

Traffic Commission Minutes  
April 11, 2019

The meeting was held at the TAB Building Atrium, 167 Holland St 2<sup>nd</sup> flr

Attendance: Stan Koty, Lena Webb, Thomas Graney, Mark Niedergang  
Staff: Laura Accaputo, Anna Rebelo, Suzanne Rinfret, Nancy Salamoun, Adam Poliski  
Other: Terence Smith, Consultant

Chairman Koty called the meeting to order at 5:30pm

**Item #1** – Motion to Accept the minutes from the March 14, 2019 Traffic Commission Meeting made by Mark Niedergang, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thomas Graney. Motion Passed: 4-0

**Item #2** – Bluebikes System Expansion

Request to remove three parking spaces on the east side Craigie St, just south of Summer St, for seasonal use of a Bluebikes station between March and November.

Request to remove two metered parking spaces on the east side of Boston Ave, just south of Broadway, for seasonal use of a Bluebikes station between March and November.

Request to remove three parking spaces on the south side of Elm St, just east of White St, for seasonal use of a Bluebikes station between March and November.

Request to remove two parking spaces on the east side of Thurston St, just south of Evergreen Ave, for seasonal use of a Bluebikes station between March and November.

- Adam Poliski discussed plans to expand the Bluebikes system throughout the city and stated all of the Councilors support the request.

**Motion to Approve made by Mark Niedergang, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lena Webb. Motion Passed: 4-0**

**Item #3** - Central Broadway

Request to remove a total of 9 metered parking spaces on Broadway to accommodate new turn lanes and bike lanes. Two of these spaces are located on the south side of Broadway, just west of School St, and the remaining 7 are located on the north side of Broadway, just west of Temple St.

Request to remove a total of 17 on-street parking spaces currently designated as 2 hour or by residential permit on the north side of Broadway between Langmaid Ave and Main St. These spaces will be removed to accommodate an uphill protected bike lane as well as a dedicated bus lane.

- Adam Poliski stated this request is to accommodate safer facilities for both bikes and busses.

**Motion to Approve made by Lena Webb, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mark Niedergang. Motion Passed: 4-0**

**Item #4** – Request to change the fire lane at 9 New Washington St located in front of the Ralph and Jenny Center to a pick up drop off location and a fire lane be erected opposite of 9 New Washington St adjacent to the dog park for the same distance of 80'feet for the duration of the GLX bridge closure/construction.

- Suzanne Rinfret explained this request came from the Fire Chief and has already been posted per the new construction regulation.

**Motion to Approve made by Thomas Graney, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lena Webb. Motion Passed: 4-0**

**Item #5** – Request to use three parking spaces on the south side Washington St, just east of the bus stop nearest New Washington St and currently designated as two hour parking or by residential permit, as space designated for the Washington St Bridge Shuttle for the duration of the closure.

**Motion to Approve made by Lena Webb, 2<sup>nd</sup> by the Chair. Motion Passed: 4-0.**

**Item #6** – Request to change the 30 minute parking zone at 290 Highland Av to No Parking Anytime for the duration of the GLX bridge closure/construction.

- Mark Niedergang explained there is a new business opening up at this location and the owner is concerned about this restriction. He stated traffic hasn't been awful in the area and is concerned this will create a disadvantage for the new business.
- Suzanne Rinfret explained the stop line at this intersection was moved back and the request came from both the police and Traffic and Infrastructure.
- Adam Poliski explained the stop line was moved back because the intersection was not wide enough for busses to make the turn.
- The Chair asked how many spaces would be lost and Suzanne Rinfret answered 3-4 spaces.

**Motion to Approve made by Lena Webb, 2<sup>nd</sup> by the Chair. Motion Passed: 4-0.**

**Item #7** – Request for No Parking Anytime at 117 Washington St, from the bus stop extending 30ft, for the duration of the Washington St bridge closure

- Suzanne Rinfret stated this is necessary to accommodate busses turning onto Tufts St.

**Motion to Approve made by Mark Niedergang, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lena Webb. Motion Passed: 4-0.**

**Item #8** – Request for Handicapped Parking  
131 Orchard St

- Nancy Salamoun stated she supports the request

**Motion to Approve made by Thomas Graney, 2<sup>nd</sup> by the Chair. Motion Passed: 4-0.**

Mark Niedergang addressed the commission regarding resident notification when changes to parking are made. He explained they don't always notice the signs especially if they've been parking there on a regular basis. He asked if there was some way to notify the neighborhood within a certain radius. Suzanne Rinfret explained that when signs first go up vehicles parked in violation are given a warning for the first 5 days. She also noted since all of the Councilors receive an agenda prior to meetings they could note any changes in their newsletters. Adam Poliski stated outreach is more challenging for projects led by the state or private entities but there are general procedures in place for projects led by the city. Mark Niedergang stated he understands the challenges and noted not all Councilors have

newsletters. He made a motion that when it is not a matter of immediate public safety warnings will be given for 10 days after the signs go up, however after a brief discussion outlining the difficulties of this since enforcement won't always know the exact date signs were posted, he withdrew the motion. The discussion will be placed on file.

**Thomas Graney made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:55pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lena Webb. Motion Passed: 4-0.**