



BROCKTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION
Thursday, August 26, 2021
6:00 P.M.

AGENDA

Location: **Arnone School Auditorium**
135 Belmont Street
Brockton, MA 02301

1. Call to Order
2. Quorum
3. Reading or Waiving and acceptance of the July 29, 2021 Minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

1. PROSPECT STREET – BETWEEN NORTH ASH STREET & PLEASANT STREET

Request of Brenda Rodrigues, 375 Prospect Street, for the Traffic Commission to evaluate whether the section of Prospect Street located between N Ash Street and Pleasant Street should be marked to limit use by tractor trailer trucks. The resident observes an increasing number of these large, heavy trucks using the street at all hours, and is concerned about impacts on housing located close to street and on the bridge at street end. (Board members: Letter sent to DPW).

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- **CONSULT WITH THE CITY ENGINEER FOR AN OPINION ON THE WEIGHT LIMIT OF THE BRIDGE ON PROSPECT STREET BETWEEN FIELDS AVE. AND PLEASANT STREET. DEPENDING ON THE ENGINEER'S OPINION, A WEIGHT RESTRICTION ON THAT ROAD MAY BE WARRANTED. RECOMMEND CONTINUING THIS ITEM FOR STATUS REVIEW PENDING THE ENGINEER'S OPINION.**

VOTED: TO POSTPONE TO AUGUST 26, 2021 MEETING PENDING ENGINEERING REPORT.

2. N. LEYDEN STREET AT PERKINS AVENUE

Request of Ward 4 Councilor Susan Nicastro on behalf of a resident, for erection of "No Heavy Trucks" signage on N. Leyden Street at Perkins Avenue to address frequent use of the residential street by heavy, speeding trucks, or such other relief as the Commission may deem appropriate.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

POST ONE (1) "NO COMMERCIAL VEHICLES OVER 15,000 G.V.W." SIGN NEAR POLE #21 (LEYDEN ST. @ PERKINS AVE.) AND ANOTHER SAME SIGN ON PARKER AVE. @ SUMMER ST. (ON THE SIDE NEAREST 251 SUMMER ST.).

3. SARGENT'S WAY AND PLAIN STREET

Request of Ward 4 Councilor Susan Nicastro on behalf of Alexamil Rodriguez Casillas, 221 Plain Street, for placement of four way stop signs at the intersection of Sargent's Way and Plain Street, to address accidents resulting from failures of vehicles to stop on Plain Street to let others turn onto Sargent's Way, or for such other relief as the Traffic Commission may deem suitable to address this issue.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

REQUEST AN ACCIDENT HISTORY. CONTINUE THIS ITEM FOR STATUS REVIEW.

4. EAST STREET

Request of Ward 4 Councilor Susan Nicastro on behalf of Mary Foley, 269 East Street, who is experiencing difficulty as the result of nearby tenants parking in front of Mrs. Foley's home preventing her from parking there or from moving her car out of the driveway. These cars park on the sidewalk easement area, forcing anyone passing by on foot to walk in East Street. She requests signage or such other relief as the Traffic Commission seems appropriate to address this issue.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

DENY THE REQUEST. SUBCOMMITTEE DID NOT SEE ANY ISSUE AND SPOKE TO A PERSON WHO RESIDES THERE WHO STATED PARKING OUT FRONT WAS NOT AN ISSUE.

5. PEARL STREET

Request received from Councilor-At-Large Winthrop Farwell:

Traffic Enforcement Strategic Planning - Pearl Street

- A. Initial analysis and discussion of possible additional signage for Pearl Street, focusing on the area of Torrey Street to Belmont Street. Depending upon accident data, signage could include, but not be limited to: "High Traffic Enforcement Area;" "Thickly Settled District;" "Radar Patrolled;" "Patrol by Unmarked Vehicles."*
- B. Legal review and discussion of whether the Traffic Commission has authority to establish "double fines" which would attach to violations in specified high accident areas.*

(Accident history emailed to board members)

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

PART A.

FYI: A "40 MPH" SPEED LIMIT SIGN IS ALREADY MOUNTED TO THE POLE ON PEARL ST. JUST SOUTH OF THE TORREY ST. INTERSECTION.

POST "40 MPH" SPEED LIMIT SIGNS AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

POLE #34 (PEARL ST. SB NEAR W. ELM ST. EXT.)

POLE #73 (PEARL ST. SB)

POLE #85 (800-BLOCK PEARL ST. NB)

ACCIDENT HISTORY HAS BEEN REQUESTED.

