

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2015

Present: Ald. Ciccone (Chair), Yates, Cote, Fuller, Lipof, Schwartz and Johnson

Absent: Ald. Harney

Also Present: Ald. Baker, Albright and Leary

City Staff: Sgt. Jay Babcock, Newton Police Department; James Freas, Acting Director, Planning & Development Department; Bill Paille, Director of Transportation and David Koses, Transportation Coordinator

Others Present: Jeanne Levesque, Director, Governmental Relations, Boston College and John Savino, Transportation & Parking Manager, Boston College

#213-14(A)(2) BOSTON COACH TRANSPORTATION, requesting an amendment to board order #213-14(A) of the Boston College Shuttle Bus License, which includes a request and approval to provide shuttle bus service to The Street, Chestnut Hill Mall and Chestnut Hill Square. [11/25/14 @ 3:46 PM]

ACTION: APPROVED 7-0

NOTE: Ms. Levesque, Mr. Savino, Sgt. Babcock and Ald. Baker joined the Committee for discussion on this item.

Ms. Levesque said that this bus amendment was docketed because Boston College was approached by the operators of the Chestnut Hill Mall, The Street, Chestnut Hill Square and students depicting interest in having a shuttle bus to these establishments to get to work and patronize local businesses.

After amending the bus license in 2013, the idea of running a shuttle to the new malls was discussed as something to look at in the future. In December, Boston College and Boston Coach put together an initial route that included use of existing MBTA bus stops on mall property and the stops were reviewed with the mall operators. Boston Coach will operate the route using a Boston College shuttle.

After discussing the proposed route with the Ward 6 Aldermen, Ald. Baker, Ald. Fuller, Ald. Danberg who expressed their concerns on using Langley Road and the stop on the bridge, the proposed shuttle services were separated into two separate routes, servicing the malls and Newton Centre.

Ms. Levesque discussed with Committee members the two proposed routes, stops and time schedules to the Street, Chestnut Hill Mall, Chestnut Hill Square and Newton Centre, attached to this report.

Ald. Baker stated that he addressed a letter to residents between Hammond Pond Parkway and Hammond Street informing them of the Boston College shuttle proposal, including stops, routes and time schedules in order for Boston College to provide shuttle bus service to The Street, Chestnut Hill Mall and Chestnut Hill Square, attached to this report. Ald. Baker, Ald. Fuller and Ms. Levesque stated that they have not received any feedback from residents. Ald. Baker then said that he supports this bus amendment.

Sgt. Babcock stated that Boston College contacted him requesting an amendment to their Newton Centre shuttle route. On February 27, 2015, he rode the route without incident. He then said that the Police Department approves this bus route amendment as presented. Boston College will be using the existing MBTA bus stops.

Committee members discussed this amendment and encouraged the Ward 6 Aldermen to revisit this proposal allowing the shuttle to stop closer to Newton Centre. It was noted that some residents expressed their concerns regarding bus stops on Langley Road or Braeland Avenue because students have the tendency to congregate in these areas. After hearing the concerns, they requested Boston College make amendments to their route.

Committee members noted that area college shuttle buses are using City streets to operate their routes and asked if there is a City Ordinance requiring them to license their route with the City. Mr. Koses said that he understands that if a college owns a vehicle with college employees driving the vehicle then they do not need to go through the shuttle license process. Ms. Levesque answered that Boston College owns their vehicles and Boston Coach operates them. Chair Ciccone stated that the City Ordinance would be reviewed and if necessary, colleges would be notified informing them of obtaining licenses.

Without further discussion, Ald. Fuller made the motion to approve this amendment as presented. Committee members agreed 7-0. Chair Ciccone suggested that Boston College continue discussions with the operators of the Chestnut Hill Mall, The Street, Chestnut Hill Square and students and requested they monitor the routes and if necessary, return to request an amendment.

#309-14 ALD. JOHNSON requesting a discussion re changes that may need to be made to the membership of the Traffic Council to make it more effective, efficient, and representative of the community. [07/28/14 @ 9:20 AM]

HELD 7-0 on 09/17/14

ACTION: **HELD 7-0**

NOTE: Mr. Freas and Mr. Paille joined the Committee for discussion on this item.

