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CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

TRAFFIC COUNCIL AGENDA

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024



7:00 PM

Traffic Council will hold this meeting as a virtual meeting on Thursday, June 13, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. To view this meeting using Zoom use this link: <https://newtonma-gov.zoom.us/j/81557763561> or call 1-646-558-8656 and use the following Meeting ID: 815 5776 3561

The Council will be taking public comment on the following items. Please click the raise your hand button on the bottom of your screen if you would like to speak. There is a 5 second delay after you are promoted to panelist. After your done speaking, the clerk will change you back to an attendee.

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:

- AP3-24 THOMAS SUDOL, 8 Mechanic Street # 2, requesting an accessible parking space in front of 8 Mechanic Street. (Ward 5) [04/01/24 @ 2:36 PM]
The Newton Commission on Disability voted to APPROVE on 04/08/24.
- TC19-24 KELLY SCHULTZ, 136 Waltham Street, requesting parking prohibition on one side of Keyes Street. (Ward 3) [05/13/24 @ 9:03 AM]
- TC20-24 DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR, requesting to add a stop sign at the T intersection at the end of Adams Avenue as it intersects with Cherry Street. Note that this item does not request to add stop signs on Cherry Street itself. (Ward 3) [05/21/24 @ 4:07 PM]
- TC15-24 DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR AND COUNCILOR ALBRIGHT, requesting to simplify the parking regulations along the east side of Walnut Street, starting at a point approximately 300 feet north of Washington Street and ending at Turner Street. (Ward 2) [04/10/24 @ 3:08 PM]
- TC16-24 ADRIAN AYALA, CITY TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER, requesting to add a STOP sign to the Locksley Road eastbound approach to Hereward Road. (Ward 6) [04/22/24 @ 3:00 PM]

The location of this meeting is accessible and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities who require assistance. If you need a reasonable accommodation, please contact the city of Newton's ADA Coordinator, Jini Fairley, at least two business days in advance of the meeting: jfairley@newtonma.gov or (617) 796-1253. The city's TTY/TDD direct line is: 617-796-1089. For the Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS), please dial 711.

- TC48-21 DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR, requesting to modify Sec. TPR-194. Time limits in municipal off-street parking areas, and possibly to modify Sec. TPR-176. Parking regulations pertaining to particular streets, in order to move forward with a long-term trial of a parking permit plan for Newton Centre employees. (Ward 6) [06/25/21 @ 2:36 PM]
Held 5-0 on 07/22/21. Held for a trial to modify the regulations of selected parking meters in Newton Centre, in order to reserve certain parking meters for vehicles that display a Newton Centre Employee Parking Permit. The number and location of reserved parking meters will be approved by the Commissioner of Public Works in conjunction with the Traffic Bureau Chief and may be modified as part of this long-term trial.
- AP3-22 DAVID KOSES, TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR, requesting to increase by one space the number of accessible parking spaces located in the Cypress Street Parking Lot in Newton Centre. (Ward 6) [02/14/22 @ 2:40 PM]
- TC14-24 ISAAC PRIZANT, TRAFFIC ENGINEER, requesting to add a new stop sign at the intersection of Drumlin Road at Dudley Road. (Ward 8) [03/28/24 @ 10:19 AM]
- TC13-24 ISAAC PRIZANT, TRAFFIC ENGINEER, requesting to add a new stop sign at the intersection of Drumlin Road at Hartman Road. (Ward 8) [03/28/24 @ 10:19 AM]
- TC21-24 ADRIAN AYALA, TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER, requesting to add a stop sign at the T intersection at the end of Lincoln Road as it intersects with Crafts Street. Note that this item does not request to add stop signs on Crafts Street itself. (Ward 1) [05/21/24 @ 4:07 PM]
- TC22-24 DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR, requesting to officially add the two stop signs into the TPR that are currently posted on Los Angeles Street as it intersects with California Street. Note that this item does not request to add stop signs on California Street itself. (Ward 1) [05/21/24 @ 4:07 PM]

Administrative changes made to the TPR since the last Traffic Council Meeting			
Ward	Street or Location	Administrative Change Made to the Transportation and Parking Regulations since the last Traffic Council meeting	Date
4	Woodbine Street	Corrected the TPR to reflect that the section of Woodbine Street to the north of Commonwealth Avenue is not part of the Auburndale Village Parking District and does not have any parking regulations on either side	3/28/2024
5	Agawam Road	Corrected the TPR to reflect a 70 foot long area with prohibited parking on the west side of the street.	3/29/2024

