



**CITY OF CHELSEA, MA**  
**Traffic and Parking Commission**

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Leonard Albanese

Fire Chief

Lou Mammolette

Acting Public Works Commissioner

Alex Train

Director of Housing & Community Development

Carolyn P. Boumila-Vega

Resident Member

Aaron Kraemer

Resident Member

**Minutes of the March 1, 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 6:01 p.m. by Acting Chairperson Patrolman Richard Bellomo. Acting Deputy Fire Chief Stephen Purcell, Director of Housing and Community Development Alex Train, Assistant City Engineer Rebecca Wright and resident member Aaron Kraemer were present. Resident member Carolyn Boumila-Vega was absent.

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

Alex Train made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 1, 2022 meeting. Stephen Purcell 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.*

Mary Festa apologized for not attending the last meeting. She asked if there were any updates on the request. Alex Train explained that his department has met with the engineering consultant, who performed an analysis and has provided a set of recommendations. They are looking into funding sources and they will return to the Commission with a timeline and plan at a later date. Rebecca Wright made a motion to table the item until the next meeting. Alex Train 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 request is similar to the last item; it is undergoing an evaluation by the engineering consultant. They are considering traffic calming measures such as low rise speed humps, improved pavement markings and flashing signage. There will be a cost estimate and an illustrative plan that will be presented by the City to the Commission at the next meeting. Rebecca Wright made a motion to table the item until the next meeting. Alex Train seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #5 - Public Hearing regarding the Eastern Avenue and Griffin Way improvements proposal to install actuated traffic signals to improve operations and safety at the intersection, to extend curbing and sidewalks from Eastern Avenue around the intersection corners with Griffin Way and to make the crosswalks and sidewalks ADA compliant.*

Kathleen Pearson, on behalf of MWRA, introduced herself and her colleagues. Jack Martin, of Stantec, went over the details of the proposed plan. He further detailed the phases and the tentative timeline. He confirmed that they have been working with the City's peer reviewer from TEC to address comments by the City's asking to address repositioning equipment to provide full ADA access. Rebecca Wright asked about the left-hand turn phase. Alex Train asked Jack Martin to confirm that the ADA compliance issues were adjusted the plans to reflect the requested changes. Jack Martin stated that the necessary changes will be addressed and are currently being added to the plans. Jeff McLaughlin, of MWRA, met with the abutters and left the plans with each one. He stated that he thinks they are all set. Alex Train made a motion to approve the request pursuant to the revised plans with the ADA modifications requested by the Commission. Stephen Purcell seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #6 - Handicap sign application of February 1, 2022 from Mary Welch, at 88 Carroll Street.*

Applicant was not present. Rebecca Wright made a motion to table the application until the next meeting. Alex Train seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.



*Item #7 - Handicap sign application of February 8, 2022 from Fatou Bajinka, at 139 Chestnut Street.*

Fatou Bajinka explained why she is applying for the sign. She understands that there is a sign in her neighborhood; however, the applicant of that vehicle does not move her vehicle. Secretary Jeannette Cintron White went over the list of current signs in the vicinity. Alex Train made a motion to approve the application. Aaron Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #8 - Handicap sign application of February 9, 2022 from Alcides Albino, at 5 Sturgis Street.*

Secretary Jeannette Cintron White noted that there is no handicap sign placard attached to this application because the registration type is disabled parking. Alex Train asked if there were any other signs on this street. Secretary Jeannette Cintron White stated that there were none. Alex Train made a motion to approve the application. Aaron Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

*Item #9 - Communication of February 16, 2022 from Councilor Judith Garcia, requesting that the Commission look into repositioning all four 'Stop' signs located at the intersection of Arlington Street and Second Street to increase vehicular and pedestrian safety.*

Alex Train stated that the repositioning of the signs can be done by DPW without the Commission's approval. His department will work with the Commissioner of Public Works and the DPW team in order to improve the visibility of the 'Stop' signs. No vote taken.

*Item #10 - Communication of February 23, 2022 from Mary Davis of JJC-JMC Chelsea LLC, requesting 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, is part of the developers of the Innes Redevelopment. She went over the current status of the project for the ninety-six (96) residents and the current status update of the construction plan. They will be working with Nitsch Engineering and Plumb House for the construction. Math Tharion went into detail of the construction activities during each phase, which is scheduled from August of 2022 through July of 2025. He described the demolition site plan, the planned pedestrian and travel lane redirections, their truck traveling routes, the anticipated on-street parking restrictions, staging plans and the structure construction plan. Steve Purcell shared concerns with the turn radius study. Brian Zimolka, of Nitsch Engineering, went over the equipment used for the study and one issue recognized during the study with the radii. Alex Train shared concerns regarding the truck size used for the study and the narrow portion of roadway. Math Tharion went over the construction crane placements and the truck deliveries. Alex Train asked what is the exact number of parking spaces that they are proposing to restrict for the duration of the project. Brian Zimolka stated that there will be thirty-six (36) on Watts Street but there will be a gain of fifteen spaces (15) on the opposite side of the street. He stated that there will be twenty-seven (27) on Central Avenue that cannot be relocated, which means that a total of fifty (50) parking spaces will be lost. Rebecca Wright shared concerns with the fence due to a sight line issue from those on Willow Street turning onto Central Avenue. She requested that the corner be pushed back for public safety. Alex Train requested a temporary ADA compliant crosswalk at Watts Street, closer to Highland Street, for pedestrian safety. Alex Train confirmed that when Willow Street is closed off to vehicular traffic that there will be access to emergency vehicles will have access to the area if necessary. Alex Train noted that his department is not in favor of detouring vehicles towards Bellingham Street and Eastern Avenue. He would like to explore other circulation paths that may be more appropriate. Steve Purcell asked about the width of the travel lane and parking on Watts Street. Alex Train made a motion to move the item to a public hearing at the next meeting. Aaron Kraemer seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:49 pm.

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