



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMITTEE  
Committee Meeting

Wednesday - October 16, 2019, 6:00 PM  
Committee Room – 2nd Floor – City Hall

**AGENDA**

Posted online: 10/11/19 at 1:16 PM (Original)  
Posted online: 10/11/19 at 1:32 PM (Revised - added group headings)  
Posted online: 10/11/19 at 1:53 PM (Revised - added posting times)

**1. Approval of the September 18, 2019 Minutes**

**Broadway/Winter Hill Bus/Bike Lanes & Traffic Impact**

2. **208888: Discuss** (Clingan, Hirsch, White Jr.) – That the Director of SPCD report to this Council on the effectiveness of the Winter Hill in Motion plan and its impact on congestion.
3. **209002: Discuss** (Clingan, Hirsch) – That the Director of SPCD assess the implementation of the Winter Hill in Motion project and how the city can better roll out such a new experimental set of changes.
4. **209001: Discuss** (Clingan) – That the Administration provide an update addressing the Winter Hill in Motion project, including links to the educational materials created.
5. **208991: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of SPCD report on the bus and bike lanes on Broadway on Winter Hill, including an assessment of their effectiveness, a response to the many complaints that have been received, and a description of any changes that are planned or being investigated.
6. **208845: Discuss** (Niedergang, Hirsch) – That the Director of SPCD report to this Council on the safety of pedestrians at the intersection of Broadway and Norwood Avenue, following serious injury to a pedestrian there, and whether a crosswalk is needed.

7. **207660: Discuss** (Clingan) – That the Commissioner of Public Works clean or replace the right turn signal at the corner of Broadway, turning onto Temple Street, as it is not visible during the day.
8. **206202: Discuss** (Hirsch) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking share how it enforces the prohibition of cars and trucks parked in bus lanes and bike lanes.

### Union Square Traffic Problems

9. **206685: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen, Hirsch) – That the Director of SPCD report to this Board on when various necessary improvements to the Union Square traffic pattern, including an "All-Walk" cycle and left-turn arrows at certain intersections, will be implemented.
10. **208834: Discuss** (Scott) – That the Chief of Police post a traffic detail at the intersection of Webster Avenue and Prospect Street for the duration of the traffic detours in Union Square that reroute Washington Street traffic through that intersection.
11. **208835: Discuss** (Scott) – That the Director of SPCD return the intersection at Webster Avenue and Washington Street to an exclusive pedestrian crossing interval to increase safety for schoolchildren and other pedestrians.
12. **208836: Discuss** (Scott) – That the Director of Parking, the Director of SPCD and the Chief of Police increase traffic signage and enforcement at the intersection of Webster Avenue and Somerville Avenue to prevent northbound traffic on Webster Avenue from continuing north onto Bow Street or entering Somerville Avenue going in the wrong direction.
13. **208837: Discuss** (Scott) – That the Commissioner of Public Works immediately reassess the signaling at the intersection of Webster Avenue and Prospect Street due to the current unsafe and frustrating conditions there.

### Mystic/McGrath/I-93/Kensington Area

14. **208694: Discuss** (McLaughlin, Hirsch, Mbah) – That the Director of SPCD work with the City of Boston and MA DOT to promote bicycle and pedestrian safety at state highway intersections including Sullivan Square, McGrath Highway at Broadway and at Washington Street, and the Northern Expressway at the Kensington Avenue Underpass.
15. **201510: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking request that MA DOT address traffic hazards at the intersection of McGrath Highway and Mystic Avenue.
16. **200181: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking communicate to MA DOT the need for painted lanes and signs to slow traffic along I-93 and Mystic Avenue along the underpass by Stop and Shop.

17. **208844: Discuss** (Niedergang, McLaughlin, Clingan, Hirsch) – That the Director of SPCD report to this Council on actions, communications and collaboration with State agencies to improve pedestrian safety in the Mystic Avenue area by I-93, following the death of two pedestrians hit by motor vehicles there.

#### **Other Dangerous Intersections**

18. **208031: Discuss** (Niedergang, Hirsch, Rossetti) – That the Director of SPCD use the \$220,000 in traffic mitigation funds paid by Maxwell’s Green in 2011 for traffic calming on Lowell Street, between Highland Avenue and Albion Street, by constructing a traffic-calming table at the Albion Street crosswalk.
19. **206064: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of SPCD report to this Board and the Ward 5 Alderman on plans to expend the \$220,000 contributed by the Maxwell’s Green developer for traffic calming in the Lowell Street area.
20. **208378: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of SPCD install traffic calming infrastructure on Morrison Avenue, such as a speed bump between Cedar Street and Willow Avenue, as soon as possible to protect pedestrians crossing Morrison Avenue, especially at Highland Road near Lexington Park and the Community Path.
21. **208278: Discuss** (Davis) – That the Director of SPCD advise the Committee on Traffic and Parking of any plans for traffic calming on Morrison Avenue between Cedar Street and Willow Avenue.
22. **207570: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking install STOP signs and YIELD TO PEDESTRIAN signs in the Summer Street intersection with Prescott Street, and provide additional safety recommendations for this intersection.
23. **208814: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen) – That the Director of SPCD update the Ward 3 City Councilor on placing a digital speed board on School Street, just south of Highland Avenue.
24. **208253: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen) – That the Director of SPCD suggest traffic calming solutions for Sycamore Street between Highland Avenue and Medford Street. (2nd request)
25. **207279: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen) – That the Chief of Police enforce the speed limit on Sycamore Street, between Highland Avenue and Medford Street, and inform the Ward 3 Alderman on the outcome.
26. **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.

