



**BROCKTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION**  
**Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023**  
**6:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

The Traffic held its monthly meeting at the Arnone School Little Theater, 135 Belmont Street, Brockton, MA 02301, at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Present were Traffic Commission Members: Traffic Commissioner Captain Mark Porcaro, Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, Director Stephan Hooke, Councilor Jeffrey Thompson and James Sweeney.

There being a proper quorum, the meeting was called to order by Traffic Commissioner Captain Porcaro at 6:00 p.m. Upon motion made by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, seconded by James Sweeney, to waive and approve the reading of the August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. WEST CHESTNUT STREET**

Requested by: Christine Hill of 358 West Chestnut Street  
Request/Issue: Continuing concerns regarding speeding.

**(Traffic Commission members, please see attached Road Safety Audit from OCPC)**

**VOTED: TO SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO THE MAYOR WITH A COPY TO DPW COMMISSIONER PATRICK HILL AND WARD COUNCILOR STRONGLY URGING THAT ACTION BE TAKEN TO INSTALL AN OVERHEAD AMBER FLASHING BEACON LIGHT AT THE INTERSECTION OF WEST CHESTNUT AND SOUTHWORTH STREETS.**

Upon duly motion made by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, seconded by Councilor Thompson, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**2. COPELAND STREET AT HAYWARD AVENUE**

Requested by: Ward 4 Councilor Susan Nicastro on behalf of Adewumi Oluwatoyin.

Request/Issue: Resident is looking for a crosswalk on Copeland Street close to Hayward Avenue, of other such relief as the Traffic Commission may deem appropriate, to enable safe crossing of the street.

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

**Recommend sending a letter to the Mayor and DPW indicating our support for the crosswalk based on the engineering study site revisit results as contained in the July 28, 2023 email from Lisa Sherman (CDM Smith Engineering) to Capt. Porcaro. The updated study indicated that the area on Copeland Street between Oakside Avenue and Hubbard Avenue appeared to be a suitable new crosswalk location and further stated that certain improvements (sidewalk, ADA-compliant ramps, etc.) need to be implemented first before the crosswalk may be installed.**

**VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION AND SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO THE MAYOR WITH A COPY TO DPW COMMISSIONER PATRICK HILL AND WARD COUNCILOR TO WORK WITH DPW TO HAVE THE CROSSWALK INSTALLED AT THIS LOCATION.**

Upon duly motion made by Director Stephan Hooke, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**3. N. QUINCY STREET AND HOVENDEN AVENUE**

Requested by: Councilor John Lally

Request/Issue: Would like Solar Powered Speed signs on both N .Quincy Street and Hovenden Avenue.

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:**

**Recommend having a traffic study done to gather vehicle counts and speeds prior to deciding on installing any new solar-powered speed signs.**

**VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.**

Upon duly motion made by James Sweeney, seconded by Councilor Thompson, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**4. INTERSECTION OF N. CARY STREET AND TOBY ROAD**

Requested by: Councilor John Lally

Request/Issue: To bump out N. Cary Street to create a sharper turn (90°) in an effort to deter speeding and reckless driving.

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**A. Reposition the green Toby Rd. street name sign onto the utility pole at the corner of N. Cary St. and Toby Rd.;**

**B. Reposition the NO COMMERCIAL VEHICLES OVER 15,000 GWV sign currently at N. Cary St. and Toby Rd. to a new sign post approximately five yards easterly to the right;**

**C. Install a new NO TRUCKS sign (black truck image with red circle/line through it) and a new ONE-WAY sign on a new sign post in front of 757 N. Cary St.;**

**D. Install a new ONE-WAY sign on Pole #3 (eastbound); and**

**E. Install a new WRONG WAY sign on Pole #4 (westbound).**

**VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.**

Upon duly motion made by Councilor Thompson, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**5. HOLBROOK AVENUE**

Requested by: Councilor Asack on behalf of Leighton Beaumont (19 Holbrook Avenue)

Issue/Request: A stop sign to control speeding on Holbrook Avenue.

