



City of Chelsea
TRAFFIC & PARKING COMMISSION

City Hall, 500 Broadway
Chelsea, MA 02150

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2018 AUG 22 A 8:02

Minutes of the July 24, 2018 meeting.

The meeting of the Chelsea Traffic and Parking Commission was held in the City Council Chambers, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA. The meeting was opened at 6:00 p.m. by Acting Chairperson Sergeant John Nofle. Members present were Director of Public Works Bert Taverna, Fire Chief Len Albanese, Director of Planning and Development John DePriest, and resident member Carolyn Boumila-Vega, Jorge Pazos and Brian Wagner. Also present was Chair Chief of Police Brian Kyes, Assistant Director of Planning and Development Alex Train and residents.

Old Business:

Agenda Item #1 - Communication of March 29, 2018 from Wanda Williams, requesting some sort of barriers be put around the intersection of Clark Avenue and Webster Avenue for the safety of residents living in the area .

Wanda Williams was not present. John DePriest made a motion to replace the currently damaged barriers. Brian Wagner seconded the motion Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #2 - Communication of June 6, 2018 from Wanda Williams, requesting to make Clark Avenue a one-way street.

Wanda Williams was not present. John DePriest made a motion to table until next meeting. Len Albanese seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #3 - Public Hearing on the communication of June 6, 2018 from Alex Train, regarding a presentation of the Re-imaging Broadway plan for the downtown central business district.

Alex Train stated he will present the plan for the downtown area and advise the commission to hold off on voting on the matter until the August meeting. Alex Train briefly went into detail regarding the improvements and the new proposed roadway directions. They hope that the improvements will reduce congestion from redundant circulation and that providing two way traffic with narrow lane changes to slow traffic speeds and create safer and more predictable crossings for pedestrians. There will be enhanced bicyclist lanes, consolidated and redesigned bus stops, new stop light structures, enlarge plazas and widen sidewalks. Broadway and City Hall Avenue will become a two way street and Fay Square will be a simple roadway treatment preserving the area in front of the Fire Department. And new crosswalks will show where it is safe to cross. Joe Mahoney, of 200 Captains Row, spoke in favor of the changes. Dorothy Kushmerek, 91 Franklin Avenue, opposed the proposed changes but strongly disagreed on making Broadway a two-way street. Barbara Richard, 9 Hooper Street, opposed the Broadway changes. Chief Brian Kyes was in favor of the proposed changes and believes they will enhance public safety and the flow of traffic. Additionally, it will decrease double parking and vehicular and pedestrian accidents at Broadway and Third Street. Councilor Damali Vidot was opposed to the plan and stated many concerns on making Broadway as a two-way street. She strongly feels as though the traffic plan will not decrease double parking and would like to see the reference reports resulting to the conclusion of the plan. She was concerned with the public hearing being held in the summer and

