



BROCKTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION
Thursday, February 25, 2021

VIRTUAL ZOOM MEETING

This meeting is being held in accordance with Governor Charlie Baker's signed Open Meeting Law dated March 12, 2020, which relieves a public body from the requirement of Section 20 of Chapter 30A that it conduct its meetings in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, provided that the public body makes provision to ensure public access to the deliberations of the public body for interested members of the public through adequate, alternative means.

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BROCKTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION
Thursday, February 25, 2021
6:00 P.M.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Quorum
3. Reading or Waiving and acceptance of the January 28, 2021 Minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

1. PEDESTRIAN LIGHT - 1380 MAIN STREET

Request of Ward 4 Councilor Susan Nicastro on behalf of residents of BHA's Campello Housing Authority complex for a pedestrian light and crosswalk to be installed in front of 1380 Main Street to better protect elderly and disabled residents who wish to cross the street. I make this second request in light of a tenant recently being struck by a vehicle while crossing South Main Street.

VOTED: DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF SOLOMON WILL PROVIDE UPDATE.

2. 346 FOREST AVENUE

Request received from Latoya Scott who resides at 346 Forest Avenue who is requesting barriers on all 4 corners of the intersection of Forest Avenue and Ash Street and any other safety recommendations due to the numerous accidents and property damage sustained.

(Board members: attached is accident history spreadsheet).

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

346 Forest Avenue (this address is located at the southeast corner of the intersection of Forest Avenue and Ash Street)

1. Increase the timing delay between the red traffic signals facing all four directions and the subsequent green traffic signals facing the cross traffic. For example, currently when the traffic signal controlling the east and west bound traffic on Forest Avenue turns red, the traffic signal controlling the north and south bound traffic on Ash Street almost immediately turns green and vice versa. It is recommended that a longer delay between the red traffic signals and the subsequent green traffic signals occur.
2. Upgrade the overhead street lighting at the above intersection. Currently, there are two overhead street lights there, Poles #40 (southeast corner of the intersection) and #41 (northwest corner of the intersection) both have "LED 46" lights. It is recommended that brighter (perhaps "LED 138") lights be installed.

3. IT'S TIME FOR CHANGE

Request received from Councilor-At-Large Rita Mendes and Ward 4 Councilor Susan Nicastro on behalf of Helena Andrade:

This past year, my family and I continue to search for answers regarding the unfortunate and tragic loss of our late beloved Aunt, Maria Graca. She was a mother, a wife, a daughter, an aunt, and a best friend to many, sadly a victim of vehicle homicide. The accident occurred on South main street directly across Vincent's Tropical Groceries. If you are familiar with the area, you'll recall that South Main street is a relatively long strip of busy, poorly lit commercial area with a mixture of residential roads. Your first traffic light starts at Maple Ave, later to be followed by the second set of lights on South street intersection. Roughly 1.4 miles apart. Sadly, Maria was not the only victim killed; there was Mr. Taveras, who was struck by a vehicle in the same manner and on the same street just months apart from each other. Please reference

[:https://www.enterpriseneews.com/news/20191210/brockton-woman-struck-by-police-cruiser-succumbs-to-injuries](https://www.enterpriseneews.com/news/20191210/brockton-woman-struck-by-police-cruiser-succumbs-to-injuries)

How many more deaths must one inflict or experience to see change?

In all due respect to my late Aunt, and many other victims whose lives were taken from them due to unfortunate accidents that could have been avoided. I would like an opportunity to review and discuss the city's engineering and infrastructure plans. We have a chance to enhance our community's safety and preventing others from being victims of death.

Below I've outline potential improvements that can increase and protects our community by the following:

- Adding a sidewalk will decrease the potential of a vehicle homicide and increase safety: There is no adequate sidewalks*
- Adding a cross walk. It's a busy road with a lot of shops and people walking around, including children. There is no adequate crosswalks*
- Adding additional lighting to increase the visibility of traffic and residents. There is no adequate street lighting*
- Adding traffic lights to keep people from speeding. It would decrease speeding. There is most certainly no Traffic Lights to break up the long road.*

How do I go about proposing Change to this neighborhood? What are the next steps? Maybe the answer is not just one infrastructural implantation but a combination of such.

I'm open to ideas and welcome your feedback. I hope we can partner to discuss ways to increase public safety and decrease deaths.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. Send a letter to Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC) requesting a study (Road Safety Audit) on the need for a traffic signal at Main Street and Forest Avenue.**
- 2. Install pedestrian crosswalks located in the area of Main Street and Florence Street (across Main Street) and Main Street and Hancock Street (again, across Main Street).**
- 3. Install a new overhead street light on Pole #47 (located across from 740 Main Street).**

4. Install a new overhead street light on Pole #VZ39 (located at Main Street and Williams Place).
5. Install two (2) 30 mph speed limit signs, one (1) sign immediately north and one (1) sign immediately south of Vicente's Market on Main Street.

4. ELVERA'S CAFÉ - 132 MAIN STREET

Request received from Councilor Jeff Thompson on behalf of Sandra Martin, owner of Elvera's Cafe, 132 Main Street, to install a 15 minute parking sign in front of her coffee shop for her patrons.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. This issue does not involve the question of whether a vehicle can properly park there without any detriment to the flow of traffic, but rather it involves the question of amount of time allotted to vehicles that actually park there. No action will be taken by the Traffic Commission. Issue will be referred to the Parking Authority for follow-up.

