



BROCKTON TRAFFIC COMMISSION
Thursday, March 5th, 2026
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, March 5th, 2026.

Present were Traffic Commission Members: Traffic Commissioner Captain Mark Porcaro, DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan, Director Hooke, James Sweeney, Councillor Marlon Green and Councillor at Large Carla Darosa

There being a proper quorum, the meeting was called to order by Traffic Commissioner Captain Porcaro at 6:01 p.m. Upon motion made by DPW Commissioner Hill, seconded by Director Hooke, to waive and approve the reading of the 1-15-2026 Special Traffic Commission Minutes and the 1-26-2026 Traffic Commission Minutes.

Motion made by James Sweeney and seconded by Director Hooke to take individuals with items on the Agenda out of order and hear their requests first.

OLD BUSINESS

1. N. QUINCY AND EAST ASHLAND STREET

Requested by: Ednaida Teixeira

Request/Issue: A pedestrian crossing signal is needed because three schools and bus stop are nearby. Many children cross daily and a signal will protect them, reduce accidents and ensure drivers stop, keeping students and families safe. Requesting a Pedestrian Crossing sign.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

A. Install a NO TURN ON RED sign for the east and westbound lanes of E. Ashland Street at the N. Quincy Street intersection.

Discussion: Jed Hresko was present and stated he spoke with the applicant. She's aware of the recommendation. She couldn't be here tonight. Mr. Hresko

stated that he would read a little of what she wrote to him. She stated that "While I would have liked to see the no turn on red signs on North Quincy as well, I do agree that getting them on East Ashland in both directions is still a positive step for safety. With the snow, I've seen kids walking in the street and cars turning on red are coming very close to hitting them. So in conclusion, I strongly support the no turn on red signs and hope the commission will also continue to review North Quincy as well." So that's her part. My part is that I did notice that the thing about the lanes wasn't on there. Mr. Hresko stated that at the end of the last meeting Councillor Lally had stated that at that intersection, even though there's only one lane, cars will squeeze and try to make it two lanes. I noticed that wasn't one of the recommendations.

VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Upon duly motion made by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, seconded by Director Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 7 in the affirmative.

2. 228 NORTH QUINCY STREET

Requested by: Wayne Straffin

Request/Issue: Speeding and animal strikes. Requesting Deer Crossing signs and Digital speed radars. **(Traffic Commission please see the attached request for details)**

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

A. Install DEER CROSSING signs in the following areas Pole's #67 and 118 (for northbound traffic), and Pole's #120 and 76-84 (for southbound traffic).

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; 7 in the affirmative.

3. 4 FERN AVENUE

Requested by: Claire Gibson

Request/Issue: Every winter cars drive through our fence. A Stop sign was even put up and they still drive through the fence. Requesting a guardrail.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

**A. Install a guardrail (with reflectors) extending from the driveway entrance on Levering Street westerly to Fern Ave.
B. Install an oversized STOP sign behind the guardrail.
C. Install a STOP AHEAD sign between 31 and 37 Fern Street for the southbound traffic.**

D. Recommend the DPW increase the intensity of the street light on the utility pole at Levering Street at Fern Street (light is currently 35 LED).

VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Upon duly motion made by Director Hooke, seconded by Councillor Green, the motion carried by a hand vote; 7 in the affirmative.

4. CORNER OF BROOKSIDE AVENUE AND MAIN STREET

Requested by: Ward 4 Councilor Nicastro

Request/Issue: Vehicles are regularly parking on Brookside Avenue very close to the corner of Main Street, as well as around the 90* angled corner of Main Street, impeding the flow of traffic especially vehicles turning from Brookside onto Main. These parked vehicles create a hazardous condition that will be made worse by snowy and icy streets. On the Brookside Avenue side of this corner, there are several 'No Parking' signs posted on utility poles approaching the corner, however, the pole closest to the corner, #18-84, has none.

On behalf of a nearby resident, 'No Parking' signage and enforcement especially at night is requested where these streets intersect, and/or such other relief as the Traffic Commission may deem appropriate to address this problem.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

A. Install a NO PARKING CORNER TO HERE sign 20 feet south from Brookside Avenue on the westside of Main Street in front of 1435 Main Street (for the southbound traffic).

B. Install a NO PARKING BOTH SIDES sign on Brookside Avenue near the Main Street intersection on Pole #18-84 for the eastbound traffic.

VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS WITH AMENDMENT TO "A"

Upon duly motion made by James Sweeney, seconded by Director Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 7 in the affirmative.

5. 86 MELROSE STREET

Requested by: Tyiesha Fuller

Request/Issue: it's been a real problem with speeding and the winter time with the snow. Cars are not slowing down and speeding. They have ran right

into my fence before and also my mailbox twice now and took it out. I do have small children that live here. I am requesting a guardrail.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

A. Install a guardrail in front of the property (facing to the north).

VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Upon duly motion made by James Sweeney, seconded by Councillor Green, the motion carried by a hand vote; 7 in the affirmative.

