

BROCKTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION Thursday, May 23rd, 2024 6:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The Traffic held its monthly meeting at the Brockton City Hall, 45 School Street- GAR ROOM at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 23rd, 2024.

Present were Traffic Commission Members: Traffic Commissioner Captain Mark Porcaro, Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, Deputy Fire Chief Joseph DePasquale, James Sweeney, Geoffrey Keenan-DPW, Jamal Andrade, Traffic Maintenance Man and Michelle Yaffe, Secretary to the Traffic Commission.

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 April 25th, 2024 Traffic Commission Meeting Minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

1. CLINTON STREET

Requested by: Brian Walsh

Request/Issue: Unique Auto at 189 Clinton Street routinely parks 4+ vehicles on the east side of Clinton Street across from their shop, including on the sidewalk, creating unsafe driving conditions. Requesting No Parking Signs. The request is to designate Clinton Street from the Enterprise Club to the Gilmore School no parking.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

A. Replace the missing NO PARKING signs on Poles # 7 and 8 (near 163 Clinton Street for southbound traffic).

B. Subcommittee spent time making observations and did not notice any glaring issues. There were no vehicles illegally parked in front of 189

Clinton Street during our visit and there was light daytime traffic. Take no further action at this time.

Upon duly motion made by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: APPROVE SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.

2. 39 DIX ROAD

Requested by: Gary White

Request/Issue: I am requesting a guardrail on the corner of my property (N. Cary St. and 39 Dix Road). Between the snowplows and all the vehicles that come on my property from the accidents and misjudging the corner. I am disabled and can't fix it anymore.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

A. Subcommittee met with Mr. White and is not opposed to the installation of a new guardrail *if the crash data supports it*. Request BPD Records to forward any accident history.

B. Replace the STOP sign and sign post (with red reflective striping) on Dix Road at N. Cary Street (for northbound traffic) pending a Traffic Commission records check that such a sign has previously been approved there, and if not, recommend approving the installation of a new STOP sign and post at that spot.

Upon duly motion made by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION "B" AND TO REVISIT "A" WHEN ACCIDENT HISTORY IS READY FOR REVIEW AND CONTINUE TO JUNE MEETING.

3. 117 AMES ROAD

Requested by: Richard Caruso

Request/Issue: Both of my kids have autism. My son is nonverbal and has no threat to danger. If he was to run out of the house, he will run down the street and keep going. For his safety I am asking for an Autistic Child Sign.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

A. Install AUTISTIC CHILD signs on Pole #10 (by 111 Ames Road, for northbound traffic), Pole #11 (between 117 and 125 Ames Road, for southbound traffic), and Pole #1 (closest to 15 Fairmount Street, for eastbound traffic).

B. Install a new STOP sign and sign post (with red reflective striping) on Fairmount Street at Ames Road (for eastbound traffic).

Upon duly motion made by Deputy Fire Chief Joseph DePasquale, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.

4. 1124 MAIN STREET

Requested by: Manuel Monteiro

Request/Issue: We have on street parking for our business at 1124 Main Street. We would also like a loading zone at our storefront.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Subcommittee met with Mr. Monteiro and came to the agreed upon recommendation of creating a loading zone on Perkins Avenue by doing the following: remove the existing NO PARKING CORNER TO HERE and ONE HOUR PARKING signs on Perkins Avenue (in front of 1 Perkins Avenue) and install new NO PARKING and LOADING ZONE signs on the same sign post instead.

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.

5. 370 HOWARD STREET

Requested by: Cynthia Mitchell, Self-Help, Head Start Request/Issue: We are fortunate to a BAT bus stop across the street from our school, which families and staff use daily. With that, we do not have a crosswalk to support the safe crossing of our young children, families & staff. At this time, I would like to request a crosswalk at this location.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Subcommittee met with Ms. Mitchell and will recommend a crosswalk engineering study for this location.

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Galligan, seconded by Deputy Fire Chief Joseph DePasquale, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION AND REQUEST AN ENGINEERING STUDY.

6. 18 LINNEA AVENUE

Requested by: Councilor-at-Large David Teixeira on behalf of Maria Correia Request/Issue: Requesting the placement of a handicap sign at 18 Linnea Avenue as Maria Correia needs help when she needs to be transported.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Subcommittee met with one of the requesters and two handicapped parking signs with posts will be installed on the sidewalk in front of the above address. On May 14th, both signs were installed by DPW Traffic.

