

CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

TRAFFIC COUNCIL AGENDA

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2024

**7:00 PM**

Traffic Council will hold this meeting as a virtual meeting on Thursday, November 21, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. To view this meeting using Zoom use this link: <https://newtonma-gov.zoom.us/j/89837508056> or call 1-646-558-8656 and use the following Meeting ID: 898 3750 8056

The Council will be taking public comment on the following items. Please click the raise hand button on the bottom of your screen if you would like to speak. There is a 5 second delay in asking you to unmute your microphone. After you're done speaking, the clerk will mute your microphone.

**ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:**

- AP7-24      DONNA MESSINGER, requesting an accessible parking space in front of 147 Arnold Road. (Ward 8) [10/10/24 @ 3:31 PM]  
**Newton Commission on Disability voted to Approve 8-0 on 10/21/24.**
- 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]
- TC44-24      KAREN MASTERSON, requesting to change the 2-hour limit in the Langley Road parking lot to a 3-hour time limit. (Ward 6) [10/18/24 @ 1:43 PM]
- TC39-24      JASON RICHMAN, 115 Gibbs Street, requesting no parking on either side of the curve in the vicinity of 111 to 121 Gibbs Street. (Ward 6) [09/16/24 @ 9:48 AM]
- TC45-24      LASELL UNIVERSITY AND COUNCILOR GENTILE, requesting to add Studio Road into the Auburndale Village Parking District, with parking to be by permit only within the areas where parking will be allowed. (Ward 4) [10/22/24 @ 8:42 AM]

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](mailto: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.

- TC33-24 JOANNE MAHR, 26 Brooks Avenue, requesting a stop sign at the end of Proctor Street, westbound, where it intersects with Walker Street. Note that this petition does not request a stop sign on Walker Street itself. (Ward 2) [07/08/24 @ 8:36 AM]
- TC46-24 DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR, requesting to add a stop sign at the end of Dartmouth Street where it intersects with Prince Street. Note that this item does not request to add a stop sign on Prince Street itself. (Ward 3) [10/21/24 @ 10:40 AM]
- TC42-24 RICHARD SEMENTELLI, 5 Bemis Road, requesting a parking restriction on a section of Bemis Road near California Street. (Ward 1) [10/08/24 @ 12:50 PM]
- TC43-24 TRAFFIC BUREAU CAPTAIN DANIEL DEVINE, DPW COMMISSIONER JAMES MCGONAGLE, AND COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS JOSH MORSE, requesting a long-term trial to allow temporary changes to certain parking regulations and traffic circulation on streets near the Countryside Elementary School in order to facilitate the reconstruction of the school. *Once the construction project is complete, this trial will end. However, permanent changes to the Traffic and Parking Regulations (TPR) will be needed to reflect future conditions near the Countryside School, and different Traffic Council items will be docketed to handle these permanent changes to the TPR.* (Ward 8) [10/18/24 @ 9:21 AM] [Revised 10/29/24 @ 1:37 PM]

**ITEMS NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:**

- TC47-24 RICHARD BAIMA, 29 Elm Street, West Newton, requesting a parking regulation along a portion of the west side of Elm Street between River Street and Webster Street. Note that parking is already prohibited along the east side of this block. (Ward 3) [11/01/24 @ 10:43 AM]
- TC41-24 TRAFFIC BUREAU CAPTAIN DANIEL DEVINE, DPW COMMISSIONER JAMES MCGONAGLE, AND COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS JOSH MORSE, requesting a trial which will allow for various changes to the parking and circulation on streets near the new Lincoln-Eliot School at 150 Jackson Road and the building at 191 Pearl Street, to be used as a swing space school. It is expected that various changes will be necessary on nearby neighborhood streets in order to facilitate the opening of these schools, which is currently scheduled for September 2025. Each trial will be examined, and specific docket items will subsequently be prepared, as needed, in order for Traffic Council to vote to make permanent changes to our City Ordinance Chapter 19 (Traffic and Parking Regulations). (Ward 1) [09/20/24 @ 1:47 PM]  
**HELD 4-0 on 10/17/24. Held for a long-term trial.**
- TC38-24 COUNCILOR BAKER, requesting to restrict an additional 80 feet of parking on the south side of Suffolk Road, east of the roadway curve near Kingsbury Road. This docket aims to add to the previously approved parking restriction in January

2023 to better facilitate safe maneuvering for emergency vehicles. (Ward 7)  
[08/16/24 @ 2:25 PM]

- TC32-24 TRAFFIC BUREAU CAPTAIN DANIEL DEVINE, DPW COMMISSIONER JAMES MCGONAGLE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING BARNEY HEATH, PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY STEPHANIE GILMAN AND CO-DIRECTOR OF SUSTAINABILITY WILLIAM FERGUSON, requesting a trial to modify parking regulations on streets near the Brown and Oak Hill Middle Schools in order to facilitate solar canopy projects, including within the Wheeler Road and Winston Road parking areas. Changes to parking regulations may be needed for several months on certain streets within a 5-6 minute walk of either the Oak Hill or Brown Middle School. Once the project is complete, parking regulations will revert back to the official parking regulations, as listed in Newton's Traffic and Parking Regulations. (Ward 8) [06/27/24 @ 1:29 PM]  
**HELD 4-0 (Downs not voting) on 07/25/24. Held to allow various temporary administrative changes to the parking regulations on streets near the Brown and Oak Hill Middle Schools to facilitate the solar canopy projects.**
- TC31-24 TRAFFIC BUREAU CAPTAIN DANIEL DEVINE, DPW COMMISSIONER JAMES MCGONAGLE, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING BARNEY HEATH, PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY STEPHANIE GILMAN AND CO-DIRECTOR OF SUSTAINABILITY WILLIAM FERGUSON, requesting a trial to modify parking regulations on streets near the Education Center in order to facilitate the solar canopy project in the Education Center parking lot. Changes to parking regulations may be needed for several months on certain streets within a 5-6 minute walk of the Education Center. Once the project is complete, parking regulations will revert back to the official parking regulations, as listed in Newton's Traffic and Parking Regulations. (Wards 1 & 2) [06/27/24 @ 1:29 PM]  
**HELD 4-0 (Downs not voting) on 07/25/24. Held to allow various temporary administrative changes to the parking regulations on streets near the Education Center parking lot to facilitate the solar canopy project.**
- TC30-24 TRAFFIC BUREAU CAPTAIN DANIEL DEVINE, DPW COMMISSIONER JAMES MCGONAGLE AND PLANNING DIRECTOR BARNEY HEATH, requesting that Traffic Council ask MassDOT to rescind the 35mph regulatory speed limit along the section of Washington Street between Lowell Avenue and Chestnut Street, in order to facilitate the Washington Street pilot project. (Wards 2 & 3) [06/27/24 @ 1:29 PM]  
**HELD 5-0 on 07/25/24. Held to prepare a request to MassDOT to rescind a portion of the regulatory speed regulation along Washington Street.**
- TC29-24 TRAFFIC BUREAU CAPTAIN DANIEL DEVINE, 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, and other changes to the Traffic and Parking Regulations

including changes to traffic circulation along the section of Washington Street between Lowell Avenue and Chestnut Street, to include abutting blocks of intersecting streets, in order to facilitate the Washington Street pilot project. (Wards 2 & 3) [06/27/24 @ 1:29 PM]

**HELD 5-0 on 07/25/24. Held for a long-term trial.**

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]

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]

**HELD 5-0 on 07/25/24. Held for a trial of the following: Parking prohibited all times, Lowell Avenue, from Page Road to a point 100 feet southerly, east side.**

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]

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