



BROCKTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION

Thursday, April 22, 2021

6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The Traffic Commission held its monthly meeting VIA ZOOM at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 22, 2021.

Present were Traffic Commissioners: Traffic Commissioner Mark Porcaro, Deputy Fire Chief Joseph Solomon, Ken Galligan, Councilor Jack Lally and Councilor-At-Large Rita Mendes.

There being a proper quorum, the meeting was called to order by Commissioner Porcaro. Upon motion made by Deputy Fire Chief Joseph Solomon, seconded by Councilor Jack Lally, to waive the reading of the March 25, 2021 Minutes. Motion carried by a roll call 5-0 in the affirmative.

OLD BUSINESS

1. PEDESTRIAN LIGHT - 1380 MAIN STREET

Request of Ward 4 Councilor Susan Nicaastro 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 be 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.

Discussion: Commissioner Porcaro informed the board that he emailed Lisa Sherman from CDM on April 13, 2021 and is waiting to hear back on how they would like to proceed.

Councilor Nicastro spoke and informed that board that this request has been around for a year plus and with the weather getting warmer, those residents will want to be moving around. Councilor Nicastro has a call into the Trinity Baptist to see if they are going to have meals for them again on a monthly basis. She is waiting to hear back. Councilor Nicastro stated that there is an increased urgency to address this.

VOTED: TO POSTPONE UNTIL THE MAY 27, 2021 MEETING TO OBTAIN UPDATE ON ENGINEERING STUDY.

Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Councilor Lally, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

2. 611 EAST ASHLAND STREET

Request received from Councilor Jack Lally on behalf of Dan Dernier who resides at 611 East Ashland Street and is requesting a "Blind Driveway" sign. Mr. Dernier states that his driveway can't be seen coming up or going down the Street.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- **INSTALL A NEW "BLIND DRIVEWAY" SIGN ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE EASTBOUND LANE OF E. ASHLAND STREET JUST PAST CONNELL AVENUE NEAR THE SEWER DRAIN/CATCH BASIN.**

Discussion: Councilor Lally stated that he spoke with his constituent and he is very appreciative with the sign placement because it is in the toughest side.

VOTED: TO APPROVE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.

Upon motion duly made by Councilor Lally, seconded by Councilor-At-Large Mendes, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

3. ENDICOTT STREET

Request received from Councilor Jack Lally on behalf of Eric Osborne who resides at 12 Endicott Street and is requesting a 25mph speed limit sign and stop signs on Endicott Street. He states that few of his neighbors and himself have had a problem with cars driving in the neighborhood well over 30mph and also not stopping at the top of Royal Road when turning right or left onto Endicott Street. Also, not slowing down at the end of Endicott Street turning

left or right onto Leahy Road.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- **INSTALL TWO STOPS SIGNS:**
 1. **ONE SIGN AT THE WESTBOUND LANE OF ROYAL ROAD AT THE INTERSECTION OF ENDICOTT STREET AND,**
 2. **THE OTHER SIGN AT THE NORTHBOUND LANE OF ENDICOTT STREET AT LEAHY ROAD.**
- **PUT THE 25 MPH SPEED LIMIT SIGN REQUEST ON THE LIST FOR THE CITY COUNCIL TO REVIEW.**
- ***RED STRIPES ADDED TO STOP SIGNS**

Discussion: Ken Galligan stated that it was also recommended to add red stripes to the stop signs.

Councilor Lally reminded the board that the two stop signs be put on the list for painting stop lines.

VOTED: TO APPROVE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMEDATION.

Upon motion duly made by Councilor Lally, seconded by Councilor-At-Large Mendes, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

4. SOUTH LEYDEN STREET

Request of Ward 4 Councilor Susan Nicastro on behalf of residents of South Leyden Street, for the erection of two stop signs on S. Leyden at the intersection of Coral Street, to make it a four-way intersection, to address speeding and drag racing on the street, or such other relief as the Commission may determine will deter vehicles frequently being operated at excessive speeds through this nice Ward 4 neighborhood.

Discussion: Ken Galligan stated that the Traffic Commission sent "No Trucks" flyers out in the past to area businesses and suggested that they be sent again. He also recommended leaving a stack at the area businesses so that the stack is left on their counters.

Commissioner Porcaro informed the board that he researched and had the flyer that was sent on July 18, 2019. It was agreed that the flyer would be updated and provided to the area businesses.