Upon duly motion made by James Sweeney, seconded by Retired Fire Chief Galligan, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: ACCEPTED AT APRIL MEETING.

7. <u>757 N. CARY STREET</u>

Requested by: Councilor Leally on behalf of resident Linmoy Gabriel Request/Issue: A review of the current guardrail at this location.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

Subcommittee met with Ms. Gabriel and came to the agreed upon recommendation that the damaged guardrail will be replaced with a recommendation to the guardrail vendor to install a stronger and more reinforced unit system there.

Upon duly motion made by Deputy Fire Chief DePasquale, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION.

8. PLAIN STREET AT OTTO STREET

Requested by: Councilor Susan Nicastro

Request/Issue: Would like the Traffic Commission to consider a blinking light on Plain Street at the intersection with Otto Street.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

This area was recently selected to receive Safe Streets for All (SS4A) funding major upgrades. MassDOT engineers have already studied the location and listed what the upgrades and changes will be. Any concerns will be addressed via the funding upgrades over the next several years. Recommend take no action on this request.

Upon duly motion made by James Sweeney, seconded by Deputy Fire Chief Joseph DePasquale, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: SEND BACK OUT TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW AS DPW COMMISSIONER HILL STATED THIS LOCATION IS NOT PART OF THE SAFE STREETS FOR ALL UPGRADE.

9. N. QUINCY ST./COURT ST./QUINCY STREET

Requested by: Jackie Mitchell

Request/Issue: There have been a number of accidents at this intersection. I would like to request the following: Install No Turn on Red Sign, install solar speed radar, repaint the crosswalks as this is busy intersection located near the Baker School & student bus stops.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A. Add the ladder design to the existing crosswalks at this intersection during line painting season.
- B. Request from BPD Records Division an intersection crash history.

Upon duly motion made by Councilor Lally, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: CONTINUE TO JUNE MEETING

10. ENFORCEMENT PRACTICES AND POLICIES

Requested by: Councilor Lally and Councilor-at-Large Teixeira
Request/Issue: Would like the Traffic Commission to discuss Enforcement
Practices and Policies and their bearing on the actions of the Traffic Commission.

Upon duly motion made by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: CONTINUE TO JUNE MEETING

NEW BUSINESS

11. TRIBOU STREET AT NASON STREET

Requested by: Jhay Debarros

Request/Issue: Requesting SLOW, CHILDREN at the intersection of Tribou Street near Nason Street as well as a NO PARKING or NO PARKING CORNER TO HERE sign for Nason Street (east side alongside 145 Tribou Street) at Tribou Street.

Upon duly motion made by James Sweeney seconded by Deputy Fire Chief Joseph DePasqaule, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW

12. MONTELLO STREET EXT.

Requested by: Captain Mark Porcaro, Brockton Police Department Request/Issue: BPD Patrol Division supervisor indicated parking issues on Montello Street Extension. Current parking on both sides makes it difficult for large vehicles to use the road and for residents to back out of driveways. Recommend parking be restricted to one side due to narrow roadway.

Upon duly motion made by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW

13. EDINBORO AVENUE

Requested by Councilor Thomas Minichiello, Jr. Issue/Request: Traffic issues from vehicles entering/exiting Prestige Gas (899 Belmont Street) via Edinboro Avenue.

Upon duly motion made by James Sweeney, seconded by Deputy Fire Chief Joseph DePasquale, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW

14.298 N. WARREN AVENUE

Requested by: Councilor Moises Rodrigues on behalf of Esmeralda Cardoso Request/Issue: Resident has had several cars crashing on her lawn and almost hitting her house. Requesting a guardrail be installed on her property.

Upon duly motion made by James Sweeney, seconded by Deputy Fire Chief Joseph DePasqaule, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW

15.515 N. MAIN STREET/EAST MAIN STREET

Requester: Lt. William Schlieman, BPD

Issue/Request: Parking issues. Requesting parking regulations and signs.