6. 26 BELMONT PLACE

Requested by: Donald Payne

Request/Issue: People park next to a telephone pole which obstructs the vehicles in heavy equipment from driving down the street and from the garbage trucks picking up the trash. Requesting No Parking Tow zone sign.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

A. Create a NO PARKING BOTH SIDES regulation on Belmont Place northerly from Belmont Street to Pole #2 (by 23 Belmont Place).

B. Install a NO PARKING BOTH SIDES sign on the existing signpost in this area (eastside of Belmont Place).

C. Create a NO PARKING THIS SIDE regulation for the westside of Belmont Place extending northerly from Pole #2 to Neubert Street.

D. Install a NO PARKING THIS SIDE sign on Pole #2.

VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Galligan, seconded by DPW Commissioner Patrick Hill, the motion carried by a hand vote; 7 in the affirmative.

7. HIGHLAND STREET

Requested by: Retired Fire Chief Kenneth Galligan

Request/Issue: Requesting that parking be restricted from Lexington Street westerly, mostly at night because it's down to one lane and a fire truck cannot get down the street. Also 2 cars cannot travel at the same time.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

A. Make Highland Street NO PARKING THIS SIDE (northside of the road) from Warren Avenue westerly to Pole #17 1/2 (by 161 Highland Street).

VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Upon duly motion made by Director Hooke, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 7 in the affirmative.

8. 292 AMES STREET

Requested by: Councilor Lally

Request/Issue: Would like a review of the guardrail at this location.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

Need more information.

VOTED: POSTPONE TO 3/26/2026 AND INVITE COUNCILLOR LALLY

Upon duly motion made by DPW Commissioner Hill, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 7 in the affirmative.

9. AMARK ROAD AT N. CARY

Requested by: Councilor Lally on behalf of Sam Ditton

Request/issue: Requesting signage such as “ Traffic Entering from Left” or “ Crossing Traffic Ahead”. **(Traffic Commission members please see attached SeeClickFix)**

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

A. Install a CROSSING TRAFFIC sign, with signpost and reflective striping, opposite Pole #75B (opposite the area of 542 N. Cary Street) for the northbound traffic.

B. Install a CROSSING TRAFFIC sign on Pole #80 (near 590 N. Cary Street) for the southbound traffic.

VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Upon duly motion made by DPW Commissioner Hill, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 7 in the affirmative.

10. NORTH CARY STREET

Requested by: Councilor Jeffrey Thompson

Request/Issue: Would like a review of the traffic safety conditions on N. Cary Street. The motor vehicle related fatalities in 2024 and 2025 are concerning and require city remediation efforts.

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

A. Install 30 MPH signs on N. Cary Street in the following locations:

Pole's #13 and 31 for northbound traffic, and

100 feet south of Elliott Street (with signpost) for southbound traffic.

B. Recommend the DPW evaluate all of the street lights in this area to make sure they are working and adequately light the area.

VOTED: TO ACCEPT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Upon duly motion made by James Sweeney, seconded by Director Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 7 in the affirmative.

11. NEWBURY STREET BRIDGE (Informational purposes only)

The contractor has provided an updated timeline and they expect to be on-site the week of March 2nd to install, but cover the construction signage, including the detour signs. Upon their return the second week of March, the signs will be uncovered, and the detour will be fully in place.

Discussion: DPW Commissioner stated he has not had a conversation with the contractor in 2 weeks, so I suspect it will be a little bit delayed. The detour signs have been up for a couple of years. I hope he does not cover the current signs that are up because there is a restriction on the bridge. I will have that conversation with him. I will try to get an updated timeline, I would suspect that he's not doing anything this week. Retired Fire Chief Galligan asked if we are going to be able to get into Ellsworth Street? DPW Commissioner Hill stated yes from Newbury. DPW Commissioner Hill stated that he hopes by the end of the month they should be onsite and details should be in place and I will have a better update. We did approve the initial traffic detour a couple of years ago and all the signs were in place by the city staff at that time. He further stated that it will be 6 to 8 months when it closes. ,

Continue to 3/26/2026 meeting for an update.

NEW BUSINESS

12. ANGELO SCHOOL

Requested by: Councilor Shirley Asack on behalf of the Montello Business Association and residents that live in the area.

Request/Issue: Causing a lot of traffic and dangerous situations as buses and parents are stopping in the middle of the road. It has become a public safety issue.

