

TRAFFIC BOARD MEETING 1014
Minutes
Planning Conference Room, 4th Floor, City Hall
Thursday, February 11, 2016

Call to Order. Called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Jared Kraham, Executive Assistant to the Mayor

Traffic Board Members Present: Jared Kraham, Executive Assistant to the Mayor; William Yeager, Assistant Chief BPD; Giovanni Scaringi, Councilman; Terry Kellogg, DPW Commissioner, Ray Standish, Engineering.

Traffic Board Members Absent: None

Also Present: Sgt. Dave Petryszyn, BPD Traffic; William Lescault, BPD Traffic; Dan Correll, Retired BPD; Katherine Davis, Principal Clerk; Tom Sullivan, BMTS

Approval of Minutes. Request to approve the minutes **Traffic Board Meeting 1013, held on Thursday, January 14 2016.**

Moved by: G. Scaringi, W. Yeager

Motion carried. (Vote 4-0-1)

Ayes: W. Yeager, G. Scaringi, T. Kellogg, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: None

Abstain: J. Kraham

Items Considered

Kane Avenue. Mr. Gordon Bloom also requested "one side parking" on this street because it is a safety issue. Cars and emergency vehicles have a difficult time getting through on this road. **Traffic sees no reason to make any changes at this time. Item Complete.**

Brownson Avenue and Bevier Street. Removal of Traffic signal. The DOT would like this light to be replaced with a four way stop because the traffic light is not in good working order and could possibly be hit by a passing truck at some point. Mr. Kraham is concerned about the removal of this light because there is a school at that location. He noted that should be considered in making the final decision. Ms. Paddick and Traffic will look into this and report back. Ms. Paddick reported that because the school was in this location, there is currently a light there and that is the only reason. Otherwise it would have been removed. BMTS will do a site visit and report back at the November meeting. Mr. Ron Borgna is concerned about the removal of this light. He and his neighbors do not want this light removed due to safety issues. Ms. Paddick explained that the NYDOT might pay for this light to get fixed because so much traffic is being forced through this intersection due to the highway construction. She also noted that the BMTS has requested that the light not be removed but that a different type of signal be used because the school is so close. Traffic recommends that this light not be removed due to a school in the area. **Item complete.**

167 Conklin Avenue. The Humane Society is moving to this location and they are requesting a new curb cut coming out onto Conklin Avenue. Traffic feels that if it is too close to Conklin and Telegraph, it will cause a back-up of traffic at the light. Traffic is also questioning the actual need for the curb cut. Traffic will further investigate this with the Humane Society before making a final decision. Traffic reported that they are still wondering what the real need is for this curb cut. Assistant Chief Yeager is concerned about the back-up of traffic at the light if there are two curb cuts. Mr. Kraham is also concerned about the safety of pedestrians walking on the sidewalks. Traffic is going to meet with the Humane Society again and report back. **Hold until next Traffic Board Meeting, Thursday, March 10, 2016.**

Avon Road. Residents want to be exempt from alternate side parking. Mr. Kellogg recommends keeping the alternate side parking. **No action needed. Item Complete.**

Oak Street - Alternate Parking Exception. A resident submitted a request to Councilman Motsavage to have the section of Oak Street from Spring Forest to Cypress Street exempt from Alternate side of the street parking in winter months. The resident states it is difficult to get out in snow and ice when cars are parked on Oak Street are facing uphill. Traffic recommends that it does make sense but everyone agrees that the change shouldn't be made until this season of alternate side parking is finished so that residents who may have gotten tickets don't get upset and complain to the city. **Hold until further review. Hold until next Traffic Board Meeting, Thursday, March 10, 2016.**

Cliff Avenue-Alternate Street Parking. From Baxter to the Dead End. Councilman Scaringi sent the following email regarding this request. "On the odd numbered side of the street, cement blocks have been placed to keep people residents from parking there. I do know this is school (Wilson) property and it was done keep a clear path for young people walking to and from school. However, the property at 9 Cliff Ave is the only property that has no driveway and the even numbered side of the street is No Parking. I would like ask the Traffic Board to exempt Cliff Avenue (Only from Baxter to the Dead End) from Alternate Street Side parking. The closest place for odd numbered people to park is around the corner on Baxter or further down on Cliff and I do not believe this is a positive tone for the city to set. I would welcome any suggestions you might have, but I would like to present this at the February meeting and get this approved promptly. I do not believe any studies or visits are needed. I can take pictures of the street and present them to the traffic board if you think that is necessary. Thank so much for your help and assistance. Traffic recommends the following:

*"The Traffic Division received a copy of First District Councilman Giovanni Scaringi's request to Executive Assistant to the Mayor Jared Kraham to review existing parking regulations on Cliff Avenue from Baxter Street north to the end to increase parking for the residents. This section of Cliff Avenue is a narrow dead end street wide enough to allow a vehicle access to pass unobstructed if parking is prohibited on one side of the street. Therefore parking is prohibited on the east side of the street from Baxter Street to the dead end and from 257 feet to 304 feet north of Baxter Street on the west side at a location that previously entered to Woodrow Wilson School. However, the west side prohibited zone is no longer accessible as the school district placed huge concrete blocks to prohibit vehicular travel or park in that section of the property. **The Traffic Division therefore recommends that that prohibited zone be deleted and that parking be allowed along that curb line.** This would allow two accessible on street parking spaces to the residents.*

As for the request to exempt the street from the Alternate Side of the street regulations as suggested by the residents, this could have a negative effect on passage. Due to the narrowness of the street and with parking being maintained on one side of the street only due to an exemption, if a major snow storm and additional snow fall piles on the street from accumulation and plowing the street would be more narrowed and any access could be severely limited. By requiring motorist to move their vehicles from one side to the other snow plows would have access to both sides of that street and maintain the accumulation to both curb lines. The Traffic therefore request that an exemption from the alternate side of the street be denied."

Motion to remove the prohibited zone.

Moved by: G. Scaringi, T. Kellogg

Motion carried. (Vote 5-0-0)

Ayes: J. Kraham, G. Scaringi, W. Yeager, T. Kellogg, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: None

Jarvis Street-Alternate Street Parking. Clinton Street until Grace for parking for seniors. Mr. Scaringi reported that people from the Senior Center are looking for more parking because due to Garo's Garage using a lot of street parking, there are rarely vacant parking spaces on the street. Traffic will look into this further. **Hold until next Traffic Board Meeting, Thursday, March 10, 2016.**

Sunflower Park. Children at Play Sign-trees by ones Sign are blocking it and another by Murray. DPW will replace the missing Children at Play sign. **Item complete.**

Dickinson Street and Oak Street. Four Way Stop Mr. Scaringi stated that a number of residents are complaining that vehicles are racing down the street and it is very close to the park so it is very dangerous. Mr. Sullivan reported that there are not enough volumes to support a four way stop at this intersection. Traffic will continue to monitor this area and see if there is an increase in accidents. Mr. Sullivan will look into traffic calming measures on Oak Street. Assistant Chief Yeager said they will have an officer monitor in the summer months if it is still occurring. **Traffic recommends the following. Item Complete.**

“The Traffic Division received a copy of First District Councilman Giovanni Scaringi’s request to Executive Assistant to the Mayor Jared Kraham to review the intersection of Oak Street and Dickinson Street and change it from a two way east and west stop intersection to a four way stop intersection. The Traffic Division requested a report from the Record’s involving incidents at that intersection from January 1, 2013 to February 10, 2016 and upon reviewing those incidents, found only three traffic accidents listed for that time period. Of those three incidents none were directly related to the intersection. One was by an individual operating a unregistered and inspected mini-motorcycle while suspended and he hit a parked vehicle as he turned the corner (2014). The second incident involved an incident where an unlicensed individual sideswiped a car on Oak Street, turned left on to Dickinson Street and crashed into a fence along side of 185 Oak Street, 80 feet west of Dickinson Street (2015). The third incident occurred on Oak Street North of Clinton Street (2014).”

14 Allen Street. Removal of the handicapped sign on State Street behind this property. The handicapped individual it was serving has passed away. Traffic recommends the following:

The Traffic Division received notification that the handicapped parking zone on State Street behind the residence of 14 Allen Street was no longer needed as the occupant of that location who originally requested that zone was deceased. The Traffic Division responded to that location to observe the situation. The residence was unoccupied and was therefore unable to determine the accuracy of the request. A check with the City Assessor’s Office showed that dwelling owned by a Henry Warren of Conklin, New York. Attempted to contact the same but was unable to follow up with the same. The Traffic Division therefore request that the following zone be deleted from the Traffic Code based on the request for its removal and the attempt to contact either the resident or owner with negative results:

DELETE: (Section 22.3) Handicapped Parking Zone

State Street North Side From: 129 feet west of Allen Street to 145 feet west.

Motion to delete Handicapped Parking Zone.

Moved by: W. Yeager, R. Standish

Motion carried. (Vote 5-0-0)

Ayes: J. Kraham, G. Scaringi, W. Yeager, T. Kellogg, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: None

Eldredge St. Traffic will look into the installation of Speed Limit signs. **Hold until next Traffic Board Meeting, Thursday, March 10, 2016.**

Adjournment 3:47 p.m.

Moved by: G. Scaringi, W. Yeager

Motion carried. (Vote 5-0-0)

Ayes: J. Kraham, G. Scaringi, W. Yeager, T. Kellogg, R. Standish

Nays: None

Absent: None