27. **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.
28. **207488: Discuss** (Davis, Hirsch, Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD update the Ward 6 Councilor on requests for improved vehicle and pedestrian signal timing and design in and around Davis Square.
29. **208990: Discuss** (Ballantyne, Rossetti, Hirsch) – That the Commissioner of Public Works install traffic dampening tools at the intersection of Broadway and Simpson Avenue to slow the traffic speeding on Broadway.

### **Traffic Enforcement and Somerville Police Dept.**

30. **208992: Discuss** (Niedergang, McLaughlin, Hirsch, Clingan, Ballantyne, Mbah) – That the Chief of Police redeploy as soon as possible at least 6 Police Officers full-time into the Traffic Division, to conduct traffic enforcement to regain control over our increasingly chaotic streets in the interest of public and especially pedestrian safety.
31. **208996: Discuss** (Hirsch) – That the Director of SPCD or the Chief of Police discuss whether or not "residents only" and "abutters only" driving restrictions are enforceable, and whether this information can currently be reflected in mapping applications like Google and WAZE.
32. **207652: Discuss** (Niedergang, Hirsch) – That the Director of SPCD, the Chief of Police, the Director of Traffic and Parking, and/or the Director of Communications report to this Council on developing a citywide campaign focused on getting motorists to stop for pedestrians in crosswalks and to fully stop at STOP signs.
33. **208818: Discuss** (Hirsch, Niedergang, Ballantyne, Clingan) – That the Chief of Police provide a list of fatal or debilitating crashes for the past ten years by victim's mobility method, including car, bicycle, and pedestrian and including both local and state-managed roads.
34. **206943: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen, Clingan, Ballantyne) – That the Chief of Police inform this Board how decisions are made to balance enforcement of cyclist violations, and the enforcement of vehicles driving or parking in bicycle lanes.

### **Parking and Parking Dept. Issues**

35. **208321: Discuss** (Niedergang, Hirsch, Ballantyne) – That the Mayor convene a committee to make recommendations by early 2020 for changes in City and residential parking permit policies such as those suggested by the Nelson/Nygaard consultant, as presented to the Land

Use Committee on April 30, 2019.

36. **208575: Discuss** (Scott, Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Parking provide a quarterly update regarding implementation of deed-based parking permit restrictions.
37. **208833: Discuss** (Scott, Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Parking provide this Council with a timeline for implementing resident parking restrictions for certain new developments.
38. **207575: Discuss** (Ballantyne, Davis, Hirsch, Scott) – That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Traffic and Parking immediately implement "only onsite parking" requirements for those proposed projects which have been confirmed during neighborhood meetings as not being granted residential or guest parking permits.
39. **204876: Discuss** (Niedergang, Hirsch, and the Entire Board) – That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Traffic and Parking meet with the Committee on Traffic and Parking to discuss policies and procedures to limit residential parking permits for residents of properties that are granted relief from parking requirements by the Zoning Board of Appeals or the Planning Board.
40. **208384: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen, Scott, Hirsch) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking temporarily suspend the policy of not painting curbs, in order to add yellow paint and a NO PARKING HERE TO CORNER sign to the curved sidewalk on the southeast corner of Quincy and Summer Streets, to improve visibility. (2nd request)
41. **207061: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen, Rossetti) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking report to this Board on the progress of pro-rating residential parking permits.
42. **207877: Discuss** (Clingan) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking consider restricting parking along parts of Temple Street during morning and evening rush hours, on a temporary basis, to help the traffic flow during the city's bridge closures.
43. **207713: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking place a NO OUTLET TO WASHINGTON STREET sign on the corner of George Street and Broadway to prevent cut through traffic due to the GLX bridge closures.
44. **207501: Discuss** (Hirsch, Niedergang) – That the Administration consider adding parking ticket data to the Socrata portal.
45. **206853: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking report to this Board on the enforcement of 311 complaints about illegal parking, and what provisions exist

for enforcement against illegal parking on Sundays and holidays.

**Housekeeping -- Items to be marked Completed**

46. **207915: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of SPCD explain to the Traffic and Parking Committee why strategically-placed temporary speed bumps would not be more effective in calming traffic than plastic flex posts, many of which have been down and out-of-service within a day or two of the recent bridge closures.
  
47. **207916: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of SPCD evaluate with the Traffic and Parking Committee the value and impact of flex posts for traffic calming, and on plans going forward for their use and maintenance.
  
48. **207737: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of SPCD work with the City of Medford and the GLX Team to adjust the traffic lights in Magoun Square, as traffic is getting backed up even more than usual due to the Ball Square Bridge closure.
  
49. **207571: Discuss** (Niedergang, Davis) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking and the Director of SPCD review the attached Police report suggesting traffic safety improvements at the intersection of Summer and Cherry Streets, including a fourth crosswalk, and indicate which of these improvements can be made and when.
  
50. **207361: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking enhance the STOP signs on Summer Street at Cherry Street with solar-powered blinking lights, similar to those at Summer and Lowell Streets.
  
51. **206774: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen, Rossetti) – That the Director of SPCD send a mailer and place flyers on doors and cars to all residents within the High School parking zones, informing them of the ongoing survey for parking needs.