that the Council did not receive proper notification. Roman Pucko, of Peabody, was not in favor nor opposed to the plan and stated he was available for any input. Marianne Winship, 62 Beacon Street, opposed the changes to Broadway. John Gunning, 62 Beacon Street, was opposed with the relocation of the bus stops and changes on Broadway. Paula Garrity, 12 Admirals Way, opposed the two way changes on Broadway. City Manager Tom Ambrosino stated that if the residents put the two-way changes aside that they would recognize that there are a lot of positive improvements with new roadways and sidewalks. He asked the public to celebrate the \$5 million allocated to this project and that the proposal is going to make it better than it is now. The results will be a safer, calmer and better roadway for bikers and pedestrians as opposed to the current speedway in place. He went on to say that the meeting was held in the summer so that we can have it ready to go to the Council when they reconvened in the fall. He noted that the City Council will be making the final decision. He stated that there have been four public meetings held on the topic at the Williams School. City Councilor Roy Avellaneda asked if it would be presented as one segment or will it be broken down so they can decide on the different issues. He had questions on the bus route for the 111 if Broadway would become a two-way and where taxis' fit in the plan. He was curious to know if the Traffic and Parking Commission would be making the decision on the bus stop locations or would that come from the MBTA. He had many concerns on public safety and he would like to see the public safety reports. Lisa Santagate, 221 Shurtleff Street, opposed the plan with serious concerns of the relocation of the bus stop to the front of her home. Mike Prusky, 50 Boatswains Way, opposed the plan with concerns on public safety but saw the major improvements. Jeannette Benitez, 61 Woodlawn Avenue, was in favor the plan but suggested we should look at other areas that needed changes in the city. Business owner Rick Gordon was opposed to the two-way Broadway and stated that trailers were a major issue. Maura Garrity, 12 Admirals Way, suggested we look at other areas before making a decision and asked to view the traffic studies mentioned as she is concerned with the two way proposal. City Council Luis Tejeda was opposed to the two-way on Broadway but recognized that this is what the engineers do. He is in favor of improvements but was opposed to the making Broadway a two way street. Jose Iraheta, 73 Essex Street, was in favor of the plan. Laurel Newson, 2016 Washington Avenue, opposed the plan as she had concerns with public safety at the intersection of Third Street and strongly opposed moving the Broadway bus stop to a residential location. Wanda Kochanouski, 221 Shurtleff Street, was opposed with the relocation of bus stops. Chris Assante, 38 Hawthorn Avenue, was in favor the plan. He stated it was a great opportunity but had some safety concerns that maybe this was the best and easiest way to make improvements in the area. John DePriest made a motion to table the item until the next meeting. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #4 - Communication of October 18, 2017 from Judith Dyer, requesting a speed bump be installed on Heard Street due to high speed traffic towards Washington Avenue.

Len Albanese stated that speed bumps will cause problems with fire trucks getting through the area. Judith Dyer stated that she just would like something done that will slow down drivers going up Heard Street to Washington Avenue. John DePriest made a motion to post speed limit signs. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #5 - Handicap sign application of May 27, 2015 from Judith D. Dyer, of 11 Heard Street.
Len Albanese made a motion to approve the application permanently. Bert Taverna seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #6 - Handicap sign application of May 16, 2018 from Abdellatif Abadla, 61 Library Street.
John DePriest made a motion to approve the application. Jorge Pazos seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

Agenda Item #7 - Minutes of the June 12, 2018 meeting.

Bert Taverna made a motion to accept the minutes. Carolyn Boumilla-Vega seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #8 - Communication of June 11, 2018 from City Manager Thomas Ambrosino, regarding a pilot program for full operation of the traffic lights at Eastern Avenue and Broadway.

City Manager Tom Ambrosino stated that the city was looking for direction as the city has spent a lot of money to fix the controller and with \$15,000 we can bring it to full functionality. In the fall, he will bring to council an order to see about making it a Smart intersection if the Commission allows for a pilot program to study the light function fully for a short period of time. Tom Ambrosino felt as though the trial period would see if it helps with the police department during rush hour in advance to getting the Smart program early summer next year. Resident Barbara Richard stated that the cars do not stop; they still come at pedestrians. She mentioned that a traffic accident is what took out the controller. Sergeant John Nofle stated that he can get officers to monitor the area. John DePriest made a motion for a thirty day pilot program. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #9 - Communication of June 12, 2018 from Councilor Joseph Perlatonda regarding a posting a "Stop" sign at the corner of Stockton Street and Spencer Avenue coming from Eastern Avenue.

Bert Taverna stated that he was opposed to this as it is all part of the current design on Eastern Avenue and his recommendation was that we leave it as is. Tom Ambrosino stated that the reason was due to the Councilor receiving many complaints from residents when it went missing. Bert Taverna stated the sign was removed because it was not in place by MassDOT and while it was posted; it was not done legally. Brian Wagner made a motion to table the request until the Pilot Program on Eastern Avenue is complete. Len Albanese seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #10 - Handicapped sign application of June 13, 2018 from Ever Peraza, of 12 Warren Avenue.