DIGITAL RADAR SPEED SIGN HAS BEEN MOUNTED TO POLE #85.

CONTINUE POLICE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT.

PART B.

THE MASSACHUSETTS STATE LEGISLATURE ESTABLISHES THE AUTOMOBILE LAW VIOLATIONS AND THEIR MAXIMUM PENALTIES AND ASSESSMENTS. MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS CHAPTER 90C, SECTION 1 FURTHER STATES THAT THE "SCHEDULED ASSESSMENT", WHICH IS THE ACTUAL FINE A POLICE OFFICER WRITES DOWN ON A CITATION, IS DETERMINED JOINTLY BY THE REGISTRAR AND THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE DISTRICT COURT DEPARTMENT.

ALTHOUGH THERE IS SOME REFERENCE IN SECTION 468 OF DIVISION 5 OF THE BROCKTON ORDINANCES (TRAFFIC COMMISSION "POWERS") THAT THE COMMISSION "MAY PRESCRIBE PENALTIES NOT EXCEEDING FIFTY

DOLLARS FOR THE VIOLATION OF ANY RULE OR REGULATION ADOPTED HEREUNDER", THIS PROBABLY WILL NOT ADDRESS THE STATED ISSUE IN THE REQUEST, WHICH IS TO ATTACH DOUBLE FINES TO VIOLATIONS IN HIGH ACCIDENT AREAS.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDS FOLLOWING THE EXISTING SCHEDULED ASSESSMENT, WHICH IS THE PRODUCT OF THE MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE, REGISTRAR, AND DISTRICT COURT CHIEF JUSTICE. THE CITY COUNCIL, WITH ITS ORDINANCE POWER, MAY WISH TO LOOK AT THIS REQUEST. THIS IS AN IDEA THAT MERITS DISCUSSION, BUT THE SUBCOMMITTEE FEELS THAT IT MIGHT BE HANDLED MORE APPROPRIATELY BY ANOTHER BODY.

SIGN REQUESTS RECEIVED FOR SAME AREA:

6. CORNER OF NYE SQUARE – SIGN REQUEST

Sign request form received from Keith Turner who resides at 30 Nye Avenue and is requesting a "Slow Down/Slow Autistic Child at Play" because people are speeding when there is autistic children that live on the street.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

PENDING SUPPORTING MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION BEING RECEIVED, POST ONE "AUTISTIC CHILD" SIGN ON POLE #2 ON NYE AVE. NEAR SPRING ST. AND POST ANOTHER SAME SIGN BETWEEN 19 AND 23 NYE AVE. ANNUAL REVIEW OF CONTINUED NEED.

7. SPRING STREET AND NYE AVENUE – SIGN REQUEST

Sign request from received from Simone DeMew who resides at 211 Spring Street, Jose Galvao who resides at 217 Spring Street, Wesley DaSilva who resides at 211 Spring Street and Albertina Goncalves Pires Rodrigues who resides at 27 Nye Avenue and is requesting (1) stop sign; (2) speed limit, and (3) children playing signs because there are a lot of children playing and speeding cars.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

**INSTALL ONE STOP SIGN ON NYE AVE. @ SPRING ST. ADD "STOP" PAVEMENT LINE PAINTING TO THIS LOCATION.
UPGRADE THE "NO PARKING" SIGNS ON NYE AVE. (EAST SIDE OF THE STREET).
POST "30 MPH" SPEED LIMIT SIGNS IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:
173 SPRING ST. (WB LANE)**

**256 SPRING ST. (EB LANE AT POLE #30)
270 SPRING ST. (EB LANE AT POLE #31)**

DENY THE REQUEST FOR "CHILDREN AT PLAY" SIGNS BASED ON A PREVIOUS ENGINEERING REPORT THAT DISCOURAGES THEIR USE.

8. 66 HAYWARD AVENUE

Request received from Councilor Susan Nicastro on behalf of the McDonough family residing at 66 Hayward Avenue and wish to have an "Autistic Child" sign erected in front of their home. (Board members: appropriate medical documentation has been submitted).

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

POST ONE "AUTISTIC CHILD" SIGN ON HAYWARD AVE. ACROSS FROM POLE #4 (WB TRAFFIC), AND POST ONE SAME SIGN ON POLE #7 (EB TRAFFIC).

