



CITY OF CHELSEA, MA  
Traffic and Parking Commission

City Hall, 500 Broadway, Room 209 · Chelsea, MA 02150  
Phone: 617.466-4054 · Fax: 617.466-4059 · Email: rsantiago@chelseama.gov

CITY OF CHELSEA, MA  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

2020 MAR 13 A 8:13

Police Chief Brian A. Kyes  
Chair  
Sergeant John Nofle  
Acting Chair  
Rosa Santiago Melendez  
Secretary  
Lenard Albanese  
Fire Chief  
Fidel Maltez  
Director of Public Works  
John DePriest  
Director of Planning & Development  
Aaron Kraemer  
Resident Member  
Carolyn P. Boumila-Vega  
Resident Member  
Brian Wagner  
Resident Member

February 4, 2020

The meeting of the Chelsea Traffic and Parking Commission was held in the City Council Conference Room, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, MA. The meeting was opened at 6:00 p.m. by Acting Chairperson Sergeant John Nofle. Members present were Assistant Director of Planning and Development Alex Train, Department of Public Works Commissioner Fidel Maltez, and resident members: Carolyn Boumila-Vega, Brian Wagner and Aaron Kraemer. Deputy Fire Chief Richard Perisie was absent.

*Item #1 - Approval of the minutes from the January 7, 2020 meeting.*

Fidel Maltez made a motion to accept the minutes of January 7, 2020 meeting. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #2 - Communication of August 2, 2019, from Sergio Jaramillo of the Chamber of Commerce, requesting additional parking spaces on Cherry Street at Luther Place.*

Alex Train stated that he had a couple of questions for the Fire Department; however, Deputy Fire Chief Richard Perisie was not able to attend the meeting. Alex Train made a motion to table the item until the next meeting. Fidel Maltez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #3 - Communication of November 7, 2019, from Peter Buonasaro of Buonasaro Corp., requesting a Commercial Loading Zone at 44 Fourth Street.*

Peter Buonasaro stated that he needed parking spaces for his vehicles to load in the morning and in the afternoon. He stated that they are not needed all day. Alex Train stated that there is no parking on that side of the street. He went on to say that if the parking space was to be approved it would have to be on the opposite side of the street. Peter Buonasaro stated that it would be a safety issue for his employees going back and forth, dodging traffic to load and unload their trucks. He asked why they cannot jump onto the sidewalk since there is a curb-cut. Alex Train stated that he would need to speak with the city engineers about shifting the parking to the opposite side of the street but questioned if it would be safe. He will also have to speak to them regarding the off-ramp from the Tobin Bridge. Alex Train made a motion to table the item until the next meeting. Fidel Maltez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #4 - Public Hearing to receive comment on the removal of two metered spaces located at Fernandez Liquors, 79 Williams Street.*

Councilor Roy Avellaneda stated that he was very familiar with the area and it is unfair to the businesses. He suggested that the Commission should look into making it a daytime residential parking restricted area. Henry Wilson stated that the metered spaces do not benefit the liquor store as no patron is looking to park there for two hours. He suggested making them thirty (30) minute parking spaces. Fidel Maltez



agreed; stating that the Courthouse employees are using these meters. Alex Train feels that the liquor store is at a disadvantage. Fidel Maltez made a motion to remove the two metered parking spaces and to post a "30 Minute Parking, Monday thru Friday, 8 am to 6 pm" sign. Alex Train seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #5 - Communication of November 21, 2019, from Councilor Luis Tejada, requesting the Commission to look into potentially installing a speed bump, or some other concept, that will force people to minimize their speed on Summit Avenue.*

Alex Train stated that a colleague from the Fire Department was not present to confer on this item. Alex Train made a motion to table the item until the April meeting. Fidel Maltez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #6 - Communication of November 21, 2019, from Councilor Joseph Perlatonda, requesting the Commission to consider installing thirty (30) minute meters on Eastern Avenue, starting at 467-471 Eastern Avenue, for the local businesses.*

Joseph Perlatonda stated that he would like the Commission to consider posting thirty (30) minute parking spaces in front of the businesses. He stated that the customers cannot get in and out of the businesses. He went on to say that even installing parking meters would provide some relief. Fidel Maltez stated that it would take parking away from the residents in the area. He also stated that meters in an isolated area are more difficult to enforce. Joseph Perlatonda stated that parking enforcement routinely enforces in the area and residents go to work. Alex Train stated thirty (30) minute parking spaces in this area will be more difficult to enforce and that a loading zone makes more sense. Joseph Perlatonda asked about the burden upon the businesses. He knows it will get worse once construction begins in the area. Councilor Roy Avellaneda supports his request and believes that there are not many residents in the area. He went on to say that this area is mostly commercial and residents should not expect to park in front of a business all day. He stated that it is a fair request. He stated that maybe not meters but thirty (30) minute parking spaces would serve the area best. Councilor Leo Robinson stated that he was in favor of the request and finds it is very difficult to pick up his dry cleaning. Alex Train stated that the request should be moved to a public hearing so that they may discuss the changes with all the abutters in the area. Alex Train made a motion to move the item to a public hearing. Fidel Maltez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #7 - Communication of November 21, 2019, from Councilor Joseph Perlatonda, requesting the Commission to look into installing a Loading Zone on the corner of Eastern Avenue and Carroll Street.*

Joseph Perlatonda stated that the dry cleaners was having a very difficult time getting the laundry in and out the business because of vehicles parked there all day. Alex Train made a motion to move the item to a public hearing. Fidel Maltez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #8 - Public Hearing to receive comment on the conversion of Shurtleff Street, from Congress Avenue to Essex Street, to a two-way street.*

Firefighter Steve Waxman stated that it would be difficult to get through with the fire apparatus if vehicles were coming in the opposite direction. He stated that it is better to keep it a one-way street so that the children from the school are safe as they walk to the park. This change will create a cut-through and cause more issues. Fidel Maltez made a motion to deny the request. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.