Councilor Nicastro stated that she would deliver to the businesses and asked that the list of businesses be provided to her. She also asked for continued police enforcement as this appears to be working.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- THIS SAME ISSUE WAS LOOKED INTO AND NOT FAVORABLY VOTED UPON BY THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION WITHIN THE PAST TWO YEARS. IT IS UNCERTAIN WHETHER ANYTHING HAS CHANGED THAT WOULD REQUIRE A REVERSAL OF THE PREVIOUS COMMISSION'S DENIAL OF THE 4-WAY STOP SIGN INTERSECTION. STATE REGULATION WOULD MOST LIKELY PROHIBIT THE CREATION OF A 4-WAY STOP SIGN INTERSECTION AT S. LEYDEN STREET AND CORAL STREET, PARTICULARLY SINCE SUCH 4-WAY INTERSECTIONS ARE USED AS AN INITIAL FIRST STEP IN SIGNALIZING THE LOCATION AND THE AREA IS POSSIBLY NOT A LOCATION ASSOCIATED WITH MANY ACCIDENTS.
- REQUEST AN ACCIDENT HISTORY OF THE LOCATION, AND IF THE DATA INDICATES THAT THERE IS A PROBLEM, POSSIBLY REVISIT THE ISSUE OF THE STOP SIGNS.
- CONTINUE THE VISIBLE POLICE PRESENCE AND FOCUSED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA.
- *UPDATE "NO TRUCKS" FLYER FOR AREA BUSINESSES THAT WILL BE HAND DELIVERED BY COUNCILOR NICASTRO.

VOTED: TO APPROVE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION, AS AMENDED.

Upon motion duly made by Deputy Fire Chief Solomon, seconded by Councilor Lally,

the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

5. GORDON STREET

Request forwarded from Councilor-At-Large Mendes and Councilor Dennis Eaniri on behalf of Sonja Dubuisson, who resides on Gordon Street and is concerned about speeding and the high volume of traffic at the intersection of Gordon Street and Forest Avenue. She has witnessed pedestrians almost getting hit even though there was a newly placed pedestrian walk. Something needs to be done about this and I think it would be a great idea to make Gordon Street a one way so that cars can come down Gordon Street from Forest Ave but not come up from Ash. This would decrease traffic; control speeding better and make Gordon a more pleasant street to live on. This idea would also not

interfere with the direction of Breer Street which is also a one way. This one way would be in the opposite direction.

Discussion: Councilor Eaniri stated that he goes along with the recommendations to install a sidewalk on one side.

Pat Hill, DPW Director of Operations was in attendance and was asked by Ken Galligan whether or not a sidewalk could be installed on one side of Gordon Street. Mr. Hill stated that it depended upon how the street is laid out and whether there is a sidewalk on Ash Street that the new sidewalk can be tied into. Mr. Galligan responded by saying there was a sidewalk on the north side of Ash Street that the Gordon Street sidewalk could be tied into.

Ken Galligan suggested that a letter be sent to DPW to review the board's request to install a sidewalk on one side of Gordon Street.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- **BREER STREET, WHICH RUNS FROM FOREST AVENUE TO ASH STREET AND IS ONE STREET WEST OF THIS LOCATION, IS ALREADY A ONE-WAY STREET (TRAFFIC IS ALLOWED FROM ASH STREET OUT TO FOREST AVENUE). MAKING GORDON STREET A ONE-WAY FROM FOREST AVENUE TO ASH STREET WOULD PLACE AN INCONVENIENCE ON THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE AND DRIVE IN THAT AREA.**
- **SUGGEST THAT THE BROCKTON DPW CONSIDER INSTALLING A SIDEWALK WITH GRANITE-EDGE STONES FOR THE PEDESTRIANS TO USE ON GORDON STREET.**
- **REPLACE AND/OR INSTALL NEW "CAUTION: PEDESTRIAN" SIGNS (ONE CLOSER TO ASH STREET AND THE OTHER CLOSER TO FOREST AVENUE).**
- ***SEND LETTER TO DPW TO REVIEW REQUEST FOR SIDEWALK INSTALLATION.**

VOTED: TO APPROVE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION, AS AMENDED.

Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Councilor Lally, the motion

carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

6. SIGN REQUEST: FOREST ROAD

Sign Request form received from Sybil Hambley who resides at 25 Forest Road and is requesting "No Parking This Side" and "Slow Children" signs. Ms. Hambley states that vans and trucks park on both sides of Forest Road and children play in the area making it difficult to see traffic on the street. (Additional sign requests received from Heather Bishop of 11 Forest Road, Luisa Silva of 16 Forest Road and Teresa Maloney of 21 Forest Road).

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- **ENCOURAGE THE NEIGHBORS TO CALL THE BROCKTON POLICE WHEN PARKING OR OTHER ISSUES ARE OBSERVED.**
- **INCREASE VISIBLE POLICE PRESENCE AND ENFORCEMENT.**
- **THE PARKING AND OTHER NEIGHBORHOOD PROBLEMS MAY BE THE RESULT OF OTHER NON-TRAFFIC RELATED ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE SO-CALLED PROBLEM ADDRESS. THIS ISSUE AND THE ADDRESS WILL BE REFERRED TO THE CITY'S QUALITY OF LIFE TASK FORCE FOR POSSIBLE FOLLOW-UP.**

Discussion: Susan Crow of 49 Forest Road stated that she spoke with the neighbor on Saturday, April 17, 2021 and there is a bigger issue that needs to be addressed. The neighbor has paved the entire backyard and has two volleyball courts. They are gathering there because they can't gather at the park. Ms. Crow explained to the neighbor that he is driving neighbors crazy. There are hundreds of cars parked so tight that people can't leave their homes. Cars are parked on both sides the length of Forest Road and they park on Forest Avenue, Foster Street and Dover Street.

Teresa Maloney stated that the neighbor has a stone wall with bright lights in the backyard.

Ken Galligan stated there may be a zoning issue because you can't have whole yard paved, there has to be green space.

Pat Hill, DPW Director of Operations stated the he was a member of the Quality-of-Life Task Force and this matter was discussed briefly at their morning meeting. He will be sure to forward all the information received by the concerned neighbors onto the Quality-of-Life members to discuss further at their next meeting (4/29/21).

VOTED: TO APPROVE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.

Upon motion duly made by Councilor Lally, seconded by Deputy Fire Chief Solomon, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

NEW BUSINESS

7. 20 HEMLOCK STREET

Request of Ward 4 Councilor Susan Nicastro on behalf of a resident for a "No Parking Here to Corner" sign in front on 20 Hemlock Street, which is on the corner of McGrath Avenue, or such other relief as the Traffic Commission may deem appropriate. There is often a vehicle parked here, so close to the street corner that Residents have trouble safely driving their vehicles past to get out to Clinton Street. " **(BOARD MEMBERS: COUNCILOR NICASTRO SENT 2 EMAILS WITH ATTACHMENTS IN SUPPORT OF HER REQUEST THAT INCLUDED MAPS OF THE AREA AND PHOTOS TAKEN AT THE INTERSECTION WHERE PARKED VEHICLE BLOCKS VIEW AT INTERSECTION. THESE EMAILS HAVE BEEN FORWARDED TO THE BOARD MEMBERS).**

Discussion: Deputy Fire Chief Solomon agreed with Councilor Nicastro's signage request because there is a problem getting fire trucks maneuvered in this area.

Ken Galligan stated that #20 McGrath Avenue has two cars that park in front of their home that are parked right up to Hemlock Street blocking the view.

VOTED: TO REFER TO SUBCOMMITTEE.

Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Councilor Lally, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

8. MANLEY STREET

Request forwarded by Councilor Dennis Eaniri via See-Click-Fix:

It is time Manley Street in Brockton has guardrails installed. Ever since Manley St/Belmont St/ West Chestnut St was built up with businesses Manley St has had one too many Vehicle Accidents. Another accident just happened 03/22/2021 where a vehicle flipped over and shut down Manley St. A few months ago, someone hit a telephone pole on Manley St and knocked it down. The list could go on and on. Manley Street NEEDS guard rails once and

for all at least at the bend in the road towards West Chestnut St. that is where a majority of accidents happen. Please look up accident reports on Manley St in Brockton and you will see the amount that has occurred just in the past few years alone.

Discussion: Councilor Dennis Eaniri spoke to inform the board that since being repaved, Manley Street has become a speedway.

Ken Galligan stated that several years ago, several yellow reflectors were put up on poles for northbound traffic by the VA and southbound traffic by Jonathan Drive. Over the years the poles have been replaced but not the reflectors. They have since been replaced.

