

**TRAFFIC BOARD MEETING 1004**  
**MINUTES**  
**Planning Conference Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, City Hall**  
**Thursday, March 12, 2015**

**Call to Order.** Called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Jared Kraham, Executive Assistant to the Mayor.

**Traffic Board Member Present:** Jared Kraham, Executive Assistant to the Mayor; Bill Berg, Council person; Rich Perkins, Engineering

**Traffic Board Members Absent:** William Yeager, Assistant Police Chief

**Also Present:** Gary Holmes, Engineering; Cindy Paddick, BMTS; Dan Correll, retired BPD Officer; Dr. Juliet Berling, Planning; Katherine Davis, Principal Clerk; Joe Mirabito, Merchant; Ann Cianflone, Mirabito; Russell Wark, Mirabito; Tim Bailey, Keystone Associates; Jennifer King, Feinberg Development; Matt Napierala, Napierala Consulting; Jeffrey Feinberg, Feinberg Development; Ben Vanderlinde, Titomado Inc.; Mari Giurastante, COB Planner; Melissa Enoch, COB Planner; Sarah Campbell, Hinman, Howard & Kattell

**Approval of Minutes.** Request to approve the minutes Traffic Board Meeting 1003, held on Thursday, February 12, 2015.

Moved by B. Berg, seconded by R. Perkins

**Motion carried. (Vote 3-0-1)**

Ayes: Kraham, Berg, Perkins

Nays: None

Absent: W. Yeager

**Items Considered**

**Back-in Parking on Court Street.** Ms. Paddick stated that according to many outside studies, back-in parking is safer than front-end angle parking. Mr. Kraham reported that Mayor David would like to keep this on the agenda until the parking study is completed. **Hold until study is complete.**

**Front Street and Main Street Corner.** Ms. Leslie Dahlgren posed a safety issue at the corner of Front and Main. There are three lanes approaching the Court Street Bridge, but there is no left turn arrow. She claims there are numerous "close-calls" due to confusion by drivers as to who has the right of way. People start to make their turn, while other cars continue going straight toward JC. It looks like there was an arrow there at one point, but it's been covered over with a black shroud. Waiting for traffic counts from Ms. Paddick. Ms. Paddick stated that during a 2013 study, in the morning, 89 cars made a left hand turn, north onto front, in the afternoon 120 cars made this turn. Several weeks ago, the light was bagged and traffic was backing up onto the Court Street Bridge. Ms. Paddick does not think the light can be put back in unless all light configurations are changed. Mr. Kraham stated that if there aren't the counts and accidents to show a problem, there is no reason to change the lights. Traffic Board believes that this light should remain as is. **Item complete.**

**117 East Frederick Street.** Mr. Berg reported that Amrex Chemical, they would like an exemption from the alternate side parking because there is nowhere for their employees to park. Mr. Correll reported that after looking into this request, there is a parking lot that is next to this company and Amrex could possibly acquire this property for their employees. Also, they are concerned that if they exempt this street for this company, they will have to follow suit with other companies across the city. **Item complete.**

**Jackson Street.** Ms. Paddick reported that there is almost no traffic on Jackson and Tompkins in the morning and evenings. There were 3 accidents in 2014 which were not intersection related. Therefore the signal is not warranted.

Motion to install two stop signs on Jackson Street, convert traffic light to red on Jackson Street and flashing yellow on Tompkins Street. Re-evaluate in 3 months.

Moved by Berg, seconded by R. Perkins

**Motion carried. (Vote 3-0-1)**

Ayes: Kraham, Berg, Perkins

Nays: None

Absent: W. Yeager

**Leroy Street and Oak Street Intersection.** Mr. Berg reported that Councilwoman Renna receives a lot of calls about this intersection and that people would like to have the light re-installed. Traffic will look into this intersection and determine whether a traffic light is needed; they will report back at the March meeting. Mr. Berg stated that he does not know if City Council is going to request that this light be re-installed. Ms. Paddick reported that in 2014 during construction on Riverside Drive, the volumes were very high on Leroy due to the detoured traffic. During the construction, the 4 way stop is not getting even amounts of traffic because most of the cars were traveling on Leroy. When looking at a 2012 count, the volumes were much more evenly distributed which would work for a four-way approach. No incidents in 2012 or 2013. There were four incidents in 2014 during the construction period on Riverside Drive. Ms. Paddick recommends keeping it a four-way stop, and not re-installing the signal light. **Hold until Thursday, April 9, 2015 meeting.**

