



**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: jcwhite@chelseama.gov

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Fire Chief  
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Acting Public Works Commissioner  
Alex Train  
Director of Housing & Community Development  
Carolyn P. Boumila-Vega  
Resident Member  
Aaron Kraemer  
Resident Member

2022 MAY -3 P 6:58

**Minutes of the April 5, 2022 meeting.**

The meeting of the Chelsea Traffic and Parking Commission was held in the City Council Chambers, 500 Broadway, Chelsea, Massachusetts. The meeting opened at 6:05 p.m. by Acting Chairperson Sergeant John Nofle. Acting Deputy Fire Chief Stephen Purcell, Director of Housing and Community Development Alex Train, Assistant City Engineer Rebecca Wright and resident members Aaron Kraemer and Carolyn Boumila-Vega were present.

*Item #2 - Approval of the minutes from the March 1, 2022 meeting.*

Alex Train made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 1, 2022 meeting. Aaron Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #3 - Communication of November 17, 2021 from Mary Festa, requesting a discussion on speeding vehicles and traffic concerns at the intersection of Jefferson and Washington Avenue.*

Alex Train stated that his office has conferred with the transportation consulting engineer and developed a traffic safety calming plan to enhance pedestrian safety. He distributed a copy of the proposed plan to the Commission members. They are proposing painted curb extensions at the corner of Washington and Jefferson Avenue to tighten the turning radius to slow vehicles. The proposed plan will narrow the lane widths on Jefferson Avenue with pavement markings to forewarn drivers of the upcoming crosswalk and 'Stop' sign. The crosswalk would be restriped with a higher thermoplastic material and painted curb extensions on Washington Avenue to improve pedestrian visibility while slowing vehicular speeds. Stephen Purcell asked about the curbing. Alex Train stated that it would be stripping with white flexible bollards. Stephen Purcell asked that he be able to confer with the Fire Department on the plans. Alex Train made a motion to table the request pending the review and confirmation from the Fire Department until the next meeting. Aaron Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #4 - Communication of January 13, 2022 from Rony Gobin, of 30 Summit Avenue, requesting a discussion on traffic issues around the Soldier's Home on Summit Avenue.*

Alex Train stated that the requestor was unable to attend this meeting. Alex Train stated that he and Rebecca Wright has met with the requestor. They devised a traffic calming plan consisting of two elevated speed humps, approximately three inches in height, and pavement markings on Warren Avenue. They propose a combination of pavement markings and signage to channel traffic approaching the intersection at Webster Avenue on Summit Avenue. He went on to say they propose pavement markings and a painted center median, narrowed lane widths, signage, and a flashing radar sign at the Soldiers Home on Summit Avenue. They would like implement these plans sometime in the summer pending the funding proposed in the FY 2023 Capital Improvement Plan. Stephen Purcell asked if the median would be raised as well. Alex Train responded that they will be painted but the speed humps will have height. Alex Train hopes to install a more permanent feature once the Soldiers Home site is complete. Stephen Purcell asked for more time to receive more comments from the Fire Department. Alex Train made a motion to table the item. Aaron Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #5 - Handicap sign application of February 1, 2022 from Mary Welch, at 88 Carroll Street.*

The applicant passed away. No vote taken.

*Item #6 - Public Hearing regarding the review and approval of the construction management plan, related to the demolition and ground up construction project of the Innes Apartments Redevelopment.*



Mary Davis, of JJC-JMC Chelsea LLC, went over the three major concerns of the Commission from the last meeting. She noted that they corrected the accessible crosswalk from Watts Street to connect from Highland Street to Watts Street. She stated that they have addressed the gate issue in order to alleviate the visibility concern from Willow Street at Central Avenue. She noted that updated plan elaborate on the delivery schedule along Watts Street during the course of the construction. Math Tharion went over a summary of the project's truck deliveries for the duration of the project. Alex Train asked for more information on the traffic detour routes and traffic circulation that the closure of Willow Street will have for the neighborhood. Mary Davis stated that they are open to any ideas for signage or traffic mitigation for the traffic concerns at Bellingham Street. John Nofle informed the public that he received two emails from residents Donna Repicci and Michael Wozniak, who are opposed to the traffic management plan. John Nofle expressed concerns with the number of parking spaces taken away from the residents. Mary Davis noted that the ninety-six households that are temporarily displaced will alleviate some of the current parking congestion. He asked if they plan to eliminate the sidewalks during the duration of the construction. Math Tharion responded that they are. He asked if there was enough space for the Fire Department to travel through. Alex Train noted that the City will be taking on a project at Griffin and Eastern Avenue and explained the details of the traffic management plan. Alex Train asked if they can return any number of on-street parking spaces to the residents once available during the construction. Math Tharion responded that they will need to look at it in more detail. Alex Train asked that they work with the City with signage and police details to detour traffic. Steve Purcell expressed concerns with the fence at Watts Street and the width of the street due to the parking configuration. The Fire Department needs eighteen feet for fire apparatus and he is opposed to the plan on Watts Street. Mary Davis explained the reason for the fence plan but they can look into further. John Nofle stated that the resident Manilio Mendez is opposed to the project. Rebecca Wright expressed concerns with the crane on Watts Street. Alex Train asked if they can make the modifications to address the Fire Department's concerns. Rebecca Wright asked if the Willow Street closure could be open at least one way. Math Tharion stated that for safety purposes they would like to eliminate traffic; however, it can be opened during deliveries with the police details. Alex Train confirmed that Willow Street will be accessible during the evening hours. Alex Train reiterated that concerns of the Commission for additional revisions. He went on to inform everyone of a community meeting to converse over traffic management issues around the two projects in early May. Alex Train made a motion to table the request until the next meeting pending the revisions are provided. Steve Purcell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #7 – Communication of March 2, 2022 from Councilor Vega Maldonado and Councilor Vidot, requesting the Commission look into the placement of speed tables to be located near 32 Franklin Avenue.*

