



BROCKTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION
Thursday, October 26th, 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, October 26th, 2023.

Present were Traffic Commission Members: Traffic Commissioner Captain Mark Porcaro, Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, Director Stephan Hooke, Deputy Fire Chief Joseph DePasquale 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 September 28th, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

1. 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.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

A. Send a letter to DPW Engineering to determine whether Broad Place is a public way; and

B. Send a letter to the Law Department requesting guidance on Traffic Commission authority to regulate private ways.

VOTED: TO APPROVE NO PARKING ON BOTH SIDES OF BROAD PLACE NORTHERLY TO THE DEAD END SIGN AND TO ADD A DEAD END SIGN.

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

2. 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.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

A. Reposition the DARBY RD green street name sign located at the East St. intersection from Pole #1-84 to the area near the guy wire and mulch on the property of 719 East Street;

B. Install a DEAD END sign, sign post, and yellow reflective striping near Pole #11 (on Darby Rd. near Shultz Rd.); and

C. Subject to medical documentation, install an AUTISTIC CHILD sign with a new sign post on Darby Rd. near the end of the white fence and before the property line and bushes.

VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.

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

3. 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.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Install new guardrails in the northwest (to protect 9 Melrose Ave.) and southwest (to protect 8 Melrose Ave.) corners of N. Cary St. at Melrose Ave.

VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

4. 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.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

- A. Cut back and clean up the vegetation at the end of Cashman Rd. where it turns into Cashman Pl. (northeast side),**
- B. Install a CASHMAN PL. new green street name sign, new sign post, with yellow reflective striping, along with a DEAD END sign; and**
- C. Install a DEAD END sign on Cashman Rd. at Healey Terr. in the area between Pole #5 and the 89 Carrlyn Rd. mailbox.**

VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.

Upon duly motion made by Deputy Fire Chief DePasquale, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

5. 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.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Subject to funding, install one solar-powered LED-lighted yellow warning sign with the curve ahead symbol on it for eastbound traffic somewhere between Chestnut Dr. and the church.

Discussion: Residents from West Chestnut Street were present and thanked the commission for their immediate recommendation, however, they believe that more can be done because this area is extremely dangerous with all the speeding that still occurs at this corner. DPW Commissioner Hill suggested that we really should have an Engineer study done on this intersection relative to the changing of the radius of the corner and the ability to have it changed.

VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION & REQUEST AN ENGINEERING STUDY.

Upon duly motion made by Deputy Fire Chief DePasquale, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

6. 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: WITHDRAWN BY REQUESTOR. TAKE NO ACTION.

Upon duly motion made by Deputy Fire Chief DePasquale, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

NEW BUSINESS

7. ASH STREET

Requested by: Councilor-at-Large Rita Mendes on behalf of Mario from 359 Ash Street

Request/Issue: There was a bad accident the week of September 18th, 2023 at this location and they are concerned about their safety. Requesting speed signs on Ash Street. **(Traffic Commission Members please see attached photo)**

Discussion: Present was Councilor-at-Large Rita Mendes and the resident, Mario. Councilor-at-Large Mendes stated that there really is an issue with speeding and accidents at this location. Mario stated that he lives on Ash Street and the problem is the corner where Boylston Street meets Ash Street on both sides. He stated that the problem is when folks are coming down Ash Street towards Belmont Street and there's a curve where Boylston comes into Ash Street and people are just flying. He showed the Commission a picture of the accident that occurred back in September. He further stated that when people park on the even side of Ash Street, people park right at the curve. He also stated that he has had visitors at his house and they have parked on the even side of Ash Street and that they have actually had their cars hit. He further stated that there is no speed limit sign pass Ash Street and Forest Avenue, so people don't even know what the speed limit is pass the lights on Forest Avenue and Ash Street. He also stated that it's the curve that goes towards Dairy Queen and that's where people are just flying. Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated that the part that needs more lighting is between Boylston and Winona Street. He also stated that maybe the light at Ash and Boylston needs to be a brighter light and the first pole north of Boylston Street on the east side of Ash Street, there is no light on the pole and the outside of that curve is very dark. Traffic Commissioner Captain Porcaro asked the resident if the cars that park on Ash Street, around Ash and Winona, as he sees cars parked their all the time and it forces cars that are going northbound to go around , do you think that's a problem? Of which, the resident

stated that that's always been a problem. The Traffic Commission members discussed that lighting in this area.

VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW & HAVE DPW INSTALL A STREET LIGHT AT POLE # 45 ON ASH STREET AND ANOTHER FACING THE INTERSECTION OF ASH AND BOYLSTON STREET.