Discussion: Councillor Asack, Scott Dwyer from the Montello Business Association and Gale Lutz-Henrickson were all present. Councillor Asack stated that this has been an ongoing issue at the Angelo School. I actually spoke with the principal there and Ken Thompson. They did tell me that, Captain, you've been there, you've been trying to work with them to see what we can do.

The biggest issue is that kids are being put on and off the bus right in the middle of North Main Street, which is causing backup, traffic, and then it's also a safety

issue. The Montello Business Association, some of the residents, business owners there, have been dealing with this on a daily basis, so I'll let them speak on it. I did speak with the principal and I think they're working with the school police as well, so hopefully, I know you guys go out on subcommittee, but the major problem is in the afternoon, like peak hours, when their kids are getting to school and when they're leaving. So I'll let Gale and Scott Dwyer speak. Scott Dwyer, President of Montello Business Association stated that this has been an ongoing problem over there, with the traffic. Yesterday was a good example of it. One of those small buses pulled right in front of a fire engine, stopped, put the lights on to let the kids out, while a fire engine's coming. That was an incident that happened yesterday. But it's been an ongoing thing with the buses just pull up, they have all the lights on, stop the traffic. The traffic goes all the way back to Oak Street. It'll sit there for a while, could be 10, could be 15 minutes, and then they just keep doing it, and the guys hold the things up, stop the traffic, when the traffic could come down the side street, come into the back of the school safely, bring the kids, let them off. They got the parking lot there. They got the other parking lot on the other side, instead of dumping them on the street. The parents don't care. They're running out in slippers and bathrobes, and they're walking the kids across the street and leaving their cars running, and leaving the cars there. It's become quite an issue. Gale lives across the street from it, but we've had that issue there, and we've had the one on Oak Street. **The school on Oak Street's doing the same thing, the Raymond. So we've got the traffic problem there as well. Traffic Commissioner Porcaro asked what's going on at the Raymond? Scott Dwyer stated that the Raymond's having problems, the way they're going to the school. They've got the parking lot that comes in off by the old Fernandez, North Fernandez. So you come in there, and they block it off, and then people just pull over on the side, both sides of the street, block the whole street. Now you can't do anything at North, so you get the traffic from North, and you get the traffic from Raymond. Traffic Commissioner Porcaro asked so Raymond parents are dropping off on Oak Street instead of pulling in the school? Of which Scott Dwyer stated yes. Traffic Commissioner Porcaro stated because we were there a few months ago and we had spoken to the principal. They didn't tell us that. Scott Dwyer stated that it's something that was recently brought to his attention. I thought it was curbed. So I know somebody was doing something about it. But then we have our meetings, and luckily the Mayor's been making the meetings.** We are worried about A. one of these kids is going to get hurt because one of the parents not going to see the kid, and then, B, like what happened yesterday, what if somebody's house is burning and they stop, and they stop the fire engine? Can't do that. It's a matter of life or death. Ms. Lutz-Henrickson stated that I've lived there all my life and I've worked for the city for 45 years, just retired in October. I've never had the buses stop out front except for these last couple of years. First of all, there's a fence missing, piece of a fence. So the parents, when they're loading the buses, parents go through the cutout, stop traffic. I have a picture of a lady holding a baby, four kids in tow,

walking right out across the street in front of all the cars. They think just because that fence is out, that they can go out that way, instead of walking over, teaching their child to walk through where the crossing guards at. Like Scott said the bus was coming out of Snow Avenue. There was two firetrucks. One went by first, the second one come up, and that's when the bus pulled out in front of him. I just sat there and I said, "I can't believe that that bus just went out in front of the firetruck." I've gone out for coffee, 3:00 in the afternoon, Dunkin' Donuts around the corner. From North Montello and East Ashland to my house right across the street, took 20 minutes to get there. Scott Dwyer stated it's every day like this. Ms. Lutz-Henrickson stated that her issue is that we've had parents parking, blocking our driveway, in our driveways, and when you go and say, "Can you please move your car?" We're rude. I was late to my own father's funeral back in September because I had somebody blocking my driveway. It's not very nice. And then I got yelled at and screamed at, and I said a few choice words to the parent, because here I am late for my own father's funeral right up the street, and this person is blocking, blaming the school because they're late. She further stated my thing is I'm just so afraid of somebody getting hit because these parents are just walking these kids out right through the traffic. It's like unbelievable, with two, three kids in tow. Then the other thing was when these buses have the stop sign out, principal comes out and stops the traffic on both sides. The crossing guards are up here. There's two of them, one on each side. They'll get the bus loaded, the sign will stop, then they'll come out with their stop signs, stop the traffic so the kids can walk across the street. Why can't you do it at the same time? Because this car is moving here, going up a couple of feet and stopping again, and that's what's making all these people mad. The police officers that have been in there have been nice. Scott Dwyer stated that we've addressed it with the school police. It's been addressed but it's not changing. Ms. Lutz-Henrickson stated that when the stop sign is out, cars still go by sometimes unless the principal is out there or the cop, the police officer is around the corner or something. I watched one guy, had big tractor trailer, was blocking the sign. The guy coming this way didn't see it. He got written up, and then the truck just went, kept going. Scott Dwyer stated that for some reason we have an influx of traffic on Main Street. I've never seen before. The buses have created more of a problem, but the amount of traffic. Now, I go to Montello Street, it's not as bad, but Main Street's gotten so bad. At 4:00 at night, Main Street's backed up from Battles Street all the way to the Avon line. No lie. That's how bad it is up on there. It's a traffic hazard because there's no way for anybody to get around. Police, fire, anything. With the snow banks, it's made it worse. With the trash barrels, it's even really worse. Ms. Lutz-Henrickson stated that the school has three parking lots. There's a little parking lot out back. There's one on the side where some of the little buses go. But they used to come out of Division Street onto North Main. They were always parked there. Now that I'm home even more, it's more noticeable that I don't even understand why they're parked out on North Main. It's just a hazard. Somebody is going to definitely hit by a car. Scott Dwyer stated that the situation with that clock and everything, there's not a transfer anymore.