This item was previously held to allow Mr. Freas and Mr. Paille the opportunity to return to this Committee with several options for consideration on the future of Traffic Council.

Ald. Johnson said that in the past, it was discussed that perhaps some Traffic Council petitions could be discussed administratively. She then said that she has received complaints regarding the composition of Traffic Council, a lack of citizen participation. It is mainly City staff and

appears to be a political process. She then said that it is concerning that petitions are not discussed in order, which they were docketed. She requested these concerns be reviewed.

Mr. Paille and Mr. Freas stated that they discussed and agree that some Traffic Council petitions could be discussed and decided administratively when certain criteria or warrants are met such as handicap parking space requests, traffic calming measures, traffic studies and traffic counts. They also agree that some Traffic Council petitions require the public to comment on petitions such as parking restrictions. Traffic Council creates an outlet to residents with concerns. The current City Ordinance requires public comment at Traffic Council meetings. If guidelines were approved and adopted, changes could be made to the City Ordinance.

Committee members expressed the pros, suggestions and concerns of Traffic Council.

Pros

- It appears Traffic Council is working well; it is well balanced.
- It is necessary to have professionals serve on Traffic Council.

Suggestions

- Review and perhaps model area municipalities on Traffic Council membership.
- The Transportation Engineer or Director of Transportation should not vote at Traffic Council meetings.
- Docket an item to include criteria and process to determine the referral of Traffic Council petitions to be discussed and acted upon Administratively, Traffic Council or Public Safety & Transportation Committee.
- Bicycle lanes should be discussed in the Public Safety & Transportation Committee.
- Site-specific items should be discussed in Traffic Council.
- Review Traffic Council agenda backlog.
- Clarify who incorporates the Traffic Council policies.

Concerns

- Traffic Council meetings are very lengthy.
- It is concerning that petition items are not taken in order, which they were docketed.
- Three members of Traffic Council are City employees.
- Perhaps increase the number of Council members to include a citizen with a professional Traffic background.

Ald. Lipof said that many years ago, Traffic Council was created to alleviate traffic responsibilities from this Committee. The intent and purpose was to focus the decisions more on the City professionals and to free this committee up.

Mr. Freas answered that they have not reviewed area models on Traffic Council membership. Mr. Paille said that some neighboring communities have as many as ten members including staff and citizens who serve on their Traffic Council.

Without further discussion, Ald. Johnson made the motion to hold this item with the understanding a new item would be docketed including the intent and purpose of the council, criteria and process to determine the referral of Traffic Council petitions to be discussed and acted upon Administratively, Traffic Council or Public Safety & Transportation Committee. Council members agreed 7-0.

#150-13 ALD. JOHNSON, ALBRIGHT & LINSKY, requesting the Planning Department create a traffic and parking management plan for the Education Center, Day Middle School, Horace Mann Elementary School and Carr School neighborhood area by December 2013. (Wards 1 & 2) [03/29/13 @ 9:11 AM]

HELD 7-0 on 02/04/15, Ald. Fuller not voting

ACTION: HELD 7-0

NOTE: Mr. Paille, Sgt. Babcock and Ald. Albright joined the Committee for discussion on this item.

This item was previously held to allow Mr. Paille the opportunity to discuss traffic concerns at the Education Center, Day Middle School, Horace Mann Elementary School and Carr School neighborhood.

Mr. Paille described locations where traffic and HAWK signals are installed in this area. Traffic signals are installed at the Watertown and Walnut Streets intersection and at the Albemarle Road, Watertown and Crafts Streets intersection. A HAWK beacon is installed at Crafts Street and Linwood Avenue allowing protected pedestrian crossings, stopping traffic only as needed. The signals are coordinated together allowing traffic to flow easier. Mr. Paille noted that eight locations are slated for improvement this year. He will continue to collect new data and the geometry of these two locations.

Mr. Paille then said that he is in the process of reviewing additional traffic signals at Walnut and Crafts Streets and California and Crafts Streets locations. He feels that if traffic were controlled in these areas, pedestrian and vehicle safety would increase. He described the two locations.

