

Traffic Commission Minutes  
April 14, 2022

Meeting was held virtually on Thursday April 14, 2022 at 5:30pm  
<https://meet.goto.com/994468109> (Please click this link to attend the virtual meeting)

Attendance: Lt. Rymill, Lena Webb, Thomas Graney, Beatriz Gomez-Mouaked, Jill Lathan

Staff: Suzanne Rinfret, Laura Accaputo, Brad Rawson, Adrienne Pomeroy, Adam Polinski, Anna Rebelo

Other: Ben Capraro, Jack Connolly, Travis McGrath

Meeting Ground Rules:

1. Listen to the other side
2. Focus on issues, not personalities
3. Avoid questioning motives
4. Be polite

The Chair went over the meeting ground rules, noted the meeting was being recorded and called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. She instructed the secretary to conduct a roll call vote for attendance

Thomas Graney – present

Lena Webb - present

Lt Rymill – present

Chair Jill Lathan - present

Councilor Gomez-Mouakad – not present for roll call, arrived at 5:32pm

The Chair asked the secretary to conduct a roll call vote on each item.

**Item #1** – Acceptance of Minutes from the March 10, 2022 Traffic Commission Meeting

**Motion to Approve made by Lena Webb, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lt. Rymill. The secretary conducted a roll call vote: Lena Webb – approve, Thomas Graney – approve, Lt. Rymill– approve. The motion carries 3-0.**

**Item #2** – Request to restrict approximately 50 feet of on-street parking in front of 616 Broadway, currently regulated as “2 hour parking from 8:00am to 2:30am except by permit and permit parking only from 2:30am to 8:00am”, and approximately 25 feet of on-street parking in front of 620 Broadway, also currently regulated as 2 hour parking except by permit, for the installation of a new crosswalk and pedestrian refuge island.

- Brad Rawson, Director of Mobility, stated in preparation of GLX bridge closure in 2019 many steps were taken to reduce conflicts for those using all modes of transportation

including walking, biking, driving this included establishing temporary curb extensions, crosswalks, protected bike lanes etc. As we prepare for the opening of the GLX train station in Ball Square later this year the city has been working to turn these temporary improvements into permanent ones.

- Adam Polinski shared a slide to show exactly what piece of curb they were talking about.
- Councilor Gomez-Mouakad asked if she could get a notice to distribute to constituents in her ward and Brad confirmed she would receive a notice and thanked her for her help in getting the word out.
- Lena Webb stated in looking at an overhead view of this intersection it is a very intense and confusing one with many intersecting streets in a very expansive space and she believes it is very important to tighten up safety for pedestrians. She supports the request.
- Councilor Gomez Mouakad stated she sent an email about the accessibility issue at the refuge island on the other side of this intersection and asked if they could look into it and Brad stated they will follow up with her on it.

**Motion to Approve made by Lena Webb, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Lt. Rymill. The secretary conducted a roll call vote: Lena Webb – approve, Thomas Graney – approve, Lt. Rymill– approve, Councilor Gomez-Mouakad - approve. The motion carries 4-0.**

**Item #3** – Request to convert one parking space in front of 620 Broadway, currently 2 hour parking except by permit, to accessible parking.

- Brad Rawson explained this request is to provide a new accessible parking space as part of safety improvements in this area.
- Adrienne Pomeroy, ADA Coordinator, stated she supports and is encouraged by the request, this is near a disabled veterans post and she believes this will increase accessibility to homes and businesses in the area.

**Motion to Approve made by Thomas Graney, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilor Gomez-Mouakad. The secretary conducted a roll call vote: Thomas Graney – approve, Lena Webb – approve, Lt. Rymill– approve, Councilor Gomez-Mouakad – approve. The motion carries 4-0.**

**Item #4** – Request to restrict approximately 60 feet of on-street parking on the north side of Holland St opposite Cameron Ave and approximately 15 feet of on-street parking on the south side of Holland St just west of Cameron Ave, all currently regulated as “2 hour parking from 8:00am to 2:30am except by permit and permit parking only from 2:30am to 8:00am”, for the installation of pedestrian refuge islands.

- Brad Rawson explained this is an important safety investment for the city in a high crash location. Motorists, bus riders, pedestrians, and bicyclists all agree this is an unsafe intersection. Public advocacy combined with the collection of data and engineering efforts we have been able to mobilize a street and sidewalk reconstruction project and include important safety measures to benefit all road users at this intersection. Curb

extensions improve visibility and lower speeds, this will provide a mid-block refuge island to break up the Cameron Avenue crossing.

- Adam Polinski shared some slides to show the locations of the refuge islands and the parking spaces that will be eliminated.
- Lena Webb stated this is in her ward and she can confirm public advocacy. There is a lot of conflict at this intersection and bump outs are a great place to start for safety improvements, she strongly supports any and all pedestrian improvements at this intersection.

**Motion to Approve made by Lena Webb, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilor Gomez-Mouakad. The secretary conducted a roll call vote: Thomas Graney – approve, Lena Webb – approve, Lt. Rymill– approve, Councilor Gomez-Mouakad – approve. The motion carries 4-0.**

**Thomas Graney made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:55pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Councilor Gomez-Mouakad. Motion passed: 4-0.**