Discussion: Lt. Schlieman was present and presented a handout with a explanation and map to show the location of this item. He stated that he is on the Quality of Life Task Force and we were called out to 515 North Main Street, which is actually the physical address on East Main Street for a number of issues. He stated this is the south end of the street down by the clock on the south end. He observed on his many trips to East Main Street the volume of cars 5/23/2024. Traffic Commission Minutes

that are parked there and the double parking has increased lately. The second page of the packet shows the exact location of 515 North Main Street which sits off of East Main Street. He explained that back in 2021 parking was not an issue at this location. There were No Parking signs on the left side of the road. East Main Street is a one way that travels northerly. Two of the No Parking signs are currently missing. He further stated that you can now see by the picture in the packet I provided that there is now parking off to the right or the east side of the street. They actually bottleneck and they come out of that garage, the mechanic shops that are over there at 515 N. Main Street. No one else can get in there. Folks that leave there are their employees, their customers and oftentimes a lot of these cars are unregistered and we can address that as the police department and tow them. Off to the left in the no parking area there is a tow truck that stops here. They unload cars there, they block traffic and it's difficult for the larger vehicles, school buses, UPS trucks, anything like that to get by. He also stated that in another picture he provided that you can see the cars angle park off to the right. Instead of parallel to the street, like everyone else does, they angle up on what would be the sidewalk. Now this brick front building now functions as a convenience store. They have a lot of people coming and going. When they angle park like that, you have folks walking out of the convenience store and into traffic because there's no sidewalk. Cars are traveling East Main Street can't see the pedestrians coming of out this store until they're in the roadway. On top of that, people pulling up to this convenience store, there is no where for them to park because of the congestion and they actually double park behind the angled parking, further congesting the street for other vehicles to get by and causes issues. My suggestion to correct some of those are listed on the front page of the printout I gave you. I have suggested some one way signs at the intersections of East Main Street and North Main Street because one doesn't currently exist. It would be helpful to have one way signs as cars exit the 515 North Main Street driveway so they know they can only take a right turn or no left turn or something similar to direct traffic to the north or to the right. I would ask for the addition of time limit parking in front of the convenience store. Cars that park there, I've observed sit there for days. If we could get those cars to park parallel to the street instead of at an angle that would certainly make it safer for pedestrians. Replacement of the No Parking signs on the west side of the street as well and in one of the pictures you can see the fire hydrant. There's a fire hydrant off to the right and often times cars park right on top of the fire hydrant. There is a utility pole right there that you could put a sign on that indicates they can't park within 10ft of the fire hydrant. Awon owns the stuff up on the North Main Street side and he's not sure if he owns the stuff up the back on North Montello Street. James Sweeney stated a one way on that driveway if you knew the property and it was stated that it was private property. Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated that several years ago the piece that bumps out in front of the clock we made that no parking down to the end of the park where the street widens out and then you were allowed to park almost down to the cabinet. Specifically we didn't want parking where it bumps out because it's really kind of like one lane going through there. Maybe when we restore the signs we could look at replacing them with a sign that says no parking, stopping or standing, like we've done in some of the school

areas. There was also discussion among the members relative to painting one line down the gutter, showing where the gutter lines to the sidewalk. Traffic Commissioner Porcaro stated that your main goal is to clear up the congestion and the angled parking and Lt. Schlieman stated yes. Therefore, until we really know where the street ends and their private property begins, I think that's kind of our starting point. He asked what would it take to get the boundaries, if we are going to regulate in front of this area, we need to know what piece of pavement we can regulate. Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated that if the owner of building parked those cars legally on the right hand side not on the sidewalk, there was no parking on the left side, there's plenty of room to pass by. DPW Commissioner Hill asked if we could regulate parallel parking of which Traffic Commissioner Porcaro stated that yes we can determine how people are going to park their cars on a public way. Traffic Commissioner Porcaro also stated as the Lieutenant suggested we could do time parking in front of the building as well.

Upon duly motion made by James Sweeney, seconded by Deputy Fire Chief Joseph DePasqaule, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW

16. SHEPPARD STREET

Requested by: Mary Boyd

Request/Issue: I would like to request a traffic sign that shows how fast they are speeding down Sheppard Street. They come down the street doing 50-60MPH. This could all stop if they also put speed bumps on the street.

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW

17. KEITH AVENUE

Requested by: Kimberly Langford

Request/Issue: There is a ton of trash being dumped on Keith Ave directly across from South Middle School on the sidewalk/wooded area. I'm unsure who owns the wooded area but there is consistent dumping. Requesting No Trash Dumping sign right at the border of the sidewalk and the woods across from the school entrance.