Walnut and Crafts Streets:

In 2011, traffic counts were performed at this location. Mr. Paille did not have traffic counts available to determine if this intersection met the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) warrants. This intersection is slated for improvement in FY17.

California and Crafts Streets:

In 2006, traffic counts were performed at this location. Mr. Paille will review this traffic data and research accident data. Mr. Paille did not have traffic counts available to determine if this intersection met the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) warrants. Sgt. Babcock did not have accident data available.

Committee members expressed their concerns, requests and suggestions.

Concerns

- It appears traffic is queuing up at the intersection of California and Crafts Street.
- HAWK beacons are confusing.

Requests

- Committee members would like these intersections to be improved prior to FY17.
- Please provide accident data at the intersection of California and Crafts Streets.
- Committee members requested a list of approved traffic signal projects and prioritization that has not been funded.

Suggestions

- During Budget and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) discussions, review and ensure that the lists of priorities are reflected.
- Employees of the Horace Mann Elementary Schools should be informed that they should park on Albemarle Road.
- Host neighborhood meetings to receive resident input regarding the creation of a traffic and parking management plan for the Education Center, Day Middle School, Horace Mann Elementary School and Carr School neighborhood.
- Invite the School Department/School Committee members to the neighborhood meetings.

Mr. Paille said that the Executive Department assured the Department of Transportation that they will not have to wait for funding to be approved, if it is necessary to begin these projects. He then answered that two traffic signal projects were approved for Beacon and Grant Streets and Winchester and Nahanton Streets. These have been removed from the list of approved traffic signal projects that have not been funded but did not know the reason of how they moved forward. He then said that zero traffic signal projects remain on the list. Traffic signals are prioritized by signal age, number of accidents, crash data, locations and importance.

Chair Ciccone offered to contact Supt. Fleishman requesting that Horace Mann Elementary School employees be directed to park on Albemarle Road.

Without further discussion, Ald. Lipof made the motion to hold this item to host neighborhood meetings to receive resident input regarding the creation of a traffic and parking management plan for the Education Center, Day Middle School, Horace Mann Elementary School and Carr School neighborhood. Chair Ciccone suggested including residents of Linwood Avenue, Crafts and Walnut Streets. Committee members agreed 7-0.

#326-14 ALD. ALBRIGHT, requesting a discussion and a plan to replace all Newton parking meters within two years. [08/19/14 @ 9:16 AM]

HELD 5-0 on 09/17/14, Ald. Harney and Lipof not voting

HELD 6-0 on 02/04/15, Ald. Fuller and Johnson not voting

ACTION: HELD 7-0

NOTE: Mr. Paille, Ald. Albright and Ald. Leary joined the Committee for discussion on this item.

This item was previously held for Mr. Paille to provide an update on the installation of new parking meters that will begin to be installed in January/February 2015.

Mr. Paille summarized the existing conditions of the City parking meters. Currently there are approximately 1,750 parking meters including 1,000 on-street parking meters. The remaining 750 meters are installed in the City's municipal parking lots, Cypress Street parking lot does not have parking meters; it has a Kiosk. It costs the City approximately \$12,000 to \$15,000 per year in repairs and maintenance.

Mr. Paille said that today he provided a draft parking meter replacement plan to the parking meter group and the Executive Department. Over the past several years, Mr. Paille has conducted a smart meter technology four-stage meter replacement plan. The plan is to replace approximately 50% of all City meters by the end of 2015. The Executive Department suggests the City do their own request for proposal process. Meter replacement is now timely because the Police Department hand-held computers can now verify if meters have been paid. Meter revenue is approximately 1.8 million dollars per year. This does not include tickets.

Mr. Paille briefly described the four-stage meter replacement plan.

Stage 1 May 2015, begin initial installation as a pilot to accept feedback, review and decide on plan.

Stage 2 If stage 1 is successful; begin installing 750 municipal meters through November 2015.

Stage 3 spring 2016, will begin installing off-street meters.

Stage 4 Decision process and if successful, all 1,750 meters will be replaced by the end of 2016.