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**A. Install a new STOP sign with sign post and red reflective striping on Holbrook Ave. nearest Rutland St. (northbound on Holbrook Avenue At Rutland St.); and**

**B. Install a new STOP sign with sign post and red reflective striping and a new STOP bar/line on Holbrook Ave. nearest Vine St. (southbound on Holbrook Avenue at Vine St.)**

**VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.**

Upon duly motion made by Councilor Thompson, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**6. WEST CHESTNUT STREET AT ALEXANDRA'S WAY**

Requested by: Councilor-at-Large Winthrop Farwell

Request/Issue: Requesting a modified traffic signal at this location as residents have reached out regarding the heavy traffic on West Chestnut Street during peak hours.

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:  
Recommend take no action.**

**VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION TO  
TAKE NO ACTION.**

Upon duly motion made by Councilor Thompson, seconded by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**7. ROUTE 27- PLEASANT STREET**

Requested by: Willie Roberts

Request/Issue: Pleasant Street vehicles are traveling sometimes in excess of 45-50 MPH which is causing pedestrian to be at risk. Requesting speed limits signs be placed anywhere between the Irving Gas Station on the corner of Pleasant Street & Route 27 and Christy's Drive.

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:  
Recommend a traffic study between West St. and Pearl St. to  
gather vehicle counts and speeds before deciding on any further  
action.**

**VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.**

Upon duly motion made by Councilor Thompson, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**8. LEGION PARKWAY**

Requested by: Traffic Commissioner Captain Mark Porcaro on behalf of Brockton Parking Authority.

Request/Issue: To formally make the hash marked area between BNHC and Panda Express No Parking, including a sign.

**SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:  
Install a NO PARKING, STANDING, OR STOPPING sign on Pole  
#5354.**

**VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.**

Upon duly motion made by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, seconded by Councilor Thompson, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**9. 52 PORTLAND STREET- AUTISTIC CHILD SIGN**

**A. Install an AUTISTIC CHILD sign on Pole #4 (southbound traffic); and**

**B. Install an AUTISTIC CHILD sign with new signpost across from 75 Portland St. (northbound traffic).**

**VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.**

Upon duly motion made by Councilor Thompson, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**10. BROAD PLACE**

Requested by: Councilor- at- Large Winthrop Farwell on behalf of Sharon Jones of 13 Broad Place

Request/Issue: Broad Place is not a through street. Vehicles are congregating and parking at the end of the street causing issues for the homeowner.

Requesting that the Traffic Commission evaluate the need for sign(s) indicating: No Thru Traffic; Dead End; No Parking. The signs would likely be near the residence because Refuse trucks often cannot pick up trash when scheduled

Discussion: Traffic Commissioner Captain Mark Porcaro stated that parking issues were addressed with the Police Chief and that directed patrols are being done on Broad Place for traffic enforcement.

**VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW.**

Upon duly motion made by James Sweeney, seconded by Councilor Thompson , the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**11. DARBY ROAD**

Requested by: Isa Barbosa

Request/Issue: My son has autism, when cars come on our street they tend to speed. Somedays we go outside where he likes to ride his bike and even though it's a dead end, I would like cars to be cautious. Requesting an autistic traffic sign.

Discussion: Isa Barbosa was present and stated that Darby Road is a dead end and she would like a sign there because her five year old son likes to go outside and ride his bike but cars tend to speed down the street, making U-turns while speeding, I just want them to be cautious.

**VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW.**

Upon duly motion made by James Sweeney, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

## **12. MELROSE AVENUE**

Requested by: Marco Machado

Request/Issue: Due to a constant amount of car accidents on the street, I would like to know if it is possible to have a safety guardrail installed on the corner of North Cary Street into 8 Melrose Avenue.

