



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMITTEE  
Committee Meeting

Monday - January 11, 2021, 6:00 PM  
Virtual

**AGENDA**

(Posted online: 1/6/20 at 9:13 AM)

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. C. 30A, s. 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this meeting of a City Council Committee will be conducted via remote participation. We will post an audio recording, audio-video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of these proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting on the City of Somerville website and local cable access government channels.

Copy & paste the following link into your internet browser to view this meeting live:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5415466813872037392>

**1. Approval of the December 7, 2020 Minutes**

**Strategic Planning**

- 2. 210893: Discuss** (Niedergang, Davis, Ewen-Campen, Ballantyne, Clingan, Strezo, Mbah, Scott, Rossetti, McLaughlin, White Jr.) – That the Mayor submit a supplemental budget request to immediately add staff and funding to the Mobility Division for traffic calming, and increase its staff and funding by at least 50% in FY22.
- 3. 206691: Discuss** (Niedergang, Hirsch, Ewen-Campen, Ballantyne, Clingan) – That the Director of SPCD prioritize for this Board the traffic calming projects in the City, and the process to determine those priorities.
- 4. 207499: Recommend** (Hirsch, Niedergang, Ballantyne, Ewen-Campen, Mbah) – That the Administration respond to the requests outlined in the attached resident petition, organized

by the Pedestrian and Transit Advocacy Group, to accelerate traffic calming investments and improve coordination and oversight.

5. **207996: Discuss** 8 residents submitting comments re: #207499, a proposal to accelerate traffic calming investments.

### **Potential Solutions to Traffic Dangers**

6. **210965: Discuss** (Niedergang, Mbah, Strezo, Davis) – That the Director of SPCD report to this Council in writing by December 4, and discuss with the Traffic and Parking Committee at its next meeting on December 7, what the plan is for replacing flex posts when they are knocked over or displaced.
7. **210894: Discuss** (Davis, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Strezo, Niedergang, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Mbah, White Jr.) – That the Administration expand and maintain the use of bollards and other pedestrian safety measures citywide so they are replaced immediately as needed.
8. **210966: Discuss** (Niedergang, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Strezo, Davis, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Mbah, White Jr.) – That the Director of SPCD report to this Council why there are still so few speed bumps in the city, especially since the ones deployed on Powder House Boulevard seem to be making a dangerous area safer for pedestrians.
9. **210967: Discuss** (Niedergang, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Strezo, Davis, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Mbah, White Jr.) – That the Director of SPCD explain to this Council in writing the Administration's opposition to deploying speed bumps, with less than a half-dozen installed citywide.
10. **210993: Discuss** (Niedergang, Strezo, Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD review the attached presentation by Zachary Rosenberg, Chair of the Pedestrian and Transit Advisory Committee, and report to the Traffic and Parking Committee how the successful traffic calming measures implemented in the Netherlands can be replicated here.

### **Other Issues**

11. **210988: Discuss** (Ballantyne, Strezo) – That the Directors of Finance, Infrastructure and Asset Management, and SPCD provide a progress report for the Vision Zero Action Plan 2020 as outlined in the attached spreadsheet.
12. **211052: Discuss** (Niedergang, Mbah, Ballantyne, Ewen-Campen) – That the Director of SomerStat, the Director of SPCD, and the Director of Parking re-convene the Parking Study Task Force in January 2021.
13. **210989: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD advise the Ward 7 Councilor

when they will implement the Mobility Plan for West Broadway (from Route 16 to Holland Street), to create a dedicated bus lane.

### **Dangerous Intersections and Roadways**

14. **210898: Discuss** (Davis, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Strezo, Niedergang, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Mbah, White Jr.) – That the Director of SPCD update the Ward 6 Councilor on any plans to further improve pedestrian safety at the intersection of Willow Avenue, Elm Street and Beech Street, possibly with a center island and bump outs.
15. **202108: Discuss** (Davis) – That the Administration work with the City of Cambridge to improve pedestrian safety at the intersections of Elm Street with Beech Street and Willow Avenue, including consideration of a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon.
16. **208008: Discuss** (Davis, Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD implement traffic calming and pedestrian and cyclist safety measures on Broadway from Powder House Circle to Teele Square.
17. **211053: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of SPCD report to this Council on traffic calming for the stretch of Broadway between the Ball Square Bridge and Cedar Street.
18. **210738: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of SPCD report to this Council, no later than December 22, 2020, the Administration’s response to the traffic calming petition submitted by 10 residents of Rogers Avenue between Kidder Avenue and Boston Avenue/Broadway.

### **Housekeeping -- Items to be completed if no objection**

19. **210827: Discuss** (Clingan) – That the Director of Parking install a NO PARKING HERE TO CORNER sign on Forster Street at the Central Street end of the roadway.
20. **209442: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD add more bike racks to the West Somerville Neighborhood School.
21. **208383: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen, Scott) – That the Director of SPCD install sturdy steel posts around the southeast corner of Nunziato Park, in light of the May 25 car crash that sent a vehicle through the fence and into the picnic tables where children often gather.
22. **205448: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen) – That the Director of SPCD provide recommendations on making the intersection of Summer and Central Streets safer for pedestrians, bicyclists and drivers.
23. **207723: Discuss** (Hirsch, Ballantyne) – That the Administration discuss thoughts on

negotiating with the MBTA for discounted or free fare for children and low-income adults by sharing or bearing the cost of the passes.

24. **207918: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking urgently prioritize pedestrian safety at the intersection of Walnut Street and Highland Avenue, which was identified as one of the most unsafe intersections in the city.
25. **208045: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen) – That the Director of SPCD update the Ward 3 City Councilor on plans for raised crosswalks on Summer Street at Belmont and/or Lowell Streets, as well as other nearby traffic calming improvements.
26. **208684: Discuss** (Hirsch, Ballantyne, McLaughlin, Mbah) – That the Administration report on how the City could lobby for a wider width for the proposed bridge from Everett to Draw 7 Park.
27. **208923: Discuss** (Hirsch, Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD or the Director of SomerStat develop an estimate of funding required to pay for or subsidize MBTA fares for residents of different income levels and ages.
28. **208275: Discuss** (Scott) – That the Traffic Commission approve the creation of a crosswalk at 45 Beacon Street.