You use to be when you could go around the clock was, but there's no transfer. So now you can't even make the split because there's no room at the split because of all the cars that are parked on that side street. So you can't even get down the side street. Councillor Asack stated that there's a new principal there, he's been there for about 7 years and I spoke with him. I don't know why they're not using that little parking, little curb between Division right on the side of the school, and there's a playground. He tried to explain it to me, but it's not making sense because when my kids went to the Angelo, the buses cut through Division Street and they parked in that parking lot. They never stopped in the middle of North Main Street. So there's a new principal, and I think this is his logic of how he's doing this, but I don't know why they're not using it. DPW Commissioner Hill stated it's a new transportation department so when your kids were going there it's wasn't like this. He further stated that having a child in the Brockton Public School system, my daughter goes to the Kennedy School and what I notice is and I feel like it's like this at every school, is a lot of parents go there early and park their cars, which does not allow traffic to flow. So rather than go in, drop your child off, and then move on, they go in, they park, they wait 5/10 minutes before school, staying in those parking spots, tying up all those areas and then it just creates traffic. I think you can see that at every public school because they do it at every single place. You see it on Plain Street, you see it on Crescent Street, you see it on Oak Street, you see it on Ash Street, Pearl Street at the Hancock School. It's everywhere. He further stated that it's more of an educational thing for the schools to talk to the parents and say, "Hey, if you're going to come to school to drop your child off, you need to come, drop your child off, and then move on," I think that would alleviate some of the traffic issues. Traffic Commissioner Porcaro stated that the schools are going to be a big part of the solution. Councillor Asack stated that's why I contacted them, I spoke with Ken Thompson. They were all aware of the issue that we're having. I was hoping we'd be able to find a solution with them. I was hoping somebody would come in from the schools. DPW Commissioner Hill stated that the schools have the power to mandate those buses to come into that Division Street area, so they're not out on the street. **Scott Dwyer stated that they said that they had something in the works for Oak Street, we are going to redesign something. DPW Commissioner Hill stated that Oak Street is in a Bottleneck Study right now, It's not a school department thing, it's because traffic is getting bottlenecked there, so there is engineers looking at ways to try to alleviate some of the traffic issues.** Scott Dwyer stated that no one can get anywhere, ambulances, fire trucks, etc. somebody is going to pay for it, whether it be somebody that dies or somebody has a heart attack or whatever it is. It could be your father, my mother, whatever, you know? Ms. Lutz-Henrickson stated that Ford and Division Street are also blocked up with parents waiting, and I watched another fire truck try to get up Ford Street to go tend to somebody up the street. They were tooting their horns, and they don't move. Somebody's going to lose a life or something like that. It's common sense has it to move over for a fire truck or police officer. Scott Dwyer stated that they hear the sirens. They don't m-