VOTED: TO REFER TO SUBCOMMITTEE.

Upon motion duly made by Councilor Lally, seconded by Councilor-At-Large Mendes, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

9. 242 MAIN STREET (IDEAL PAWN)

Request received from Phil Cohen who owns the commercial building on Main St. directly at the end of Belmont St. The building has been hit by vehicles head on twice in the last three years doing considerable damage. No one was hurt thankfully but this could easily change the next time this happens. He is requesting that Bollards be put up on the sidewalk at the end of that intersection. Could you please contact me at (508) 341-6228 or JCT Properties, 242 Main St. Brockton, Ma 02301. Thanks in advance.

VOTED: TO REFER TO SUBCOMMITTEE.

Upon motion duly made by Councilor-At-Large Mendes, seconded by Deputy Fire Chief Solomon, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

10. WEST ELM STREET AND MORAIN STREET

Email request received from Alyssa Regan: There are multiple accidents every day that occurs in between Moraine Street and West Elm Street. this is very dangerous. If you could please consider a light.

VOTED: TO REFER TO SUBCOMMITTEE.

Discussion: DPW Director of Operations, Pat Hill provided his opinion that this intersection is too close for another set of lights.

Ken Galligan agreed and recommended to refer to subcommittee to review site line issues.

Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Councilor Lally, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

11. **SIGN REQUEST: YARMOUTH AVENUE, BREWSTER ROAD, SAGAMORE ROAD, DENNIS AVENUE, TORREY STREET AND HARWICH STREET**

Request received from Jeffrey Barnes who is requesting stop signs, yield signs and weight restriction signs placed on Yarmouth Ave, Brewster Rd, Sagamore Rd., Dennis Ave., Torrey St., and Harwich St. Attached requested

documents for road sign placements. As expressed on his request the road is not made to accommodate these big trucks along the general public speeding , not stopping. (BOARD MEMBERS - SEE ATTACHMENTS).

VOTED: TO REFER TO SUBCOMMITTEE.

Upon motion duly made by Councilor Lally, seconded by Councilor-At-Large Mendes, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

12. **SIGN REQUEST: CLIFTON AVENUE & CHURCHILL AVENUE**

Sign request form received from Pam Harvey who resides at 116 Clifton Avenue and is requesting a two stop signs, one on Clifton Avenue and the second on Churchill Avenue. People are speeding throughout the day.

Discussion: Councilor Eaniri agreed that stop signs are needed on Clifton Avenue at Churchill Avenue going east and west.

VOTED: TO REFER TO SUBCOMMITTEE.

Upon motion duly made by Ken Galligan, seconded by Councilor Lally, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

13. SIGN REQUEST: SPEED LIMIT, FLASHING YELLOW LIGHTS

Sign request form received from Trevor Tyrell who resides at 167 Ash Street and is requesting a speed limit sign and yellow flashing lights on Ash Street near the crosswalk by the Bent Playground. He states that drivers disregard signs on road, excessive speeding and there have been hit and run incidents.

VOTED: TO REFER TO SUBCOMMITTEE.

Upon motion duly made by Councilor Lally, seconded by Councilor-At-Large Mendes, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

14. MARY E. BAKER SCHOOL - QUINCY STREET

Request received from Dr. Jim Cobbs, Executive Director of Operations, Brockton Public Schools and Valerie Brower, Principal of the Mary E. Baker School to remove the "No Left Turn" signs posted. Principal Brower states that the signs were put up many years ago and the "traffic has changed dramatically. It is much more dangerous for everyone to take a right with a good amount turning into side streets, driveways, and just turning in the middle of Quincy Street to go the other direction. The traffic backs up from the light at Center Street to the school". Principal Brower assumes that the signs were put there so that the Court Street light didn't back up but with the additional traffic flow, she believes it makes sense to allow cars to approach both intersections. Principal Brower is also requesting barriers be moved.

VOTED: TO REFER TO SUBCOMMITTEE.

Upon motion duly made by Councilor Lally, seconded by Councilor-At-Large Mendes, the motion carried by a roll call vote; 5 in the affirmative.

***THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 27, 2021. DEADLINE TO ADD ITEMS TO THE MEETING AGENDA IS FRIDAY, MAY 14, 2021.**