



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMITTEE
Committee Meeting

Wednesday - November 20, 2019, 6:00 PM
Sub Committee Room – 2nd Floor – City Hall

AGENDA

(Posted online: 11/15/19 at 7:53 AM)

1. Approval of the October 16, 2019 Minutes

Parking Issues

- 2. 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.
- 3. 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.
- 4. 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.
- 5. 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.
- 6. 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.

7. **209063: Discuss** (Niedergang, Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD, the Director of Parking, the Director of Mobility and/or the Director of SomerStat report to this Council on whether proposed restrictions on resident parking stickers for new developments in transit-oriented areas would also apply to guest passes.
8. **204874: Discuss** (Hirsch, Niedergang) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking publish de-identified parking permit data in the city’s open data portal so as to permit community analysis and discussion of issues related to the supply and demand of parking.

Union Square Traffic Problems

9. **209147: Discuss** (Scott, Hirsch) – That the Commissioner of Public Works immediately replace the missing signal at the intersection of Washington and Webster Streets.
10. **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.
11. **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.
12. **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.
13. **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.
14. **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.
15. **200692: Discuss** (Heuston) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking evaluate all traffic signage at Webster Avenue and Prospect Street and restore the NO RIGHT TURN ON RED sign to its proper location where it is visible to vehicular traffic.

Mystic/McGrath/I-93/Kensington Area

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. **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.
18. **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.
19. **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.

Other Dangerous Intersections/Areas

20. **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.
21. **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.
22. **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.
23. **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.
24. **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.
25. **208253: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen) – That the Director of SPCD suggest traffic calming solutions for Sycamore Street between Highland Avenue and Medford Street. (2nd request)
26. **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.

27. **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.
28. **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.
29. **209148: Discuss** (Scott, Rossetti, Hirsch, Mbah) – That the Commissioner of Public Works immediately replace the HAWK signals on Beacon Street with more suitable and effective RYG pedestrian-activated signals.
30. **206067: Discuss** (Niedergang, Ewen-Campen, Hirsch) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking install audible pedestrian signals so people can cross safely at the busy intersection of Highland Avenue and Central Street.

Broadway/Winter Hill Bus/Bike Lanes & Traffic Impact

31. **209074: Discuss** (Hirsch, Clingan, Mbah) – That the City Council and appropriate city staff hold a public hearing on the decision-making process, timing, and implementation of the Broadway bus lane, in response to resident requests and petitions.
32. **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.
33. **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.
34. **209001: Discuss** (Clingan) – That the Administration provide an update addressing the Winter Hill in Motion project, including links to the educational materials created.
35. **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.
36. **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.

37. **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.
38. **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.
39. **208891: Discuss** (Clingan) – That the Director of SPCD deploy traffic calming measures on Jacques Street.
40. **207445: Discuss** (Clingan) – That the Director of SPCD make the intersection of Jacques Street and Edgar Avenue safer for both drivers and pedestrians.
41. **207876: Discuss** (Clingan) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking deploy traffic calming measures on Jacques Street.

Traffic Commission Issues

42. **209062: Discuss** (Niedergang, Hirsch) – That the Director of Communications and the Director of Parking implement a plan to better publicize Traffic Commission meetings and decisions, and share that plan with this Council.

Housekeeping (Items to be marked Completed)

43. **202318: Discuss** (Heuston, Rossetti) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking appear before this Board to discuss the issuance of business parking permits, especially between 5 PM and 3 AM, and the impact of those permits on residential streets.
44. **202764: Discuss** (Heuston) – That the Director of SPCD discuss the Inman Square intersection redesign with the Administration, Cambridge transportation planners, and the MBTA business group, and assign planning staff to address Somerville's concerns at Cambridge planning meetings, and direct said staff to brief this Board and organize with the Ward 2 Alderman a neighborhood meeting to share findings.
45. **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.
46. **202903: Discuss** (Heuston) – That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Traffic and Parking arrange a meeting with the Ward 2 Alderman to discuss a proposal for new parking regulations upon the completion of Beacon Street.

47. **202933: Discuss** (Davis) – That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Traffic and Parking advise this Board whether diagonal crosswalk markings can be painted at certain intersections.
48. **203921: Discuss** (Davis, Rossetti) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking report to this Board on the policies for issuing business parking permits.
49. **203975: Discuss** (McWatters, Heuston, Ballantyne, Rossetti, Connolly, White Jr., Sullivan, Davis, Niedergang) – That the Director of SPCD consider making all neighborway locations, safety zones.
50. **204251: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of SPCD and the City Engineer consider adding a crosswalk as part of the redevelopment of Cedar Street at Warwick or Clyde Streets, and include the Bicycle Advisory Committee in any discussions.
51. **204323: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD, the Director of Traffic and Parking, and the Commissioner of Public Works suggest additional measures to slow the speeding traffic at the crosswalk in front of the West Somerville Neighborhood School.
52. **204430: Discuss** (White Jr., Lafuente, Rossetti, Connolly, Sullivan) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking review the intersection of School Street and Medford Street to determine whether traffic flow can be improved.
53. **204972: Discuss** (Clingan) – That the Director of Traffic and Parking remove the leftover sign stump on Sycamore Street, at the corner of Evergreen Avenue.
54. **205690: Discuss** (Niedergang, and the Entire Board) – That the Director of SPCD report to this Board on using trees in planters on streets instead of bump outs as a low-cost way to calm traffic and to place trees on streets where the sidewalks are too narrow to accommodate street trees.
55. **206077: Discuss** (Ewen-Campen) – That the Administration work with relevant department heads to create a written policy requiring written notifications to abutters regarding street closings.
56. **206580: Discuss** (Niedergang) – That the Director of SPCD install a crosswalk on Lowell Street at the Wilton Street bumpouts, as there is no crosswalk on Lowell Street between Magoun Square and the bridge.
57. **206672: Discuss** (Ballantyne) – That the Director of SPCD update this Board on the implementation of neighborhood safety zones. (2nd request)