move. 5% do and the rest of them don't. DPW Commissioner Hill stated that with it being wintertime, people are probably staying a little bit longer because they don't want their kids out in the cold. Councillor Asack stated that the principal did say that it gets a little worse now because of the snow. She also stated that Principal Kelly suggested that we detour people, why aren't people going down to North Montello. Scott Dwyer stated because you can't get down North Montello. Ms. Lutz-Henrickson stated that they also have signs up on the school side, that says they can't park there from 8:00 in the morning till, I think it's 3 or 4:00 in the afternoon. Ms. Lutz-Henrickson stated so now everyone parks on our side. So if we have family or friends that come over, in my case, I had the death in the family, I couldn't have people park on my side of the street because everybody from the school is on my side of the street now. Councillor Asack stated that those signs were put up by the commission. Also years ago when I was on the commission, we put up signs on Division Street. There's a major problem. This is a big school and I think they increased their enrollment. They have like 900 kids. The school's in a bad location. It's been going on for a while, if it's not North Main Street, it's Division Street. I think we have to figure out something, otherwise there is going to be a fatality. Scott Dwyer stated that it's been discussed at the Montello Business Association's meeting and we meet once a month. Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated that he's been watching that situation up there for months, and at about nine o'clock it is a total disaster up there. If I come up North Main Street, sometimes I get hung up all the way back to Prospect Street, Huntington Street, and you move up a couple of cars, a couple of cars, and a couple of cars. And one thing I did notice is that when the buses are heading south on North Main Street, and they're discharging the students out the right-hand door directly onto the sidewalk, so that when they get off the bus they go right onto the sidewalk to go right into the school, the buses are all sitting there with the red lights flashing. Now, I don't know if it's a regulation that they have to do that, but if they did not do that, at least the traffic on North Main Street could be moving. So I have been there where we sat on North Main Street looking north, it's pretty much clear ahead of us, but nobody can move because the red lights are flashing on the bus. So this bus pulls away, one or two cars start to move up, another bus comes in, puts his red lights on. Now we're back to gridlock again. So one of the things they should look at is the opportunity to perhaps extinguish the red lights if the kids are getting directly off the bus onto the sidewalk. Secondly, those two crossing guards, and it isn't only at this school, it's happening all over the city, that as soon as one student approaches the corner, they shut all the traffic down to let this one student go across the street. It would make sense that if you are a crossing guard, you corral four or five kids, get them all together, and then cross them in a group. But this major intersections, West Elm and Newbury Street's another one that's terrible. Every time a kid comes to that corner, they shut all the traffic down. West Elm Street will be backed up almost to Belmont Avenue trying to go east, and it's because they keep stopping the cars to let one kid go. This is something that we should address. Scott Dwyer stated that you make a very good point because that is

true. Retired Fire Chief Galligan also stated that in my opinion, if the buses went up Division Street and went into the school property, they once again would be letting the kids out on the right side of the bus, which is onto the sidewalk, which is the same side as the school. So when the kids get off the bus and the bus is empty, now the bus pulls out onto Main Street, but you're only holding up traffic long enough for the bus to pull out, as opposed to parking on North Main Street, where you, you could be three or four minutes at least waiting for those kids to get off the bus. So you got a legitimate concern, and it's not a good situation up there. But it's really kind of a little bit beyond us. I think really there's got to be some input by the schools on this thing. I think it isn't something that we as a traffic commission can solve by ourselves. But I think we're only one piece of the pie, but I think the schools probably in conjunction with the traffic commission and whoever else wants to help us, we should all meet and come up with some ideas on how to address this. Because it's got to be addressed. It's an awful mess up there. I personally have knowledge of it. I've seen it. The bus situation was number one. And number two is the crossing guards crossing each individual kid one at a time. Corral them in a group, have five or six of them cross at once. Scott Dwyer stated that the only thing I'm afraid of is that the principal or a school person is going to say is that if we don't put the lights on and a little kid decides he's going to jolt to see one of his friends, that's what they're going to say. "Now, the lights weren't on, and this is why the kid got hit." Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated then that leads you to relocating the buses to a safer area. DPW Commissioner Hill stated that area on the right-hand side of the school, on the north side of the school, is the area that was designed to drop children off by buses. He further stated that I think because this is multiple schools, this isn't just the Angelo School, it's the Raymond School, it's North Junior. It's really all the schools. He further stated that this is the one on the agenda, but I think this is a bigger conversation with the school department, whether it be the transportation department and maybe somebody from the school police, we all come here and have a conversation at a traffic commission meeting to discuss better and safer ways to drop the kids off to school. Ms. Lutz-Henrickson stated that this is the only school that drops off at on main drag. It was stated that you have the Arnone School but she stated that the Arnone goes into the driveway, they're not on Belmont Street. Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated that the Huntington is the same way. James Sweeney stated that I think they all have the same situations. Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated that if you think back when that school was built over there, most likely there was some traffic patterns that were developed to make things work. Over the years, as people move on, new people come in, sometimes all those things that were put together get lost. And we may be at a point right now where what we had 10 years ago was working great, but right now it's been lost. Councillor Asack asked if there was a reason why they're not using Division Street? Traffic Commissioner Porcaro stated that he met with Principal Kelly and Mr. Thompson back in the fall. What they have in place now is what's been in place for, like, six or seven years, I believe the principal told me, and they've never had any problems, no injuries, no accidents. From what I recall