Alex Train made a motion to table the request pending the review by the Fire Department and the Department of Public Works. Steve Purcell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #8 - Communication of March 2, 2022 from Councilor Vega Maldonado, requesting the Commission to reposition the preciously approved handicap sign at 40 Carmel Street due to the sign being on an electric pole and not visible. No vote taken. Item will be referred to DPW for action.*

*Item #9 - Handicap sign application of March 16, 2022 from Jose Miranda, at 3 Clinton Street.*

Alex Train made a motion to approve the application. Aaron Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #10 - Communication of March 18, 2022 from Mohamed Lamaallem of Al-Huda Society, requesting parking relief from April 2 through May 2, 2022 for Ramadan.*

Alex Train explained that historically the City has approved this request annually. Alex Train made a motion to approve the request. Aaron Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #11 - Communication of March 22, 2022 from Jacqueline Bevere Maloney of the ELC, requesting the closure of Shurtleff Street, from Central Avenue to Congress Avenue, on Wednesday, June 22, 2022 from 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for their Annual Spirit Day.*



Alex Train explained that his department is currently reviewing this request. He recommends that they confer with the School Department administration to coordinate around some of the parking matters in this area. Alex Train made a motion to table the request. Carolyn Boumila -Vega seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #12 - Communication of March 24, 2022 from Councilor Recupero and Councilor Lopez, requesting the Commission look into accepting all drivers licenses regardless of origin for vehicles registered in the City of Chelsea to obtain residential stickers and refer to Parking Clerk for explanation.*

John Nottle noted that all applicants are able to apply with other forms of identification. Jeannette Cintron White briefly described the other forms of bills, notices and identification that are used to prove residency. Alex Train made a motion to table the request pending the outcome of the communication to the Council. Aaron Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #13 - Communication of March 24, 2022 from Councilor Recupero, requesting that the Commission look into putting a "No Parking from Here to Corner" sign on the left-hand corner of Essex and Highland Street and to add a mirror.*

No vote taken. Item will be referred to DPW for action.

*Item #14 - Communication of March 28, 2022 from Santa Rodriguez-Delgado, requesting a "No Parking on this Side" sign at 25 Cottage Street.*

Alex Train described that the Commission reach out to the requestor as the request may be resolved by enforcement or by action from the Commission. Alex Train made a motion to table the request pending further investigation. Aaron Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #15 - Communication of March 31, 2022 from Peter Roche of NEI General Contracting, requesting the approval of the construction management plan for 25 Sixth Street.*

Peter Roche, of NEI General Contracting, briefly went over demolition plan. The new construction will have five stories with sixty-two (62) units of affordable housing, which will be a combination of fifty-six (56) rental units and six (6) townhouse units. They anticipate a May start date once they resolve permitting issues with the MBTA. The overall schedule will be approximately eighteen (18) months. He noted that due to the existing conditions surrounding the site, they ask for the use of Sixth Street to execute the construction of the project. He stated that they will need to take away seven to eleven parking spaces for the duration of the project for demolition and deliveries by blocking the lane with barriers for the full duration of the project. He went over the second phase which affects the portion alongside the Silverline. He confirmed that all the comments from the MBTA and the City of Chelsea have been incorporated into the plan and truck route from the primary feedback of the building permit application. He noted that they will access the site from Webster Avenue due to the truck route. Alex Train reminded Peter Roche to include an ADA complaint pedestrian pathway around the site. Peter Roche noted the ADA complaint ramps on the site plan with sidewalk closures for pedestrian safety. Rebecca Wright noted that there is a handicap sign at this location and asked if they addressed the space with the applicant. Brian Zimolka, of Nitsch Engineering, stated that they made contact with the applicant and they will move the space and create another space so that it is accessible from two points. Alex Train made a motion to table the request until the May meeting pending a public hearing. Aaron Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.