Once this plan is tweaked and finalized, Mr. Paille will provide copies to this Committee.

Committee members and Aldermen present are pleased that broken parking meters in the City will be replaced and will be capable of receiving other forms of payment. Suggestions included increasing parking costs if paid by coin, increase parking costs in high demand locations and review security measures.

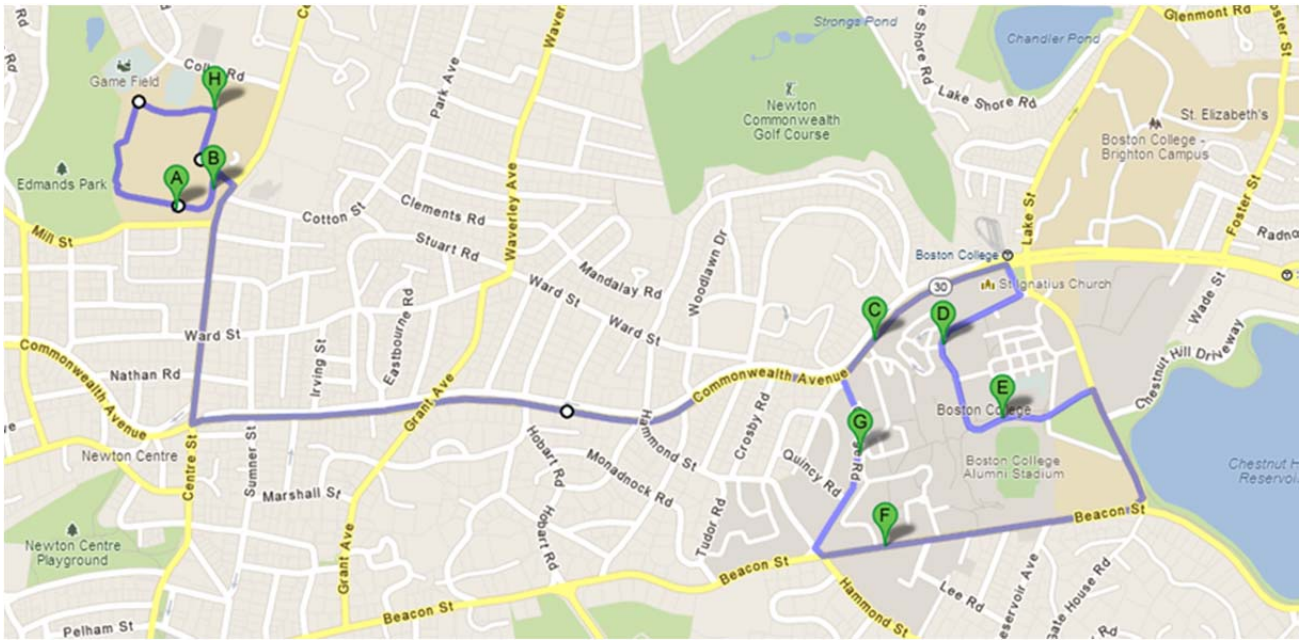
Ald. Lipof made the motion to hold this item until meter replacements come to fruition. Committee members agreed 7-0.

At approximately 9:40 pm, the Committee adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Allan Ciccone, Jr. Chairman

Current Newton Campus Shuttle Routes



Eagle Direct

Monday – Friday

7:00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.

- A. Newton Campus – Stuart Hall
- B. Newton Campus – Main Gate
- C. Chestnut Hill Campus – Main Gate

All Stops – Weekday

Monday – Friday

6:00 p.m. – 2:00 a.m.