him telling me, the area off of Division Street, which was designed for the bus drop-off, is where they have parents pull in and drop off. They have the buses out front on North Main Street. The other lot off of Ford Street, because I had asked about and we walked the whole school that day. The staff lot off of Ford Street really wasn't an option to have buses or parents come in because the lanes in between the cars wasn't big enough to accommodate cars driving around, or buses. So that's why that lot was kind of off limits for any use other than staff parking. I don't know why he swapped out the bus lot to be on North Main, I think he just felt that that was safer, and maybe it worked better. His argument was that in seven years they've never had an accident. It's kind of hard to dispute that. Councillor Asack stated that he tried to explain to me, but it wasn't making sense, because to me that's the most logical, because you have these big buses. I would rather have them on a little side street. Traffic Commissioner Porcaro stated let's say we swapped it, so now the buses are using the bus lane off of Division Street. Now you take all the parents who ordinarily would have used it, where are they going to go to drop their kids off? They will go right onto Main Street and now it's worse. I just think it goes back to there's a school that was put in a very challenging location. Ms. Lutz-Henrickson stated that the lot that's on Ford Street, parents do go in there, because from where the sign is, they start lining up all the way around the corner. From North Main they go into Ford Street. There is another little parking lot where maybe teachers could park if residents don't park their cars there. Traffic Commissioner Porcaro asked if it's the little lot off of Coburn Street of which Ms. Lutz-Henrickson stated yes, it's right on the corner of Coburn Street. That's the school's lot, too. But there's no parents coming out of where the buses were first. They're all parked on Division Street. Councillor Asack stated that I don't know what he's using it for but that would be the most logical. She also stated that she wanted to bring up what Retired Fire Chief Galligan mentioned about the buses shutting their flashing lights or their blinkers. In past years, there was always a bus attendant or a teacher that stood at the door. So why would a kid run behind if we have adults there to monitor them to go into the school. Jed Hresko was also present and stated that I was recently on the Old Colony Planning Council transportation committee meeting and Judith Crocker, who runs Safe Routes to School for Mass DOT, she's the state coordinator, presented on what they call School Streets. Which are interventions designed to both improve traffic flow and make things safer. That's more like a mid-range solution. It's not immediate, but maybe we could invite her to the meeting. I don't know if there's new grant money tied with it, I can certainly ask. But it could be an opportunity to get some assistance from the state. DPW Commissioner Hill stated that I honestly think there's not a whole lot the commission can do with this right now, but I would make a motion to postpone it to the next meeting with the understanding that somebody or multiple people from the school department can come and have a conversation with the commission. Traffic Commissioner Porcaro stated that they're definitely a big part of this conversation. Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated that on the motion would it make sense for us as a traffic commission to send a letter to the school board, let

them know that this has been brought to our attention, and we would like to have further discussions relative to this. I mean, this may not happen till next fall, the way things happen sometimes. But at least let them know that it's been brought to our attention, and maybe they have a subcommittee that would want to meet with us or whatever. I honestly don't know how much we can do without some cooperation from the school department. Councillor Asack stated that in my 12 years on the council, we tried contacting Tim Sullivan to help us with the situation, but he's never heard back to us. We tried to go the route with the schools and it didn't work, that's why we are here. Traffic Commissioner Porcaro stated that if we are going to reach out to anyone on the school side, it's got to be the principal. If we are going to postpone this to next month's meeting, we need to invite Principal Kelly here. He knows the school better than anyone. So I would suggest that we send a letter to Principal Kelly informing him of what's going on and inviting him to the meeting next month, as well as Lieutenant Paul Bonanca, in charge of the school police. DPW Commissioner stated and I think Ken Thompson too because he is in charge of the transportation department. Some of this may be educating the bus drivers as to some better practices. Traffic Commissioner Porcaro stated that they may have suggestions or ideas that we're not thinking of. Traffic Commissioner Porcaro asked Councillor Asack what she would like to do with Item # 13 the Raymond School and it was stated to do the same thing and also invite the Principal of the Raymond School.

VOTED: TO CONTINUE 3/26/2026 AND INVITE K. THOMPSON, LT. BONANCO AND PRINCIPAL KELLY

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Galligan, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 7 in the affirmative.

13. RAYMOND SCHOOL

Requested by: Councilor Shirley Asack on behalf of the Montello Business Association and residents that live in the area.

Request/Issue: Causing a lot of traffic and dangerous situations as buses and parents are stopping in the middle of the road. It has become a public safety issue.

Discussion: Same as Item # 12 above. Bolded text in Item # 13 is relative to the Raymond School. Councilor Asack also stated that the Principal of the Raymond School should also be invited and that she will reach out to her before hand and speak with her about it.