**Mary Street and Sherwood Avenue.** Ms. Marcia Huntoon of 152 Mary Street is requesting a barrier or guide rail to protect her property at the corner of Mary Street and Sherwood Avenue. She indicated that the request is based on numerous accidents and near accidents at that location. Traffic board requested additional follow-up with Ms. Huntoon. Mr. Correll reported that there were only two incidents at this location and it had nothing to do with the cars coming down the hill. The Traffic Division does not see a reason for a barricade at this location. Mr. Perkins asked why the stop signs are on Sherwood Avenue and not Mary Street when Mary Street is the more traveled route. He will take a drive to look at this location and Ms. Paddick will look into counts (in May) for this intersection as well. **Hold until May Traffic Board meeting.**

**162-166 Main Street.** Planning introduced plans for a new Popeye's Restaurant at this location. Sarah Campbell and Tim Bailey presented the new Popeye's restaurant on 162-166 Main Street. They would like a new entrance/exit on Main Street and a new curb cut. Mr. Kraham would prefer a one way in and a one way out onto Main Street. Ms. Paddick asked if there has been a traffic study done yet and there has not. Mr. Bailey is waiting to hear back from BMTS on this project and their concern about the traffic and pedestrian walkway.

*If there is a one way in and one way out, motion to insert second curb cut west on Main Street.*

Moved by R. Perkins, seconded by B. Berg

**Motion carried. (Vote 3-0-1)**

Ayes: Perkins, Berg and Kraham

Nays: None

Absent: W. Yeager

**1168 Vestal Avenue.** Planning will introduce plans for a new Dunkin Donuts food chain at this location. Mr. Matt Napierala presented plans for new Dunkin Donuts at 1168 Vestal Ave. They would like to convert the old M&T Bank into a Dunkin Donuts. There will be an ability to stack up to 11 cars within the property without affecting Vestal Avenue traffic. Ben Van Derlinde noted that they estimate a 650 per day car count. He spent 6:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. during four mornings doing a count of cars. He does not think there will be an issue. All deliveries will be scheduled when the store is closed so it will be it about 4:00 a.m. Mr. Mirabito supports leaving the front area open between his gas station and the new Dunkin Donuts property. Mr. Napierala stated that they intend to keep this space open, without a barrier to divide the two properties. Ms. Paddick would like to review a previous pedestrian study that BMTS did and pass it on to planning. **No action needed.**

**Eldredge Street Alternate Parking Exemption.** Mr. Gregory Griffiths of Binghamton Slag Roofing on 110-120 Eldredge Street is requesting that the portion of Eldredge Street by BSR be exempt from alternative side parking because they are unable to move their equipment to conduct business due to the high volume of cars parking on the one side of the road. Traffic will meet with the business owner regarding his request. **Hold until Thursday, April 9, 2015 meeting.**

**Burr Avenue.** Mr. Kraham requested that Traffic Board look into Burr Avenue for parking concerns, relating to parking on both sides of the streets and some tight spaces. No action needed. **Item complete.**

**NYS DOT Project.** Mr. Perkins approached DOT about putting a crosswalk near the Red Oak Diner. The issue is that on the river side of the road, there is no effective walkway to cross people at the Franklin Street corner. Mr. Perkins will bring plans for a crosswalk and curb cut at this location. **Hold until Thursday, April 9, 2015 meeting.**

**Adjournment.**

Motion to adjourn at 11:26 am.

Moved by R. Perkins, seconded by B. Berg

**Motion carried. (Vote 3-0-1)**

Ayes: Perkins, Berg and Kraham

Nays: None

Absent: W. Yeager