- A. Newton Campus – Stuart Hall
- B. Newton Campus – Main Gate
- C. Chestnut Hill Campus – Main Gate
- D. Robsham Theater
- E. Conte Forum
- F. McElroy – Beacon St.
- G. College Road
- H. Newton Campus – Duchesne Hall

D. Robsham Theater

E. Conte Forum

F. McElroy – Beacon St.

G. College Road

H. Newton Campus – Duchesne Hall

Limited Stops – Weekday

Monday – Friday

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

- A. Newton Campus – Stuart Hall
- B. Newton Campus – Main Gate
- C. Chestnut Hill Campus – Main Gate
- F. McElroy – Beacon St.
- G. College Road
- H. Newton Campus – Duchesne Hall

Limited Stops – Weekend

Saturday – Sunday

8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Departs each stop every half hour

- A. Newton Campus – Stuart Hall
- B. Newton Campus – Main Gate
- C. Chestnut Hill Campus – Main Gate

All Stops – Weekend

Saturday – Sunday

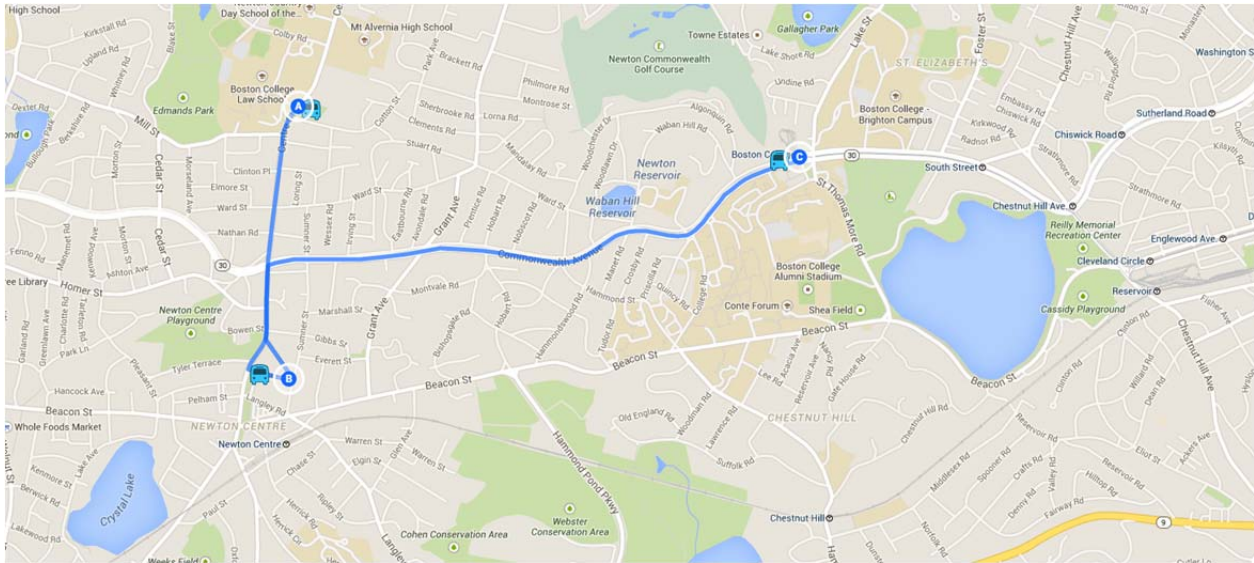
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 a.m.

- A. Newton Campus – Stuart Hall
- B. Newton Campus – Main Gate
- C. Chestnut Hill Campus – Main Gate
- D. Robsham Theater
- E. Conte Forum
- F. McElroy – Beacon St.
- G. College Road
- H. Newton Campus – Duchesne Hall

Track the shuttle in real-time via the [TransLoc Transit Visualization](#) app.

Please send feedback to shuttle@bc.edu

Newton Center Shopping Shuttle



Recommended Route and Stops:

- A. **Boston College Law Campus-** Leave Boston College Law Campus; turn Right onto Centre Street; continue on Centre Street stop at Citizen's Bank.
- B. **Citizen's Bank-** Continue on Lyman Street; turn Left onto Willow Street; turn Right onto Commonwealth Avenue; continue on Commonwealth Avenue; stop at Main Gate.
- C. **Main Gate-** Stop at Main Gate; Continue Regular Boston College shuttle service.