VOTED: TO CONTINUE TO 3/26/2026 MEETING AND INVITE K. THOMPSON, LT. BONANCO AND PRINCIPAL MCKETTY

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Galligan, seconded by DPW Commissioner Hill, the motion carried by a hand vote; 7 in the affirmative.

14. PROSPECT AND WARREN AVENUE

Requested by: Councilor Shirley Asack on behalf of Peter Georgantas and Senator Brady

Request/Issue: The traffic light at Prospect and Warren Avenue (east & west) heading towards Main Street. Adjust signal as at peak hours mainly in the afternoon between 3-5 p.m. traffic gets backed up to Cross Street.

Discussion: Councillor Asack stated that this complaint has been going on for a while because I see it, it goes right past my house. So the traffic is backed up. So the complaints came to me and Senator Brady also tried calling the fire department multiple times because the gentlemen that in charge of the traffic lights, his name slips my mind. DPW Commissioner Hill stated Jimmy Donovan. So Senator Brady reached out to him. We were told we still have to come through the commission because even when I spoke to Deputy Chief Weeks, he said it still has to go through the traffic commission. So that's why I put them on the agenda. But in the meantime, Senator Brady got Donovan to go out and regulate it. It is a lot better now. I noticed that it still backs up but not as bad as it was. I made both Senator Brady and Mr. Georgantas aware that they were on the agenda, so I'm figuring they're not here, that means they're okay with it. So I guess regulating it helped. Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated that we should have a conversation with the signal division to find out what if anything has been done. The biggest problem with that intersection is cars that are going east on Prospect Street want to take a left to go north on North Warren Avenue. If the cars coming up from Main Street won't let them make that turn, the lead car that wants to take that left can sit there through a whole light cycle. So when the light turns yellow, he sneaks through, so one car gets through the whole light cycle. There may be an opportunity to put a longer or a shorter red light towards Main Street and a longer one towards Prospect, so at least the cars coming up from Main Street would stop for a red light, but it would allow cars to flush out of. We have several intersection in the city like this, Pleasant and Warren Avenue's the same way. We have a red light for cars coming east on Pleasant at Warren Avenue. Because if you're going west on Warren Avenue and want to take a left into west on Pleasant, want to take a left into Warren Avenue, if nobody will give you a break, that one car can back up Pleasant Street. So what happens is the light turns red for cars coming east, but the light going west stays for like ten seconds, which lets maybe six cars take a left-hand turn. So there's things that can be done without major changes, and I was just curious, maybe you have a conversation with Jim Donovan just to see what, if anything, has been done.

VOTED: TO SEND TO DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF DEPASQUALE'S ATTENTION AND CONTINUE TO NEXT MONTH.

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Galligan, seconded by James Sweeney, the motion carried by a hand vote; 7 in the affirmative.

15.OAK STREET (BETWEEN WENDY'S AND MADRID SQUARE)

Requested by: Edward St. Louis

Request/Issue: I have witnessed 3 + car accidents on Oak Street at this same exact location. I was also a victim of a very bad accident on this street in 2023. Madrid Square mentioned in a HOA meeting about this issue. Nothing has been done about it. Requesting a traffic Sign.

Discussion: Edward St. Louis was present and stated I lived in Madrid Square for about about eight years now, and Oak Street is a rough area, with a lot of congestion, a lot of traffic. But in 2023, unfortunately, my brand-new car I had just purchased a week before and only had it for about two weeks. I was taking a left onto, heading towards Valvoline, and on that street cars-- there's two lanes, one lane will always let you go, and then the other lane coming from Walmart will let you, will stop. In my case, that's what happened. The car stopped, and then I was taking a left, and then a car, went right. Because the traffic was stopped, they went around and then slammed into me. My finance and I have all these traffic reports. Since, January 2024 to 2026, there's been 51 accidents just on that street between 650-690 Oak Street. So that's really concerning because almost three years later I have flashbacks. My mom, her mom come to visit sometimes and I just have them take a right. I don't know what could be done on this street. My suggestion would be that it's two lanes there and maybe it could be collapsed into one lane. Maybe that will solve the issue. Because what's happening is that cars are letting you go but cars in the other lane are not and it becomes an issue. I saw an older gentleman in his 60's getting put into an ambulance and that's why I emailed the commission. I go to our quarterly HOA meetings and it was a bullet point about pointing a traffic light at this intersection and nothing has been done. James Sweeney stated that there's a busy car wash in this area. Maybe a traffic study could be done. Traffic Commissioner Porcaro stated that in the past I know that Deputy Fire Chief DePasquale has mentioned something going on with Oak Street. DPW Commissioner Hill stated that we are in receipt of a Bottleneck Grant. Which is going to look at Oak Street in its entirety from North Pearl Street all the way to North Main Street and determine best improvements with existing conditions that can be done. So not necessarily adding traffic lights in, in specific areas, but upgrading traffic lights to better accommodate traffic and keep traffic flowing better. Mr. St. Louis's finance noted that the 51 accidents are just for 650-690 Oak Street. That's the 51 accidents I was able to just pull for this section of Oak Street. There's also a lot of car accidents there. So I don't know what a good game plan would be, because there is a traffic light right at Walmart. Adding another traffic light would kind of create more congestion to the congestion that we already have. So I don't know if a stop sign, a flashing red light, a speed bump. So if you're looking from Madrid Square to Wendy's we have a kids school bus stop right outside of Madrid Square, and then we also have a BAT bus stop right on the other side of Madrid Square onto the left side. There's also a lot of pedestrians. There's a lot of commotion. There's two lanes. As you mentioned, that first lane closest to Madrid Square will let you go but the farthest lane will speed right past you and not stop. Same thing when you are pulling into Madrid Square. That first lane closest to you will let you turn in and then that second lane