Discussion: DPW Commissioner Hill stated this is the little piece of Keith Avenue that goes down the hill that goes down the back of South Middle School.

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: REFER THIS REQUEST TO DPW

18.TROY STREET

Requested by: Clarita Neal

Request/Issue: I live on Troy Street, with Levering Street connecting. Cars speed around this corner, there isn't a sidewalk for pedestrian use and it is a two way street. Requesting a Go Slow sign on the corner of Troy Street and Levering Street.

Discussion: Clarita Neal and Brenda McCall were present. Clarita Neal stated that Troy starts on Pleasant. There are blind driveways and the visibility is not good for pedestrians or cars. Also cars speed down the street in both directions. I am requesting either slow or two way signs or something that just marks oncoming traffic to let people know that this is a two way and not to speed. Retired Chief Galligan asked if she lives on the white house right on the corner of which she stated no. He further stated that the blind driveway is actually the white house that's on the corner. Therefore, if coming in from Pleasant Street we put up a sign that says blind driveway left, that would at least let people coming in from Pleasant Street know that there's a blind driveway. Ms. Neal stated that she believes the speeding is the main issue. She further stated to go to West they cut through Levering and that's where they get onto Pleasant. Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated it may be a difficult street to put a speed limit sign on because it's such a short street, however, what we have done in the past is put pedestrian signs up, which may be helpful. James Sweeney stated that it's one of the biggest cut throughs in the city so that they avoid the mall.

Upon duly motion made by Deputy Fire Chief Joseph DePasquale, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW

19. PINE STREET

Requested: Ada Alfonso

Issue/Request: Neighbors are parking on sidewalks, forcing school children, people in wheelchairs and other pedestrians to walk down the middle of the street. Groups of drivers on motor bikes are racing and performing stunts as they race down the street. Requesting stop signs and No Parking Signs.

Discussion: Request the requestor appear at the June meeting.

Upon duly motion made by James Sweeney, seconded by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: CONTINUE TO JUNE MEETING

20. MICHAEL DRIVE

Requested by: Sarah Hendrick

Request/Issue: This past year we have seen a surge in the number of cars going at speeds over 45-50MPH miles an hour with children attending the nearby Kennedy school and walkers. We need a sign to encourage slower driving on the street. Requesting Slow Down signs.

Discussion: Sarah Hendrick was present and stated that she prepared the handout in an attempt to describe and illustrate some of the issues, primarily now that I work a couple of days a week from home, I've noticed an increase in the number of vehicles, taking a right from Ash Street onto Michael Drive, which is directly across from the Kennedy school entrance, really just speeding down the street. We have many families, many young children who often walk to school and go back home that way as well. This is an increased concern for myself and for my neighbors, in terms of the increase that we are seeing. I've marked some potential areas where signage could go. I have noticed across my neighborhood, some neighbors are taking their own personal approaches to putting out sort of cones that say slow down. Some put makeshift signs and I am wondering if the commission would consider more formal traffic signs. Mr. Sweeney stated that he grew up in this neighborhood and your street runs parallel to Burroughs Road. I think this is an issue that stems from West Chestnut. No one wants to deal with West Chestnut and they take that left on Ash coming from the highway. So they use Michael Drive. They cut in through Linwood and they proceed through Burroughs and Michael Drive. Ms. Hendrick stated that she sees this throughout the day particularly around school start time, because people are rushing to get children to school, DPW Commissioner Hill stated 8:30-9:30 and 2:30-3:30 p.m. of which Ms. Hendrick stated yes but also early evenings as well. DPW Commissioner Hill also stated they cut through Linwood to get over to Belmont Street.

Upon duly motion made by James Sweeney, seconded by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, the motion carried by a hand vote; 5 in the affirmative.

VOTED: SENT TO SUBCOMMITTEE REVIEW

Motion was made by DPW Commissioner Hill, seconded by Deputy Fire Chief Joseph DePasquale, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7: 01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Yaffe

Michelle Yaffe

Secretary to the Traffic Commission

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE NEXT TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 27^{TH} , 2024 AND ALL REQUESTS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY FRIDAY, JUNE 21^{ST} , 2024.