5. SOUTHWORTH STREET & WEST CHESTNUT STREET

Request received from Councilor Dennis Eaniri on behalf of a constituent to discuss the safety issues at this location. The guardrail that was there was knocked down for the 3rd time in 2 years. Councilor Eaniri would like to also discuss the possibility of placing boulders or concrete barriers there.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. Install a reflective arrow board in front of 364 W. Chestnut Street (pointing to the left or easterly for the eastbound lane traffic).
2. Install a reflective arrow board in front of 380 W. Chestnut Street, which is the Sinai Haitian Seventh-Day Adventist Church (pointing to the right or westerly for the westbound lane traffic).
3. Repaint the white stutter lines in the eastbound travel

lane of W. Chestnut Street at Southworth Street with thicker lines so as to "hold" the eastbound traffic in the travel lane better.

4. Install an overhead flashing amber traffic signal.
5. Replace the guardrail located in the westbound travel lane of this intersection closest to 364 W. Chestnut Street.

6. HILLBERG AVENUE

Request received from Councilor Dennis Eaniri requesting four (4) 30 MPH signs placed on Hillberg Avenue, from Warren Avenue to Longwood Avenue (going East to West. Hillberg Avenue was newly repaved last spring/summer 2020. We now have a speeding problem. I have received several calls from residents of the street as well as those who travel the street, including myself. Please send this item to sub-committee for review, and I will be present at that meeting.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. Replace any missing "No Parking" signs.
2. Install four (4) 30 mph speed limit signs (two (2) eastbound lane, and two (2) westbound lane).
3. Look into compiling a list of 25 mph speed limit streets and explore adding Hillberg Avenue to such a list.
4. Increase police traffic enforcement.

7. OAK STREET

Request received from Kathleen Downes who resides on Oak Street and requests that the speed limit be enforced. She has noticed an increase in heavy truck traffic with the trucks barreling through at 50 mph all day and night.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. Install several 30 mph signs along the length of Oak Street (both lanes).
2. Increase police traffic enforcement.

8. PEARL STREET

Email request forwarded from Councilor Dennis Eaniri from Maryann Calnan as follows:

I am a resident of Ward 3D for 26 years and I think that Brockton is a great city. My concerns at this time are:

There needs to be a change in the traffic lights in the following areas:

1. *Corner of Pearl and Torrey St -- arrows would be very helpful because making left turns at the corners, it is very difficult to see what is coming from Rte 138 up to the intersection. Too many drivers honk if you don't move ahead quickly, but it is difficult to see, some people do not use their directionals, and at certain times of day, sun glare is a dangerous factor.*

2. *The large intersection where Cumberland Farms is located on Belmont and Pearl is better than in years past, but there is still a strong need for better arrow lights for each direction. You know that there are too many accidents there. Numerous times I have witnessed cars and trucks blowing/speeding through yellow lights and even red lights because it is such a wide area and they hope to get through..... very scary.*

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. **Pearl Street and Torrey Street intersection: This will require a reconstruction of the intersection. This will have to be professionally studied.**
2. **Pearl Street and Belmont Street intersection: *Traffic Commission letter to MassDOT expressing our concerns (the intersection belongs to MassDOT). (*Board members: Letter was sent to MassDOT requesting their assistance/guidance with left arrows at the Pearl Street intersection).**

9. DORIS AVENUE & KENELWORTH AVENUE

Request received from Ethan Lawless who resides at 40 Doris Avenue and is requesting a guardrail with arrows and a curve sign. He states this is a dangerous curve with multiple property damage (2 fire hydrants, telephone pole and cars running up to lawn 4 times).

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. Install a "Curve Ahead" sign in front of and between (fenceline) of 46 and 52 Kennelworth Avenue (northbound lane).
2. Install four (4) reflective chevrons (pointing left or westerly) between the property line of 38 Kennelworth Avenue and 20 Doris Avenue (northbound lane).

10. CHARITY GUILD - 501 MAIN STREET

Request of Ward 4 Councilor Susan Nicastro on behalf of The Charity Guild, 501 Main Street, to increase the size of the parking area on the Dover Street side of Building to make it easier for trucks of the Greater Boston Food Bank and others to deliver food and supplies.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. Reposition the current eastern-most "No Parking Loading Zone" sign twenty-eight (28) feet to the east.

11. SIGN REQUEST - CHILDREN AT PLAY

Request received from Emanuel Pires who resides at 51 Ardsley Street and is requesting a Children at Play sign because of excessive speeding. Stop signs not labeled on floor, kids cross street to play in front yards and ride bikes.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

1. Paint a Stop Line where the current Stop Sign is on Marsden Street at the intersection of Ardsley Street.
2. Install "Go Slow" sign at Pole #1-1 located in front of 21 Ardsley Street (northbound traffic).
3. Install "Go Slow" sign near the intersection of Ardsley Street and Marsden Street (southbound traffic).

NEW BUSINESS

12. APOLLO FURNITURE 747 NORTH MAIN ST

Request received from Councilor Shirley Asack asking the Traffic Commission to see if the city can work with National Grid as their pole is on city property in the middle of the entrance to their drive way is causing accidents.

13. CROSS STREET

Request received from Councilor Shirley Asack on Behalf of residents on Cross Street to have the commission enforce speed limit and possibly install signs. In the meantime, I would like to request patrols on Cross Street.

***THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 2021. DEADLINE TO ADD ITEMS TO THE MEETING AGENDA IS FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2021.**