will hold up the traffic or hit you. DPW Commissioner Hill stated Madrid Square is one way in and one way out. There's a lot of vehicular traffic in and out of there. Mr. St. Louis stated that sometimes in the morning just to exit, there'll be like four cars, and it'll take like 10/15 minutes just to get out. They have the right of way. I get it taking a left, they have the right of way. I was really friendly with the guard at the guard shack and he was so sorry that it happened to me. He said it happens all the time. He said like a month later another accident happened just like yours. DPW Commissioner Hill stated I wanted to be clear that the grant is not going to necessarily take care of all these traffic congestion issues. It's really going to look at intersections and how they can be redesigned to better accommodate traffic to get it moving quicker. But they will look at all the intersections and determine, you know, what the lighting is, what the delays are in the light. Sometimes delays help, like the chief was talking about earlier. It may not even look at recommendations on that section of road, but it does look at accident data. It's kind of in its infancy stage, I think right now. They're still gathering data before any decisions are made. I think in the springtime they're going to be going out and taking a look at the intersections, doing more updated traffic counts, and then probably towards the summertime, maybe fall, they'll have recommendations to bring back to the committee that's been assigned to manage the grant. Traffic Commissioner Porcaro asked who's on that committee? DPW Commissioner Hill stated that I think Deputy DePasquale is on there. I think there's somebody from planning on there. DPW Commissioner Hill stated the only thing that I could suggest is that it's one way in and one way out of Madrid Square. Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated that as a traffic commission, we can go put a sign up there which says, like it does in Avon, "Show courtesy to the side street," or we can put a sign up, "Traffic entering on left." So if you're heading east on Oak Street. But if a good-hearted person in that left lane wants to let you out, there's cars coming down that right lane that are going to go into Westgate, and as you come out, along comes this car down that right-hand lane. We've got several of these in the city that we've dealt with, and it's people's driving habits. It is what it is. And in the afternoon, Oak Street will back up to Reservoir Street trying to go east. But we can't regulate people's habits on how they drive. So even though we put a sign up that may say, "Traffic entering on the left," it's really marginal who's going to pay attention to that or understand what it means. So I don't ever see a traffic light going in there. It's too close to the other two traffic lights, to be honest with you. It's too bad that you couldn't go into the other apartment complex and come out their driveway at the traffic signal. That would be great if that could happen. But as an immediate solution to this, at my age, I'd take a right coming out. I wouldn't trust anybody going the other way. And I'd go up to Walmart and then turn around and then go east. DPW Commissioner Hill stated even make an exit at the westmost portion of the property prior to the bridge where the cars that are going west could exit west. Retired Fire Chief Galligan stated that there use to be another exit but they took the road out that's near the highway. There was an entrance up there. They took it out so that everybody has to go through the guard shack. The guard shack

used to be out at Oak Street, and as you were trying to get in, cars were backing up on Oak Street. So they did away with that and moved the guard shack to where it is now. So you've got to drive way in. So you could have four or five cars lined up at the guard shack trying to get in, not impeding Oak Street. It used to be all those cars were stuck on Oak Street trying to get into Madrid Square, so they shut that thing off. James Sweeney stated that ideally if you lined it up with the light it would be perfect. I don't know why that if working with the condo association, why that couldn't be at least investigated, because it's not going to get any better, and that is the best solution. Jed Hresko mentioned that Councillor-at-Large Charnel is one of the trustees of this Condo Association.

VOTED: TO SEND TO SUBCOMMITTEE

Upon duly motion made by Retired Fire Chief Galligan, seconded by Director Hooke, the motion carried by a hand vote; 7 in the affirmative.

Motion was made by DPW Commissioner Hill, seconded by, Director 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 THURSDAY, MARCH 26TH, 2026 AND ALL REQUESTS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THURSDAY, MARCH 19TH, 2026.