*Item #9 - Public Hearing to receive comment on the proposed changes to Article 13 of the Traffic and Parking Regulations to increase on-street parking per the request of the City Council following an internal evaluation.*

Alex Train stated that the Parking Clerk has been working on ways to make the Residential Parking Program more efficient and customer friendly. Jeannette Cintron White briefly went over the proposed amendments. She stated that they are looking to make a few changes that would limit passes to visitors. She went on to say that these changes would increase the availability of parking for residents because currently there are many loopholes for those not wanting to register their vehicles in the city. Train made a motion to adopt the proposal as presented to the Resident Parking Program. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #10 - Communication of January 9, 2020, from Assistant Director of Planning and Development Alex Train, requesting to consider the implementation of traffic safety measures at Beacon Street/Broadway and Beacon Street/Chestnut Street/Route One.*

Alex Train stated he has been working with the Department of Public Works regarding many concerns from neighbors in that area. One resident brought two issues to their attention, which was the current traffic pattern and a concern for pedestrian safety. Alex Train brought the issues to the attention of their traffic engineers who reviewed the intersection. They found that making Broadway and Beacon Street a four-way stop would control traffic and improve pedestrian safety. The city will install new crosswalks and sidewalks at the end of the Tobin Bridge off-ramp, at Beacon and Chestnut Street, to slow traffic and create a safer path for pedestrians. Councilor Roy Avellaneda stated that his concern is that we have not had a public hearing to hear from the residents on this. He stated he would feel more comfortable on the changes if the public had a chance to hear about the reconfiguration plans. Alex Train made a motion to move the item to a public hearing. Fidel Maltez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #11 - Handicap sign application of January 10, 2020, from Jose Rios at 134 Bellingham Street.*

Jose Rios stated that he broke his leg and is having issues finding parking. He has to park far away from his house. Alex Train made a motion to approve the application. Fidel Maltez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #12 - Communication of January 13, 2020, from Councilor Melinda Vega Maldonado, requesting a drop-off area at the St. Rose School.*

Alex Train explained that the new restriction was put into place in order to take away parking from commuters. Councilor Melinda Vega-Maldonado stated that she is aware of that but several parents are now getting tickets. Councilor Roy Avellaneda stated that they are looking for an active drop-off zone from Library Street to Gerrish Avenue. Councilor Melinda Vega-Maldonado stated that they could make four to five fifteen minute parking spaces. She went on to say that she takes about five minutes to walk her children into the school. Alex Train stated that he would like to meet with the school officials to further discuss their needs. Alex Train made a motion to table the item pending further investigation with the school and to meet with Department of Public Works. Fidel Maltez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #13 - Communication of January 17, 2020, from Assistant Director of Planning and Development Alex Train, requesting to institute pavement markings in Park Square to channelize traffic, reduce conflicts, and improve safety for all users.*

Alex Train stated that a transportation study was done in the congested area. He would like to deploy a new concept to create safer and more orderly traffic. Councilor Roy Avellaneda asked if the city had



received any feedback from the local businesses. Alex Train responded no. Fidel Maltez stated that this request was already presented to the City Councilors and recommended to move to a public hearing. Fidel Maltez made a motion to move the item to a public hearing. Alex Train seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #14 - Communication of January 23, 2020, from Principal Mike Talbot of the Clark Avenue Middle School, requesting discussion on the rationale for the signs posted on Tudor Street for the Clark Avenue Middle School and possibility of having them removed.*

Mike Talbot, the Principal of the Clark Avenue School, stated that the signs have been posted for a long time and the parking enforcement has just begun enforcing it. He stated that it is affecting his staff. He stated that parking in the area is very difficult and he has a staff of ninety (90). Catalina Montanez, of 16 Tudor Street, stated that parking enforcement started giving tickets without any warning. She feels that the signs are not very clear and should have arrows on them. Fidel Maltez stated that the area was designated for deliveries and a fire lane. Mike Talbot stated that he will speak with his staff about their delivery needs and will look into the possibility of removing one of the fire lanes. Alex Train made a motion to table the item until the next meeting in order to speak to their staff regarding their needs. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #15 - Communication of January 28, 2020, from the Department of Public Works Commissioner Fidel Maltez, requesting to post signage prohibiting a left turn from Garfield Avenue onto Adam Street and to install collapsible bollards on Garfield Avenue, at Adams Street, to prevent this left turn.*

Fidel Maltez stated that he would like to post signage prohibiting the left turn from Garfield Avenue onto Adam Street. He would like to put up physical barriers. Brian Wagner made a motion to approve the request. Alex Train seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #16 - Handicap sign removal request of January 29, 2020, of 49 Fremont Avenue as the applicant has moved.*

Brian Wagner made a motion to approve the request. Alex Train seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.


*Item #17 - Handicap sign removal request of January 29, 2020, of 165 Winnisimmet Street as the applicant has moved.*

Alex Train made a motion to approve the request. Brian Wagner seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #18 - Handicap sign removal request of January 29, 2020, of 251 Spruce Street as the applicant has moved.*

Alex Train made a motion to approve the request. Fidel Maltez seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:20 pm.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rosa Santiago Melendez  
Assistant Parking Clerk