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, seconded by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill , the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

8. HILLBERG AVENUE

Requested by: Shareefah Mapp

Request/Issue: Being involved in a major injury from a MVA in May pulling into my driveway, I'm reminded once again how much Hillberg Avenue has drivers that are treating the road as a race track. Dangerously high speed and kids walking to & from school. Requesting a solar powered radar speed sign.

Discussion: Resident was not present. It was recommended to continue this item to the December meeting.

VOTED: TO POSTPONE TO THE DECEMBER MEETING.

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

9. MORaine STREET

Requested by: Shanetta Young

Request/Issue: Recent uptick in accidents on Moraine Street. A severe accident occurred on 10/15/2023 at the curb where many residents voiced concerns. It is becoming dangerous and will become expensive to the residents of Brockton in regards to their insurance. Requesting a four-way sign between Moraine and West Elm Street, one-way or speed bumps. **(Traffic Commission members please see previous recommendations that were approved in June, 2023)**

Discussion: Present was Mr. Young. He stated that there was another accident at this location and it was airborne and it hit both of my neighbors' truck and landed on top of a car in the street. There is no parking on the corner anymore and they just speed right through that and they don't slow down, when they are going north but when they are going south it is easier if they make the corner or if they hit their tire on the curb. This particular car accident they didn't make the corner, he went up and then went down into the neighbor's car. He further stated that a four way stop, a stop sign or a one way would be best. He also stated that we should allow people to park on the corner as it slows people down. DPW

Commissioner Hill stated that we restricted the parking on the corner and now they are speeding coming around the corner. DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill further stated that what the resident is asking, is can we allow people to park there at night and not during the day. Another resident that was present at the meeting stated that there are also no street lights, so that when someone is driving down pass West Elm Street, they can't see the curve until it's too late, especially if they are speeding. Mr. Young also stated that he believes speed bumps would help. DPW Commissioner Hill stated that speed bumps are traditionally used to calm pedestrian traffic or heavy pedestrian traffic. That this is the guidance that I have been given by the engineers. That unless you have high pedestrian traffic in an area, a speed bump or speed table is not going to be helpful. Therefore, a speed bump in an intersection like this where you are having speeding anyways may actually make it worse. Mr. Sweeney asked about the flashing signs that were previously discussed and asked whether or not these would help at this location. Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated that we should give this sort of sign a test run on West Chestnut as previously discussed and see how it works. If it works well we should consider using these signs at this location as well. He also stated that there was a reason why we did no parking up here because of all the complaints we received that cars that were going into the wrong lane going north and they were coming head to head with the cars coming south. He further stated that there was one car that would park there and it was blocking the view of the cars coming south. Councilor Minichiello was also present at the meeting and he stated that he has witnessed people coming from that curve and stopping also into West Elm Street. Also on the other end, if we could have some visibility because he's seen people go the other direction go almost midway into West Elm Street. This street is like a highway, it's a fast street coming all the way from Pleasant Street up.

VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW & ADD A STREET LIGHT.

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

10. BREER STREET

Requested by: Lan Le

Request/Issue: My house is located at 4 Breer Street on the corner of Forest Avenue. There have been multiple accidents at this location most recently on September 30th, 2023 when a vehicle hit my house and broke my fence.

Requesting speed limit sign.

Discussion: The requestor was not present and the Traffic Commission voted to send this item to Subcommittee.

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.

11. ADDISON STREET AT MELLEN

Requested By: Marco Vizcarra

Request/Issue: Many drivers take the incorrect direction and they are using our driveway to make U turns. This situation is worst when N Main Street is blocked for working area. Requesting a Dead End sign at the corner between Addison and Mellen Street.

Discussion: Requestor was not present, however, the Traffic Commission members voted to install a Dead End Sign at this location.

VOTED: TO ADD A DEAD END SIGN FOR WESTBOUND TRAFFIC ON MELLEN STREET AT ADDISON.

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

12. ROCK MEADOW DRIVE

Requested by: Victoria Wainwright

Request/Issue: Lots of cars that have been coming down this street for decades and it is a puzzlement as to why there has been no sign. Children live and play here. It is a dead end yet people think they can exit out the other end because the parallel street does. Requesting a Not Thru Way sign.

