 4: Local destinations south of Carter Street to the Moody Street Bridge will have access**
- 5: Elm Street driveway to the Mill housing complex will be open for access and egress; Moody Street side will be closed**
- 6: Riverwalk, north side of the river, will be closed; no pedestrians due to firework fallout safety area**
- 7: No Parking will be posted on Moody Street, Carter Street to Crescent/Pine Friday Morning July 1, until end of the event**
- 8: Installation of barricades along the sidewalk on Prospect Street at Riverwalk**

D. Marijuana Dispensary Traffic Study

BSC Group presented the findings of the combined dispensary traffic study. The Traffic Commission has accepted the traffic studies of all five individual dispensaries, however, at the request of the City Council this report compiled the data for each and produced a comprehensive traffic study. This study included a full build-out of Phase 2 of the 1265 Main Street development and all the major infrastructure improvements associated with that project (including a new Main Street Bridge over Rte. 128 and the extension of Green Street from Main Street to the Rte. 20 rotary over Rte. 128). The conclusions of the comprehensive traffic study indicate that with the infrastructure improvements that would be constructed as part of the 1265 Main Street project, the traffic network will accommodate all traffic expected to be generated by the combined dispensaries. The BSC report completed all the tasks in the Scope of Services for the study. **Voted to accept the traffic study prepared by BSC Group for the combined impacts of the four largest of the marijuana dispensaries that have been before Traffic Commission.**

E. MBTA Bus Stop Modifications

Joshua Weiland, MBTA, requested modifications to bus stop on Maple Street area. The following modifications were voted:

- 1: Relocate the bus stop on Maple St. EB closer to Moody St. by the fire station**
- 2: Create a new consolidated bus stop outbound on Crescent St., north of Maple St**
- 3: Relocate the bus stop pair on Crescent St from Robbins St intersection to Brown St intersection**
- 4: Create a new bus stop on High St WB before Moody St (to be in use until such time that a new bus stop is created on Maple St. WB in front of Beth Eden Baptist Church)**

Deny the following MBTA request

- 5: Relocate the bus stop on Moody St NB before High St to Maple St. WB front of Beth Eden Baptist Church (since this would require new sidewalks and curbing)**
- 6: Create a new bus stop on Moody St NB before Alder St (since this would remove on-street parking)**

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

- A. Elson Rd. Parking Study (6/19) (10/19) – Councillor Durkee
- B. # 80-86 Orange St. – Whalen Housing Authority (9/19) – Councillor Harris
- C. City Wide Speed Study - (5/20)
- D. Elson Rd. – Proposed One-Way – Councillor Durkee (5/21)(10/21)
- E. Wyman St. – Proposed RRFB (5/21)
- F. Dale St. Speeding Issues (install crosswalk or All-Way STOP) – Councillor LaFauci (9/21)(1/22)
- G. Oak St. at Cedar St. – All Way STOP – Councillor Paz (9/21)(1/22)
- H. Adams St. at Crescent St. – Proposed All-Way and Corridor Study – Councillor Harris (11/21)
- I. Trapelo Rd at Clocktower Rd – Proposed Traffic Signal – Mayor McCarthy (12/21)
- J. Bedford St – Speeding Issues – Mayor McCarthy (12/21)
- K. Willow St – Speed Limit Signage, Sidewalks, and Parking – Councillor LaCava (12/21)
- L. Bright St – Pavement Markings – Councillor LaCava (12/21)
- M. Lowell St – Proposed Traffic Study for Pedestrian and Public Safety – Councillor Harris (12/21)
- N. Main Street at Newton St & Lyman St – Traffic Signal Coordination (1/22)
- O. Boynton Street and Winthrop Street – All Way STOP – Mayor McCarthy (2/22)
- P. Harrington Road Speed Study (Mayor McCarthy) (3/22)
- Q. No Parking Request, Warwick Avenue (Police Department Request) (3/22)
- R. Villa Street: Speed Bumps (Mayor McCarthy) (4/22)

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

- A. **Parking Meter Report** – Year to Date funds are updated. Collections are about \$11,000 higher than this time last year.
- B. **Moody Street Bus Stop Removal**, Parking Regulation – four former Bus Stops along Moody Street from High/Maple to Pine/Crescent (3 southbound and 1 northbound) will be converted to 1 hour parking. Direct T.E. Garvin to submit the required Sign Approval Permits to the Mayor.

AND ANY LATE FILED ITEM(S) THAT MAY COME BEFORE THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION.

4: Late File Items

A: Raj Collections (270 Moody Street) Fashion Show Moody Street July 30,2022 6:30pm to 8:45pm. The Police Department met with the organizers and recommended approval of the event to conduct a fashion show of 40 participants with amplified music/sound on Moody Street, Saturday July 30, 2022. Models will walk down a runway between 270 Moody Street to Taylor Street; Taylor Street to Cushing Street and Chestnut Street to High Street. The crossing of Moody Street (at Walnut/Cushing) by vehicles will be temporarily closed with a Police Presence. Mayor McCarthy and Councillor Harris supported this request for consideration. **Voted to approve this request.**

B: Totten Pond Road Traffic Signal

Mayor McCarthy requested a study for a “full” traffic signal at the Skating Rink/Prospect Hill Park. Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin reported a “Hawk Signal” has been approved and is in process. **Voted to direct T.E. Garvin to conduct a new signal warrant analysis.**

C: Banks Square – Mayor McCarthy is concerned about vehicles that continue straight on Weston Street westbound from the left turn only lane. need to have missing signage replaced and street markings (painted island). **Traffic Engineer Garvin was directed to investigate what measures are recommended to improve this situation. Item placed on table.**

D: Beaver and Warren Project – design phase is moving forward; costs have increased, so Designer is asking for change order to compensate for increased cost of borings. T.E. Garvin will forward that request to Mayor.

E: Piety Corner – water, sewer, conduit, and sidewalk in place; utilities must complete their work before the other work can resume

F: Elm and River Street – Traffic Signal

Voted to conduct a Warrant Analysis to determine if the intersection qualifies for a traffic signal

G: Gore/Main & Warren – signage to be installed shortly

H: Main & Elm Street

Traffic cameras (detectors) are not working properly and need to be fixed for coordination to Moody and Lexington Street. Wires Dept Director Mr. Kelly informed Commission that he has funding to install adaptive traffic signal equipment along Main St, and will work with T.E. Garvin on that project.

I: Agenda Items - The Commission reiterated that Agenda items for the next month’s agenda, must be submitted by the 25th of the previous month.

Attendance: All members except Fire Chief MacInnis. Mayor McCarthy, Councilors Harris and Darcy; Deputy Fire Chief Grant.

Adjourned @ 12:06pm

Waltham Traffic Commission

Date of the Meeting: May 26, 2022

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Name of Speaker	Address # Street, City	Item of Interest	Affiliation i.e. Attorney Abutter Interested party – Traffic Engineer Petitioner
Joshua Weiland	45 High Street Boston, MA	MBTA Bus Stops	MBTA
Sam Offei-Addo	803 Summer Street Boston, MA	Marijuana Dispensaries	Traffic Consultant
Cathyann Harris	42 Hovey Rd	Raj Collections	Ward Councilor
Raj Sharms	270 Moody St	Raj Collections	Petitioner
Deputy Richard Grant	175 Lexington St	4 th of July Fireworks	Waltham Fire Dept
George Darcy	93 Hobbs Rd	Marijuana Dispensaries	Ward Councilor