

Traffic Commission Minutes
December 10, 2020

Meeting was held virtually on Thursday December 10, 2020 at 5:30pm
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/222555253>

Attendance: Thomas Graney, Mark Niedergang, Steve MacEachern, Lena Webb (late)
Staff: Laura Accaputo, Anna Rebelo, Suzanne Rinfret, Jackie Stagnari, Nancy Salamoun, Ali Kleyman, Brad Rawson
Other: David Schrage

Chairman MacEachern called the meeting to order at 5:32pm

Item #1 – Acceptance of Minutes from the November 12, 2020 Traffic Commission Meeting
Motion to Approve made by Mark Niedergang, 2nd by Thomas Graney. Motion passed: 3-0.

Item #2 – Request for Handicapped Parking
131 Ten Hills Rd

- Nancy Salamoun, ADA Coordinator, stated the applicant owns the property and has a driveway but it is very steep and difficult for him and his wife to navigate. She supports the request.

Motion to Approve made by Mark Niedergang, 2nd by Thomas Graney. Motion passed: 4-0.

Item #3 – Request for Loading Zone – 699 Boston Ave, Mon-Sat, 8am-6pm, 20 min commercial loading and 5 min passenger vehicle loading (currently unregulated parking).

- Ali Kleyman explained this is for the new market on Broadway and since there is no great location for a loading zone on Broadway they worked with the business owner and came up with this location.
- Mark Niedergang asked if the proposed location was actually in Medford and Suzanne Rinfret stated she believes it is in Medford since there is a yellow fire hydrant and the address comes up as Medford on google.
- The Chair suggested the item be tabled until they get confirmation this proposed spot is in Somerville.
- Mark Niedergang stated he supports approving a loading zone once they receive more accurate details on the location.

Motion to Table the item made by Thomas Graney, 2nd by the Chair. Motion passed: 4-0.

Item #4 – Request to remove the eastbound bus stop on Washington St at Perry St and the westbound bus stop on Washington St at Leland St as part of the rapid response bus and bike lane pilot on Washington St this fall, and to waive the advertising period for this item.

- Ali Kleyman stated this request is related to the consolidation of bus and bike lanes on Washington St.

Motion to Approve made by Thomas Graney, 2nd by Lena Webb. Motion passed: 4-0.

Item #5 – Request for removal of two parking spaces on westbound Broadway at Broadway Terrace to improve sight lines and safety at the intersection.

- Ali Kleyman stated this request came from a resident because it is hard to see cars approaching at this intersection. Mobility worked with the resident and Councilor Niedergang to improve safety.
- Mark Niedergang supports the request.
- Lena Webb also supports the request and believes it will be good for ADA compliance and mobility devices.

Motion to Approve made by Mark Niedergang, 2nd by Lena Webb. Motion passed: 4-0.

Item #6 – Request for Speed Safety Zones (Spring Hill East of Central).

Street	Start	End
Tennyson St	Pembroke St	Medford St
Sycamore St	Highland Ave	Medford St
Lee St	Richdale Ave	Medford St (both directions)
Thurston St	Richdale Ave	Medford St (both directions)
Essex St	Richdale Ave	Medford St (both directions)
Pembroke St	Central St	Sycamore St
Willoughby St	Central St	Sycamore St (both directions)
Central Rd	Central St	Sycamore St
Oxford St	School St	Central St
Berkeley St	School St	Central St (both directions)
Avon St	Central St	School St
Laurel St	Summer St	Somerville Ave
Loring St	Osgood St	Somerville Ave (both directions)
Granite St	Osgood St	Somerville Ave (both directions)
Knapp St	Granite St	School St
Landers St	Dead end	School St
Preston Rd	Summer St	School St (both directions)
Madison St	Sycamore St	School St
Montrose St	School St	Sycamore St
Richdale Ave	School St	Sycamore St
Carter Terr	Summer St	Dead end (both directions)
Greene St	Laurel St	Summer St
Laurel Terr	Laurel St	Dead end (both directions)
Osgood St	Loring St	Dead end (both directions)
Park Pl	Laurel St	Dead end (both directions)
Trull Ln	Highland Ave	Oxford St (both directions)
Hersey St	Berkeley St	Oxford St (both directions)

Item #7 – Request for Speed Safety Zones (Spring Hill West of Central).