Discussion: Marco Machado was present and stated he purchased the house three (3) years ago and since I've purchased the house I have noticed a constant amount of traffic in this area, which is not normal. There have been multiple accidents, actually right in front of my driveway. He stated that he has children and for the safety of the children he wanted to see if it's possible to install a guardrail, not only for my own safety and that of my family but also for the safety of those individuals on the street. Councilor Lally was also present and stated that the intersection of N. Cary and Melrose Avenue and the intersection of N. Cary and Ames Road are some of the toughest intersections in the city. He stated that visibility is rough and they shoot out a bit and there's a lot of traffic on N. Cary and Ames Road. So what you have is people on N. Cary Street who are heading down the hill way too fast, endangering traffic on N. Cary alone because of the corner right before Ames Road, they are kind of crossing into an oncoming lane to take the corner at a tighter angle and then they are proceeding much too fast down the rest of the street. Councilor Lally further stated that you have people on Melrose and Ames that are waiting for a break in the traffic and they're getting a little impatient, they might take a little bit of a chance and then we have an accident. There have been a significant amount of accidents on this road but I would argue that the last couple of years the number of accidents has increased. Councilor Lally also stated that there are a series of guardrails at Ames and N. Cary. I think that it's a prudent measure to put a guardrail or two at Melrose at N. Cary for the same exact reason. Councilor Thompson asked the resident if any cars have hit his house, etc. of which the resident stated that they have hit the trees, he was going to remove the trees after moving in, however, a couple of months after moving in two cars went right into the trees. He stated that there have been about five or six accidents with the trees.

**VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW.**

Upon duly motion made by Director Stephan Hooke, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

### **13. D.W, FIELDS PARK**

Requested by: James Sweeney

Request/Issue: countless park goers have expressed traffic within the park travels much too fast and makes enjoying the park dangerous.

Discussion: James Sweeney was present and stated that it's become a bit of a cut through, the speed is posted 20 MPH and I don't know if it's enforceable, in order to enjoy the park you have to do something about the rate of speed with the cars that cut through, it's just dangerous. It may be a good option to look into speed tables, I know we don't do them on streets but this could be a good place to start. Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated that we would have to look into what jurisdiction we have in the park. He stated that it's not a city street. Traffic Commissioner Captain Mark Porcaro stated that Fields Park is shared by Brockton and Avon, policing wise. South Street is the divider, just before South Street, before the tower. He further stated that policing and jurisdiction wise Brockton and Avon share it and then the park department. Councilor Thompson stated that maybe something should be sent to the Park Commissioner saying that the traffic commission has had this issue come before us and we would like to discuss it and we are referring it to them for a resolution and note that it's a speeding issue. Traffic Commissioner Captain Porcaro stated that we can always do enforcement because we have in the past but in the meantime the speed table is not a bad idea for a park but it may be on the park commission if that is a bad idea or route that they want to go and have their own engineering study done. He further stated if they haven't done something like this before we can certainly team up with them and collaborate and help them out. Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated that he doesn't believe it would be wise for us to do anything without speaking with the park department.

**VOTED: SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO THE PARK COMMISSIONER TO HAVE A FURTHER DISCUSSION ABOUT THE TRAFFIC ISSUES.**

Upon duly motion made by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

### **14. CASHMAN ROAD/CASHMAN PLACE**

Requested by: Joni Shaw-Prophete

Request/Issue: The intersection of Cashman Road and Cashman Place is extremely dangerous. Vision is obstructed from trees and branches. It is especially dangerous for children and those walking pets as there is extreme room for error if/when coming around the corner. Requesting a mirror to provide better visual when rounding the corner.



Discussion: Joni Shaw-Prophete was present and stated that we are new to Brockton and we have been here for about a year coming up on two years. This corner is a very tight corner coming down Cashman Place, there is a sign there but it's so old and faded and this is just a slow down sign and it was covered over with bushes but they were cut down a little bit, however, it's still a little overgrown. We are requesting a new sign and possibly a traffic mirror so that people can see what's coming around the corner. He further stated that there's a house right there and when you come around the corner there's a lot of kids playing and you just can't see anything. He also stated that it's a dead end and when you are coming down the street all you see is trees and bushes you don't even know that Cashman Place is there unless you are use to it and then you know. Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated that we should look at placing a dead end sign on Cashman Road for eastbound traffic on Cashman Place and we should take a look at the corner. Councilor Thompson asked if we put up mirrors of which Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated that we normally do not and if they are put up they are put up illegally on telephone poles etc.

**VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW.**

Upon duly motion made by Director Stephan Hooke, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**15. AUGUSTA AVENUE EXT.**

Requested by: Joanna Coleman

Request/Issue: We see many cars throughout the years who turn around at our house because people think they can cut down our street but it is a dead end on Augusta Avenue Ext. I am not sure if it is valid to put one up because we are almost in a circle. Requesting a Dead End Ahead or not a Thru Way sign.

**VOTED: TO CONTINUE TO OCTOBER MEETING**

Upon duly motion made by James Sweeney, seconded by Councilor Thompson , the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

**16. SOUTHWORTH STREET**

Requested by: Nancy Halverson

Request/Issue: On Saturday (9/9) a car crashed into the telephone pole in front of my house. All day cars speed up and down the street. It's so dangerous. Looking for help.

Discussion: Nancy Halverson, Donna Puliafico and Yvonne Owen-Turner were all present and it was stated that they live at the top of where W. Chestnut and Southworth are. So when they come flying around the corner from W. Chestnut and they are like screaming and I don't think a sign is going to stop them. We have the solid double lines and that doesn't stop them. We have signs that say



curve and that doesn't stop them. Two weeks ago someone hit the pole and it had to be replaced. Constantly the speeding is just insane. The neighbors across from me who have little children about two months ago somebody came around the corner and went across their lawn and hit their car in the driveway. Two weeks before the telephone pole somebody crashed into the guardrail right at West Chestnut Street where you come around the corner. Nancy stated that she has been there for 30 years and it's really scary to live in this neighborhood now. She further stated that sometimes she has to drive straight by her house when trying to get into her driveway because people are driving too fast behind her that we are afraid we are going to get rear ended. She further stated that she doesn't believe a sign is going to help. She also stated that years ago near the church on the corner there use to be patrol that would sit there. People use this street like they are on the highway doing 55 or 60 MPH down the street but when the patrol car was there it deterred some people from flying around the corner. She also stated that she doesn't know what the solution is and that is why she is here. James Sweeney stated that in his opinion a light is needed at West Chestnut and Southworth Streets, it's the same traffic volume that you get down on Linwood all the way down coming through the highway. He further stated that this is the quickest way to get into the interior from the highway right through West Chestnut Street, so you're going to get massive traffic. He also stated that there has to be some other solutions. Retired Fire Chief Galligan asked the residents if the cars that are causing the most grief, are these happening late at night? The residents stated that it's during the daytime now as well. He further stated that the cars that are causing the biggest problem would be heading east on West Chestnut and taking a right onto Southworth Street? The residents stated yes. DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill stated that it's one of the biggest cut through streets there is. Traffic Commissioner Captain Porcaro stated that we have a lot of signs up at this location that don't seem to do anything anymore. This particular area has been before us a lot in the last couple of years. We've been there on subcommittee a lot in the last few years. He further stated that if he remembers correctly a traffic signal was in the OCPC Road Safety list of recommendations and I agree with Mr. Sweeney and lets just recommend a traffic signal at this location. Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated that if the corner at Southworth was more squared away it would make people slow down going into the corner onto Southworth Street. It was also discussed to request traffic enforcement at this location.

**VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW AND TO HAVE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT .**

Upon duly motion made by Director Stephan Hooke, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

Motion was made by Councilor Thompson, seconded by Director Hooke, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:30p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Michelle Yaffe*

Michelle Yaffe

Secretary to the Traffic Commission

***PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NEXT TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26<sup>TH</sup>, 2023 AND THE LAST DAY TO SUBMIT ANY REQUESTS IS THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2023.***