Len Albanese made a motion to table the item until the next meeting pending more information from the applicant. Jorge Pazos seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #11 - Communication of June 19, 2018 from Youngsoo and EunHee Chung, regarding the Restricted Residential Parking Passes being used at meters in front of the their business all day.

Len Albanese made a motion to table the item until the next meeting pending more information from the applicant. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #12 - Handicap sign application of June 20, 2018 from Janette Benitez, of 61 Woodlawn Avenue.

John DePriest and Bert Taverna noticed that the applicant has a paved yard with a vehicle parked on the property as if it were a driveway but there is no legal curb-cut. She explained that she has used the space as driveway in the past. However, does not do so presently. Both members warned her that without the curb-cut that she cannot have a vehicle parked on the property. She agreed. DePriest made a motion to approve the application with the condition that she not park any vehicles on the property illegally. Jorge Pazos seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #13 - Communication of June 22, 2018 from Matthew Lynn of Fairfield Residential, regarding the traffic control proposal for the road improvement of Everett Avenue.

John Shipe and Matt Lynn, of Fairfield Residential, displayed an overview of the reconstruction of Everett Avenue. They stated they would need to redirect some traffic to other roadways. John Shipe stated that his staff would work with Alex Train and Ned Keefe on the closures. Phase one they will construct Locust Street and install utilities on Carter Street. They will maintain one lane alternating traffic. Phase Two will open Locust Street for one way traffic westbound. They will limit traffic on Vale Street with full closures of short duration. They will reconstruct the intersection of Vale and Carter Street and maintain one lane, alternating traffic. Phase Three will open Locust Street as a two way, close Carter Street from Vale Street to Everett Avenue, and maintain Vale Street north bound from Everett Avenue to Locust Street. They will limit Vale Street southbound to Carter Street only. Then construct utilities and road reconstruction on Carter Street from Vale Street to Everett Avenue. Phase 4, they will open all of Carter Street as a two way with a detour on Vale Street via Carter Street/Everett Avenue/Locust Street. During this phase they will construct Vale Street. Phase five, they will close Vale Street from Boston Street in Everett to Carter Street in Chelsea. They plan on raising the grade and construct Vale Street/Locust Street intersection. Phase six, they will open the Vale and Locust Street intersection and reconstruct roadway (in Everett). Phase seven, they will open all roads and Locust Street reverts to a one way. John DePriest made a motion to accept the proposal with the provision of Locust Street as a two way with a right turn on to Everett Avenue and Carter Street. Bert Taverna added that Fairfield keep the metal company and J.N. Phillips informed at all times during the construction and allow access to their businesses. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #14 -Communication of June 25, 2018 from Councilor Enio Lopez, regarding posting three signs "No Trucks" on the corner of Gerrish Avenue and Highland Street, Library and Highland Street, and Highland and Marlboro Street..

Bert Taverna stated that trucks service the store on Marlboro Street and when cars park on Marlboro Street, they cause problems for the trucks to turn. John DePriest stated that they can submit a request to MassDOT for a report regarding trucks in residential areas. Len Albanese made a motion to deny the request. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

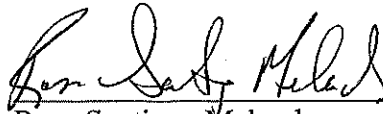
Agenda Item #15 - Communication of June 28, 2018 from Alex Train, requesting to amend the Residential Parking Program regulation Section 13-4.1 "Restricted parking zones" Article "E. Box District Station" to add the portion of Library Street from Highland Street to its terminus into the program.

John DePriest made a motion to approve the request. Len Albanese seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item #16 - Communication of June 28, 2018 from Fidel Maltez, requesting to add a handicap ramp from Luther Place parking lot into the Chelsea Walk.

John DePriest made a motion to approve the request. Bert Tavern seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

John DePriest made a motion to adjourn. Len Albanese seconded the motion. All in favor.
Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.


Rosa Santiago Melendez
Assistant Parking Clerk

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