Street	Start	End
Bartlett St	Medford St	Vernon St
Glenwood Rd	Vernon St	Medford St
Partridge Ave	Medford St	Vernon St
Trull St	Vernon St	Medford St

Vernon St	Lowell St	Central St (both directions)
Woodbine St	Lowell St	Centre St (both directions)
Albion St	Central St	Lowell St
Hudson St	Lowell St	Central St
Belmont St	Summer St	Highland Ave
Belmont St	Summer St	Somerville Ave
Spring St	Summer St	Atherton St (both directions)
Spring St	Atherton St	Somerville Ave
Beech St	Atherton St	Somerville Ave
Cypress St	Central St	Beech St
Atherton St	Central St	Spring St
Cleveland St	Central St	Harvard St (both directions)
Monmouth St	Central St	Harvard St (both directions)
Westwood Rd	Benton Rd	Central St
Cambria St	Central St	Benton Rd
Gibbens St	Dead End	Central St
Robinson St	Central St	Bartlett St (both directions)
Ames St	Bartlett St	Robinson St (both directions)
Miner St	Vernon St	Ames St (both directions)
Centre St	Albion St	Dead End (both directions)
Waldo St	Hudson St	Highland Ave (both directions)
Benton Rd	Highland Ave	Hudson St
Benton Rd	Highland Ave	Summer St (both directions)
Spring Hill Terr	Belmont St	Highland Ave
Harvard St	Summer St	Atherton St
Pitman St	Beech St	Spring St
Pitman St	Spring St	Belmont St (both directions)
Belmont Sq	Belmont St	Dead End (both directions)
Belmont Pl	Belmont St	Dead End (both directions)
Summer St	Central St	Lowell St (both directions)

- Ali Kleyman stated both items 6 and 7 are part of the continued expansion of 20mph safety zones throughout the city.
- Mark Niedergang stated he strongly supports both items and slowing traffic enhances safety and is great for residents.

Motion to Approve both Items 6 and 7 made by Thomas Graney, 2nd by Mark Niedergang. Motion passed: 4-0.

- David Schrage asked to address the commission regarding an item previously approved at the October 2020 meeting, the conversion of 2-hour except by permit parking spaces to metered parking in front of 415 Medford Street. He stated losing 4 spaces to metered parking was difficult for area residents as parking is at a premium in the area. He was also disappointed that residents weren't notified or asked to give any input. Mark Niedergang apologized that residents hadn't been informed and stated they should have been. He also questioned why 4 meters were put in as only 3 were approved although he believes the minutes were vague. Suzanne Rinfret explained they added the 4th space since there are only 4 spaces in this

immediate area and it would be confusing to have conflicting spaces, the 4th space initially was a 2hr Parking space until 2:30am. Mark Niedergang noted at a subsequent meeting all the spaces were approved to revert back to resident permit parking only after 8pm. Mr. Schrager said he was aware of that but it still reduces parking for residents during the day. Mark Niedergang stated he understood and it's a balance trying to sustain businesses and keep the convenience of parking for neighbors. He also noted it has been a challenge for the commission to consistently inform residents of issues. Mr. Schrager agreed communication is key and asked if the commission would look into the 4th space and clarify if it should have been changed to a metered space. The Chair stated the item can be brought back at the next meeting for further clarification.

- Tom Graney also brought up some new business in regards to the crosswalk at Marshall St and Medford St. He stated it is being "crowded" by vehicles parking too close to it and he believes it will become a problem. He advised the SFD will look at it and likely request to restrict parking on the south side of the crosswalk.

Tom Graney made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6pm, 2nd by Mark Niedergang. Motion passed: 4-0