



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMITTEE  
Committee Meeting

Wednesday - September 18, 2019, 7:00 PM  
Committee Room – 2nd Floor – City Hall

**AGENDA**

(Posted online: 9/15/19 at 9:01 PM)

**1. Approval of the July 8, 2019 Minutes**

**Traffic Calming Investments, Policy and Priorities**

- 2. 208688: Discuss** (Hirsch, Niedergang, Ballantyne) – That the Director of Mobility discuss with advocates and Councilors, options for the selection process for the new Pedestrian/Transit Committee and discuss its possible relationship to the Vision Zero Task Force and the Bicycle Committee.
- 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.
- 6. 202862: Discuss** (Rossetti, McLaughlin, Sullivan) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking explain its policy of reporting back to citizens who submit traffic calming petitions.

**Dangerous Intersections/Areas - State Roads**

- 7. 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.

8. **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.
9. **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.
10. **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.
11. **207573: Discuss** (Ballantyne, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Davis, Niedergang, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Hirsch, Mbah, White Jr.) – That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Traffic and Parking install all signage needed to inform motorists exiting Route 16 onto Powder House Blvd. that they are entering a residential and school neighborhood.
12. **204965: Discuss** (Mbah, Ballantyne, Rossetti, White Jr., Hirsch) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking install a crosswalk at Woods Avenue and Route 16.

#### **Dangerous Intersections/Areas**

13. **208117: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD immediately install flex posts at the intersection of Holland Street and Cameron Avenue to ensure pedestrian safety.
14. **203446: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking install additional pedestrian safety measures at the intersection of Holland Street and Cameron Avenue.
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. **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.
17. **207281: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen) – That the Director of SPCD work with the Ward 3 Alderman to address long-standing congestion at the intersection of Highland Avenue and

Hamlet Street.

18. **208813: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen) – That the Director of SPCD regularly update the Ward 3 City Councilor on efforts to reduce speeding and congestion on Hamlet Street, including opposite-side parking, street trees, a new Stop Line on the southern end of the street, and planters at the northeast corner by Highland Avenue.
19. **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.
20. **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.
21. **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.
22. **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.
23. **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.
24. **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.
25. **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.

### **Traffic Signal Settings and Policy**

26. **208781: Discuss** (Ballantyne, Hirsch) – That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Parking develop a city-wide traffic signaling policy that includes guidelines for temporary signaling during construction.

27. **207903: Discuss** (Scott) – That the Director of SPCD discuss with this Council the use of "concurrent with leading interval" pedestrian crossing timing at major intersections that see high usage by school and pre-school children, particularly at the intersection of Beacon and Washington Streets, and consider reversion to pedestrian-exclusive crossing timing at several relevant intersections.
28. **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.
29. **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.

### **Parking Issues**

30. **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.
31. **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.
32. **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.
33. **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.
34. **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.

### **"Bridge Hopper"**

35. **208846: Discuss** (Niedergang, Davis) – That the Director of SPCD report to this Council

with ridership data for the City's "Bridge Hopper" shuttle to assess whether it has been worthwhile and whether there should be changes to its operation. (2nd request)

36. **208036: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of SPCD report to this Council in writing by May 9, 2019 ridership data for the "Bridge Hopper" shuttle.

**Housekeeping - Items to be marked complete**

37. **208033: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking install new, vehicle-safe, bolt-in-place YIELD FOR PEDESTRIANS IN CROSSWALK signs at the intersections of Lowell and Hudson Streets and Lowell and Albion Streets, as soon as they are available.
38. **207715: Discuss** (Niedergang, Davis, Mbah) – That the Director of SPCD inform the Ward 5 and Ward 6 Councilors and the public as soon as possible the route and schedule for the City shuttle van that will ferry passengers around the closed Broadway/Ball Square Bridge.
39. **205802: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen, McLaughlin, Scott) – That the Director of SPCD report to the Wards 1, 2 and 3 Aldermen and this Board on the plans for any GLX-related closures of Washington Street, near the McGrath Highway underpass.
40. **205333: Recommend** (Ewen-Campen) – That the Traffic Commission revoke the "48-hour parking ban."
41. **205092: Discuss** (Clingan) – That the Traffic Commission consider creating a process for residents to comment on parking changes that affect their streets.
42. **205077: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of SPCD update this Board on Cambridge's plan to eliminate the left turn onto Massachusetts Avenue from the Porter Square shopping center, which is likely to add traffic to White Street, a small street that is inadequate for such traffic.
43. **204796: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of SPCD consider painting two new crosswalks on Elm Street near the Kennedy School, and discuss these and other traffic-calming measures there with the Ward 5 Alderman.
44. **202594: Discuss** Cambridge Director of Traffic and Parking responding to #202317, requesting an appearance to discuss Inman Square traffic changes.
45. **207590: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen, Scott, Rossetti, Hirsch, Mbah, White Jr.) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking immediately prioritize blocking truck access to Warren Avenue to prevent additional crashes and property damage during the Somerville Avenue

detour.

- 46. 207591: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen, Scott, Rossetti, Hirsch, Mbah, White Jr.) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking immediately install pedestrian safety measures on Bow Street, Warren Avenue and Columbus Avenue to deal with the increase of traffic during the Somerville Avenue detour.