1	Jefferson Street	Corrected the TPR for Jefferson Street to reflect existing signage. No changes were made to signage in the field.	4/29/2024
1	Nonantum Place	Corrected the TPR for Nonantum Place to reflect existing signage. No changes were made to signage in the field.	4/29/2024
5 and 6	Walnut Street at Boylston Street	Corrected the TPR to include two stop signs, which have been installed since at least 2009. This corrects two omitted stop signs.	5/8/2024
2	Morseland Avenue at Commonwealth Avenue	Corrected the TPR to clarify the correct location of 2 existing stop signs, which are not located at the Ward & Commonwealth Avenue intersection. They are located at the intersections of Morseland Avenue at Commonwealth Avenue. This change corrects two errors in the TPR.	5/8/2024

ITEMS NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:

TC25-24 KEREN WAINGER, 256 Ward Street, requesting implementation of “no turn on red” signs at the intersection of Ward Street, Waverley Avenue and Stuart Road, in all approaches. (Ward 7) [06/03/24 @ 10:26 AM]

TC24-24 TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER ADRIAN AYALA, DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION OPERATIONS, NED CODD, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC ENGINEER ISAAC PRIZANT, COUNCILOR DOWNS, COUNCILOR GREENBERG, AND COUNCILOR LEARY, requesting a discussion and possible action to change the official parking regulations on Nonantum Place, the section of Charlesbank Road between Saint James Street and Centre Street, and potentially Jefferson Street, Russell Road and Maple Street. This discussion is likely to include whether to remove or modify the current parking meter zones on Charlesbank Road and whether to modify the resident-only permit zones on Nonantum Place and Charlesbank Road in some way, with a goal of improving consistency and on-street parking availability to residents of Russell Road, Charlesbank Terrace, Orchard Street, Jefferson Street and other streets in the immediate neighborhood. (Ward 1) [05/31/24 @ 12:18 PM]

TC23-24 ISAAC PRIZANT, CITY TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER, requesting to restrict parking on both sides of Lowell Avenue, beginning at Page Road and heading 100 southerly, to optimize crosswalk visibility and provide maneuvering around DPW’s flex post installation. (Ward 2) [05/28/24 @ 3:36 PM]

TC18-24 VLADAN AND TAMMY JOVANOVIC, 276 Greenwood Street, requesting a 4-way stop at the intersection of Greenwood Street and Arnold Road. (Ward 8) [05/13/24 @ 11:27 AM]

TC17-24 ADRIAN AYALA, CITY TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER, requesting to reduce the number of public parking spaces in the Waltham Street Lot to accommodate changes in access to the police parking lot. (Ward 3) [05/02/24 @ 9:50 AM]

- TC9-24 SUE KLINE, 12 Russell Road, Newton Corner, requesting a discussion and a possible change to the parking regulations on Russell Road. (Ward 1) [03/01/24 @ 3:16 PM]
HELD 4-1 (Fischman opposed) on 04/11/24. Held to docket a new Traffic Council item intended to broaden the discussion geographically.
- TC7-24 COUNCILORS DOWNS, GETZ, HUMPHREY, LOBOVITS, DANBERG AND BIXBY, requesting that Traffic Council vote to ask MassDOT to rescind the 35 MPH section of the Special Speed Regulation on Woodward Street, in both directions. If approved by Traffic Council, the City Clerk's office would notify MassDOT of the official action taken, and MassDOT would subsequently issue a modified Special Speed Regulation to reflect these changes. If the existing 35 mph Special Speed Regulations are rescinded in this area, the statutory speed limit of 25 mph would be in effect. (Wards 5 & 6) [02/21/24 @ 1:32 PM]
HELD 5-0 on 03/14/24. Staff will prepare a request for the Clerk's Office to forward to MassDOT to rescind the 35 MPH section of the Special Speed Regulation on Woodward Street, in both directions.
- TC63-23 DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR, requesting to continue the Traffic Council trial which allows vehicles displaying TIGER permits to park in the Austin Street Lot without requiring payment on school days. Traffic Council originally approved this trial in 2020 as part of TC115-20, which included various traffic and parking changes near school buildings to respond to safety concerns and changing conditions brought on by the Covid-19 Pandemic. On June 22, 2022 the Public Safety and Transportation and Finance Committees supported a continuation of the free parking for TIGER permit holders on school days until City Council determines whether to make this trial permanent. (Wards 2 & 3) [11/27/23 @ 2:00 PM]
HELD 5-0 on 12/14/23. Held for a long-term trial.
- TC62-23 DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR, requesting to continue the Traffic Council trial which restricts access to Elm Road (from Lowell Avenue) to Elm Road residents, Newton North High School staff, school buses and bicyclists. Traffic Council originally approved this trial in 2020 as part of TC115-20, which included various traffic and parking changes near school buildings to respond to safety concerns and changing conditions brought on by the Covid-19 Pandemic. (Ward 2) [11/27/23 @ 2:00 PM]
HELD 5-0 on 12/14/23. Held for a long-term trial.
- TC7-23 TRAFFIC BUREAU CAPTAIN DAMIEN DOUCETTE, DPW COMMISSIONER JAMES MCGONAGLE AND PLANNING DIRECTOR BARNEY HEATH, requesting temporary and permanent changes in terms of the location and duration of public parking spaces, location of traffic signals, and changes to traffic circulation within and proximate to Commonwealth Avenue in Auburndale, to include abutting blocks of intersecting streets, in order to facilitate the reconstruction of Commonwealth Avenue and the Commonwealth Avenue

