



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMITTEE
Committee Meeting

Monday - December 7, 2020, 6:00 PM
Virtual

AGENDA

(Posted online: 12/2/20 at 6:44 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/136040786050218512>

1. Approval of the October 14, 2020 Minutes

Mobility Improvements

- 2. 210895: Discuss** (Davis, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Strezo, Niedergang, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Mbah, White Jr.) – That the Director of Capital Projects revise the College Avenue reconstruction plan to include additional safety measures for pedestrians at both perpendicular and parallel crossings.
- 3. 210901: Discuss** (Davis, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Strezo, Niedergang, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Mbah, White Jr.) – That the Director of Parking make sure a DO NOT ENTER sign prohibiting left turns from College Avenue onto Kidder Avenue is visible to drivers on College Avenue who might be considering such a turn. (3rd request)
- 4. 210897: Discuss** (Davis, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Strezo, Niedergang,

Rossetti, McLaughlin, Mbah, White Jr.) – That the Director of SPCD implement a traffic calming plan on Morrison Avenue including alternating parking to create chicanes.

5. **210896: 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 the overdue new equipment necessary to improve signal timing in Davis Square.
6. **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.
7. **207487: Discuss** (Davis) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking update the Ward 6 Councilor on requests for crosswalk safety improvements at the locations specified within.
8. **207486: Discuss** (Davis) – That the Director of Engineering and the Director of Traffic and Parking update the Ward 6 Councilor on requests for crosswalks at locations specified within.
9. **207893: Discuss** (Davis) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking replace the NO TURN ON RED sign at the intersection of Day and Elm Streets with a sign allowing RIGHT TURN ON RED AFTER STOP – YIELD TO PEDESTRIANS, or similar wording.
10. **203446: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking install additional pedestrian safety measures at the intersection of Holland Street and Cameron Avenue.
11. **205795: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD improve the Teele Square traffic signal wait time by reducing the 2 to 3 cycle wait time to on demand or one cycle wait time during morning and evening rush hours.

Dangerous Intersections/Roadways

12. **210900: 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 previously discussed plans to reconfigure the Powder House Traffic Circle.
13. **206390: Discuss** (Niedergang, Hirsch) – That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Traffic and Parking report to this Board on plans to improve traffic signalization and flow at problem intersections such as Powderhouse Circle, Magoun Square, and others.
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. **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.
17. **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.

Potential Solutions to Traffic Dangers

18. **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.
19. **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.
20. **207996: Discuss** 8 residents submitting comments re: #207499, a proposal to accelerate traffic calming investments.
21. **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.
22. **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.
23. **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.

24. **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.
25. **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.
26. **210975: Discuss** (Ballantyne, Niedergang) – That the Administration and the Commissioner of Public Works discuss the vehicle training process for all DPW employees and contractors whose job requires them to drive city vehicles.
27. **210624: Discuss** (Ballantyne, Ewen-Campen) – That the Director of Finance, the Director of Parking and the Director of SPCD discuss scaling parking permit fees with automobile size and efficiency.

Bicycle Lanes

28. **207997: Discuss** 10 residents submitting comments re: #204323, a proposal for Powderhouse Blvd. safe bicycling.
29. **208110: Discuss** 6 residents submitting comments re: #204323, a proposal for Powderhouse Blvd. safe bicycling.
30. **208227: Discuss** 3 residents submitting comments re: #204323, a proposal for Powderhouse Blvd. safe bicycling.
31. **208313: Discuss** 3 residents submitting comments re: #204323, a proposal for Powderhouse Blvd. safe bicycling.
32. **208448: Discuss** 2 residents submitting comments re: #204323, a proposal for Powderhouse Blvd. safe bicycling.
33. **209045: Discuss** Rachel Turek submitting comments re: #204323, a proposal for Powderhouse Blvd. safe bicycling.
34. **209442: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD add more bike racks to the West Somerville Neighborhood School.

Housekeeping

35. **201663: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking install a NO PARKING – FOR FIRE EMERGENCY VEHICLES ONLY sign at the dead end of Fairmount Avenue.
36. **201782: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking slow traffic on Franklin Street at the Prospect Hill Academy, including installing new crosswalks, fixing the broken SLOW driving light, installing blinking SLOW signs, and providing a crossing guard during the school year.
37. **202792: Discuss** (Sullivan, McLaughlin, White Jr., Connolly, Rossetti) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking install a flashing cross walk sign on Broadway at the East Branch Library.
38. **204369: Discuss** (Heuston) – That the Director of Parks and Recreation and the Director of Traffic and Parking evaluate the crosswalk area from Joseph Street to Lincoln Parkway and make necessary accommodations to allow the sidewalk to be used for children walking to the Argenziano School.
39. **204672: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Traffic and Parking accelerate the timeline for the new walkway along the former Powderhouse School.
40. **205919: Discuss** (McLaughlin, The Entire City Council) – That the Director of SPCD promote bicycle-safe infrastructures on all future Assembly Square development.
41. **205920: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Commissioner of Public Works install a street light on the corner of Grand Union Boulevard and Artisan Way.
42. **206267: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen, Hirsch) – That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion discuss with this Board’s Committee on Traffic and Parking, the city's policies regarding flashing street signs and their effects on residents with certain neurological conditions.
43. **206942: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen) – That the Administration work with the Ward 3 Alderman to ensure that the snow emergency parking options are sufficient in Ward 3, given recent changes to the school lot policy.
44. **207161: Discuss** (Clingan) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking address the cut-through traffic in Ten Hills caused by online traffic apps like Waze.
45. **207659: Discuss** (Clingan) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking install NO PARKING signs near 48 Bradley Street, to prevent parking along the short curb at the row housing

complex.

46. **208111: Discuss** (Clingan) – That the Director of SPCD paint the newer red markings at the corner of Pearl and James Streets to ensure ample clearance at 225 Pearl Street for vehicles turning onto Pearl Street.
47. **208475: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Traffic Commission consider making Mt. Pleasant Street a 2 or 4-hour parking zone during work hours to discourage motorists from parking there to take the Orange Line.
48. **208698: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Traffic Commission approve the installation of a stop light at the intersection of Grand Union Boulevard and Canal Street.
49. **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.
50. **209208: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen) – That the Commissioner of Public Works repaint the STOP HERE line on Central Street on the northern side of the intersection with Somerville Avenue.
51. **209209: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen) – That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the damaged curb ramp mats at the intersection of Highland Avenue and Central Street.
52. **209659: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of Parking report to this Council how the City addresses residents who do not pay automobile excise taxes because they maintain out-of-state license plates on their vehicles.
53. **210333: Discuss** (Niedergang, Clingan, Ballantyne, Mbah, Strezo) – That this Council consider the joint recommendations of the Bicycle Advisory Committee and the Pedestrian & Transit Advisory Committee with respect to a transportation response to COVID-19.
54. **210554: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen, Mbah) – That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Parking work with the Ward 3 City Councilor, Riverside Community Care, and residents on mitigating the parking and traffic issues associated with the new Riverside facility at 117 Summer Street.
55. **210729: Discuss** (McLaughlin) – That the Director of Parking place NO PARKING signs on the corner of Cross St and Chester Ave.
56. **210744: Discuss** (Scott) – That the Director of Parking address this Council regarding

enforcement policies on Resident Permit Parking and other regulations during the Covid-19 pandemic.