9. LAURESTON STREET – SIGN REQUEST

Sign request from received from Envy Isbert who resides at 117 Laureston Street and is requesting a "No Parking" sign in front of his home because the street is a one way, incoming high speed cars in both directions and he is unable to see incoming cars while leaving their driveway when cars, trucks and school buses are parked.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

DENY THE REQUEST. SUBCOMMITTEE DID NOT SEE ANY ISSUE OR RECEIVE ANY INFORMATION THAT WOULD SUPPORT THE REQUEST.

NEW BUSINESS

10. CAIRN ROAD AND MILDRED ROAD

Request received from Ward 5 Councilor Jeff Thompson who forwarded an email from his constituent, Joe Lowry. Mr. Lowry would like the speeding situation between Cairn and Mildred Roads addressed and states that neighbors have been posting on the "See Click Fix" website. Mr. Lowry thought perhaps new signage is needed to alert motorists of the speed limits both on Cairn/Mildred Roads. This is an ongoing issue which needs to be addressed before someone is injured or killed.

11. 74 MARKET STREET

Request of Ward 4 Councilor Susan Nicastro and Councilor At large Winthrop Farwell on behalf of Mr. Lloyd Hargrove of 74 Market Street, the corner of Warren Avenue and Market Street, for a stop light to control traffic in the intersection and the erection of a guardrail barrier of sufficient size to protect his home. In the 20 years Mr. Hargrove has resided at this address, his property has been hit FOUR TIMES by vehicles traveling too fast across this intersection. Attached is a map showing the property.

Also attached is a photo taken Friday evening, July 30, shortly after the porch on his home was again struck by a vehicle. His family often enjoys sitting on this porch on warm summer evenings. Mr. Hargrove has unsuccessfully requested a stop light before, after seeing a car flipped and a woman die in this intersection. He pays his property taxes and wonders why the City does not address this problem that is not of his doing. He has been told the city will erect a small guardrail for protection but he doubts that is enough to address the problem. We ask for the requested relief for Mr. Hargrove or such other relief as the Traffic Commission deems appropriate to satisfactorily address this problem.

12. NEW HEIGHTS CHARTER SCHOOL

Request received from Traffic Commissioner, Captain Porcaro to add New Heights Charter School at 1690 Main Street to the August meeting agenda. This is an older item that was originally before the Traffic Commission on February 22, 2018 and March 22, 2018 involving a school zone designation request.

Captain Porcaro has been in contact with Mr. Timothy Chin, who is the school's Facilities Manager, on this issue. I have also been in contact with MassDOT, who revisited the location and have scaled back/modified their original requirements for the designation.

13. CLIFTON AVENUE AND WARREN AVENUE

Request received from Ward 3 Councilor Dennis Eaniri that a STOP SIGN be placed at Clifton Avenue and Warren Avenue, going East or West.

14. CENTRE STREET

Request received from school committee member, Judy Sullivan, who is the ward 5 school committee member for the East Middle School area. There is a section of the road on Centre Street right past East Middle School heading towards city center that turns from 20 miles per hour to 35 miles per hour. The sign is posted there but is a new sign that says 35 miles per hour. I have lived in the city a long time and never knew this was 35 miles per hour from here to the cemetery on Centre Street it changes back to 30 miles per hour. I was wondering why because if you are driving why would that be 35 there you are coming up to a light and then it changes to 30 right after the light. Wondering if we can at least have it 30 miles per hour there because there are many school children that walk home from East Middle School, and it should be 30 miles per hour there because of this. Please advise.

SIGN REQUESTS:

15. FARRINGTON STREET

Sign request form received from Antonio R. Oliveira, Jr. who resides at 77 Farrington Street and is requesting a "Dead End" sign and "Stop" sign to avoid accidents from happening and also to stop incoming traffic onto dead end street.

16. MERTON STREET

Sign request form received from D. Stephen Knight who resides at 40 Ridge Street and is requesting "No Parking" signs on Merton Street between Edgar Street and Ridge Street because the road is too narrow and cars parked make it difficult to get through.

17. CORNER OF FIELDS AVENUE AND PROSPECT STREET

*Email and sign request form received from Derek Welcome who resides at 437 Prospect Street and is requesting a "No Left Turn" with arrow under the existing stop sign located on the corner of Fields Avenue and Prospect Street to prevent a head on collision because vehicles traveling on Fields Avenue are not clearly aware that they should not make a right turn onto Prospect Street and they do so often. **(Board Members: copy of email and "No Left Turn" sign picture attached).***

***THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2021. DEADLINE TO ADD ITEMS TO THE MEETING AGENDA IS FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2021.**