carriageway between Higgins Street and the Weston Line. (Ward 4) [02/27/23 @ 3:24 PM]

HELD 5-0 on 03/23/23. Held for a long-term trial during roadway reconstruction to allow for changes to the signals, stop signs, parking regulations and other items included in the Traffic and Parking Regulations along Commonwealth Avenue between Higgins Street and the Weston Line.

TC62-22 DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR, requesting a long-term trial to address the additional parking demand along Lincoln Street and abutting streets in Newton Highlands, resulting from the temporary Senior Center relocation.

HELD 5-0 on 12/15/22. Held for a long-term trial. Traffic Bureau will distribute parking permits to Senior Center staff and volunteers, which will not decrease the number of parking permits available to other employees as part of the existing Newton Highlands Parking District.

TC50-22 DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR, on behalf of Jayne Colino, Director of Senior Services, requesting a temporary pick-up / drop-off zone in front of the Brigham House on Hartford Street and in front of the Hyde Community Center on Lincoln Street, to help accommodate the temporary relocation of services during the reconstruction of the Senior Center in Newtonville. (Ward 6) [09/23/22 **HELD 5-0 on 10/27/22. Held for trial, which may continue until the Senior Center is relocated back to its renovated building in Newtonville.**

TC25-22 JASON SOBEL, DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION OPERATIONS AND NICOLE BANKS, COMMISSIONER OF PARKS AND RECREATION, requesting the following to respond to changing conditions brought on by various municipal redevelopments and parking demands along Albemarle Road: Traffic Council shall be allowed to vote to allow a long-term trial on the northbound section of Albemarle Road between Watertown Street and Crafts Street, which may include changes to the location and regulations of the parking spaces along this stretch. Changes made during the trial period are to be approved by the Commissioner of Public Works in consultation with the Director of the Planning Department and the Chief of the Newton Police Department. These changes are temporary in nature and would revert to original conditions unless Traffic Council subsequently makes permanent changes by voting to change the Traffic and Parking Regulations. At any time, the Police Department may end any Traffic Council trial. (Wards 2 & 3) [05/06/22 @ 1:20 PM]

HELD 5-0 on 05/19/22. Held for a long-term trial of the above docketed item.

TC57-21 DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR, requesting to continue an ongoing trial of the closure of Philip Bram Way at the intersection of Austin Street. Note that this item makes no change in the field and allows for a continuation of a trial first approved as part of TC50-18. (Ward 2) [08/09/21 @ 2:49 PM]

HELD 5-0 on 10/21/21. Held for a Trial.

- TC6-21 COUNCILORS BOWMAN, DANBERG AND NOEL, requesting to change the distribution of time limits in the Hartford Street Public Parking Lot in Newton Highlands to install reserved spaces for EV Charging Stations and/or EV Shared Vehicles. (Ward 6) [02/01/21 @ 11:21 AM]
Held 4-0 (Councilor Downs not voting) on 02/25/21. Held for a trial to allow for the installation of 2 EV parking spaces in the Hartford Street Public Parking Lot.
- TC149-20 DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR, requesting to update the Traffic and Parking Regulations to reflect all of the changes associated with the reconstruction of Needham Street. (Wards 5 & 8) [09/01/20 @ 2:01 PM]
Held 5-0 on 01/28/21. Held for a long-term trial.
- TC20-20 COUNCILORS KRINTZMAN, MARKIEWICZ AND GENTILE, requesting the establishment of a resident parking program and accompanying map for the village of Lower Falls. The resident parking program should seek to prevent commuters from using the streets of Lower Falls as parking for the Riverside MBTA station. (Ward 4) [03/24/20 @ 12:50 PM]

Respectfully submitted,

David Koses, Transportation Coordinator
Traffic Council Chair