Discussion: Present was Victoria Wainwright and Councilor Minichiello. Councilor Minichiello stated that people think if they go straight that they somehow are going to get to West Street. The neighbors would like the commission to consider a Not Thru Way or a Dead End sign, because we need something to make people coming from Rockland Street who are heading east who think they can get through but they can't more aware that they cannot get thru Rock Meadow Drive.. Ms. Wainwright stated that across the street from Rockland Drive, we have Windsor Circle and Windsor Avenue, they both have dead end signs, so we are just in the middle which is also a dead end. She further stated that this was a private street for many years it became a public street four years. She stated that she really thinks that people believe there is a way out of Rock Meadow Drive and there is not.

VOTED: TO INSTALL A "NOT A THRU WAY SIGN ON ROCK MEADOW DROVE APPROXIMATELY 25 FT ON THE SOUTHSIDE FROM ROCKLAND STREET.

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

13. MARKET STREET

Requested by: Kimberly Langford

Request/Issue: I would like to discuss my concerns regarding ongoing traffic violations on Market Street and in the school zone of both the Huntington School and South Middle school. I would also like to discuss my ideas to mitigate these risks as well, such as implementing speed bumps.

Discussion: Present was Kimberly Langford. She stated that she works from home and she gets to see people speed all day and go up her street the wrong way. She has lived here her whole life and this is the worse that it's every been, it's out of control on Market Street. Two other streets that are of major concern to her are Clifton and Copeland Streets. Also Lilly Avenue mainly because there are no sidewalks and no street lights whatsoever. It's an accident/danger to a pedestrian waiting to happen. From a pedestrian's point of view because it's a school zone that's the main reason I'm calling out the speed bumps. Also because the greater area of Boston is already implementing speed bumps in residential areas and raised sidewalks. They have them already in residential areas and they have proposed areas that are doing them in the next couple of years. Also, I have done my research and ages 5 to 14 are at the most risk to be killed by cars. We had two kids that got hit this summer by a car in front of the Huntington School. I can hear the engines revving all the way down Copeland Street and then I can hear them speeding by my house in the middle of the night. There are times when there is more of a risk then others. She stated that she believes just having any type of mitigating measures will help. Whether it's putting up speed light right at the end of Copeland Street where it meets Market Street and having those raised pedestrian walks or having additional lights at the end of Copeland Street. She also stated that she is in fear of her life when walking her dogs because she's afraid that someone will close control of their car and hit her while walking on the sidewalk. She stated that she's right before Lilly Avenue. She further stated that she's in fear for the kids that are walking home from school because of the reckless driving in this area. The Commission discussed that a majority of the traffic on Market Street is offloading from West Chestnut Street. Ms. Langford also stated that UPS uses it as their main way to come back from their routes because the UPS distribution center is off of Main Street on Oak Hill Way. DPW Commissioner Hill stated that there is a lot of truck traffic here. Ms. Langford stated that they main times is when everyone is rushing home from work and the middle of the night and the middle of the day when you have people going up the wrong way.

VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW & PROVIDE INCREASED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT.

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 6 in the affirmative.

14. DUPONT CIRCLE AND BATES STREET

Requested by: Councilor Jeffrey Thompson

Request/Issue: To determine if the One Way sign at the intersection of Dupont Circle and Bates Street is effectively located.

VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW.

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

15. BROCKTON POLICE STATION

Requested by: Captain Mark Porcaro, Brockton Police Department

Request/Issue: Installing signs at the police station on Commercial Street entrance/exit indicating "DO NOT BLOCK ENTRANCE" and "DO NOT BLOCK EXIT", along with the appropriate pavement line painting design (box design).

Discussion: Captain Porcaro stated he would like the above-reference signs placed at the Police Station as it's difficult to pull into the Brockton Police Station somedays, traffic is just backed up bumper to bumper. You also cannot get out of the Brockton Police Station somedays because the traffic is backed up bumper to bumper on Commercial Street. This is the only police station in the city. If cruisers can't get in and out in a timely manner it's going to affect public safety. If employees can't get to and from work in a timely manner, it has repercussions. If citizens can't get to the police station, it's a problem. We've had medical emergencies, domestic violence in progress, people being followed by people and if they can't get into the Police Station in a timely manner, we have a problem. He would like signs put up telling people not to block the entrance/exit of the Police Station.

VOTED: TO APPROVE THE REQUEST AND HAVE THE SIGNS INSTALLED AS WELL AS HAVING THE APPROPRIATE PAVEMENT LINE PAINTING DESIGN.

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 James Sweeney, seconded by Director Stephan Hooke, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Yaffe

Michelle Yaffe

Secretary to the Traffic Commission

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NEXT TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6TH, 2023 AND THE LAST DAY TO SUBMIT ANY REQUESTS IS WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH, 2023.