Proposed Schedule *September –December: January -May*

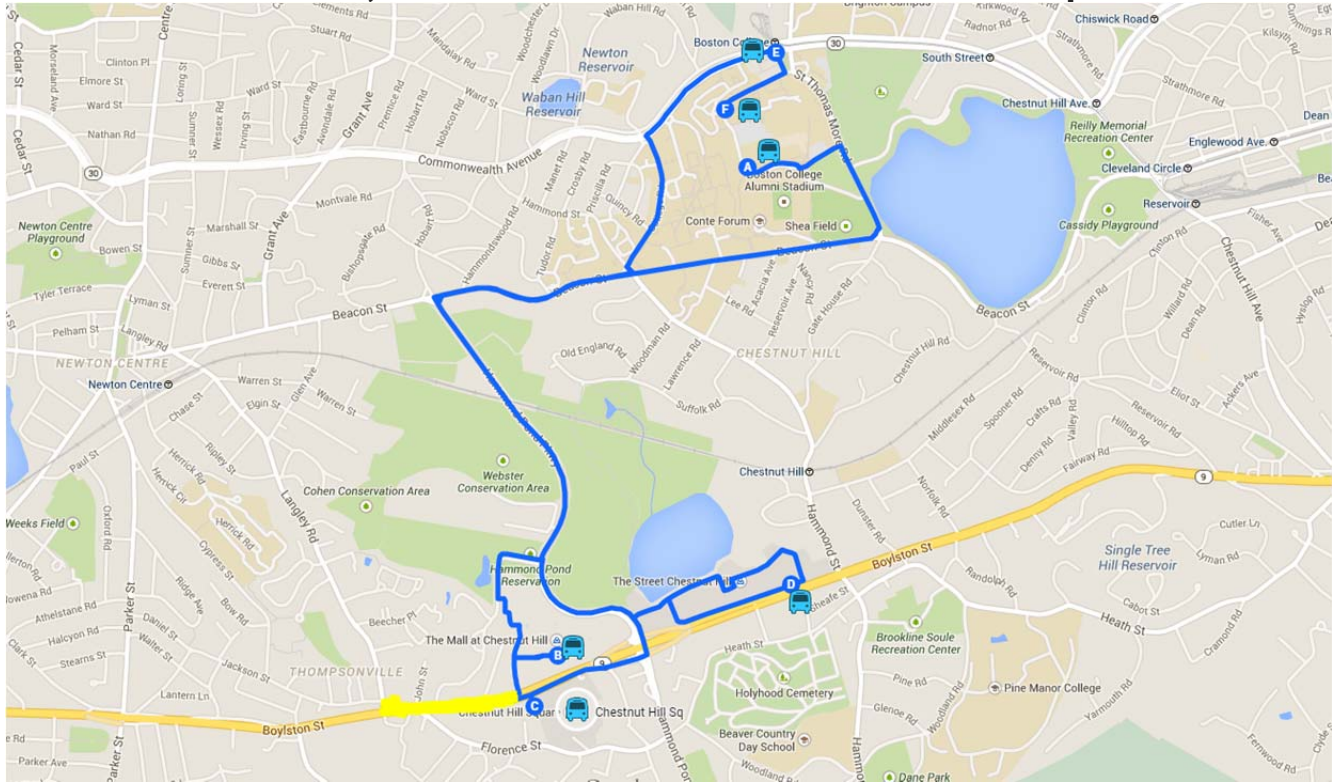
Saturday- 10:00am to 5:00pm 12 trips last pick up at 4:30pm

Sunday- 10:00am to 5:00pm 12 trips last pick up at 4:30pm

Proposed BC Student Shuttle Service To

#213-14(A)(2)

The Street, Chestnut Hill Mall and Chestnut Hill Square



Recommended Route and Stops:

- A. **Alumni Stadium**—Leave Boston College from Conte Forum (Campanella Way side); turn Right onto St. Thomas More Road(becomes Chestnut Hill Driveway); turn Right onto Beacon Street; turn Left onto Hammond Pond Parkway; turn Right into the rear entrance of the Chestnut Hill Mall.
- B. **Chestnut Hill Mall** – Stop at the MBTA stop located at the west end of the parking garage; exit Chestnut Hill Mall crossing Rt. 9; turn Right into Chestnut Hill Square.
- C. **Chestnut Hill Square** - Exit parking lot, taking a right on Rt. 9; exit towards Hammond Parkway; turn left on Hammond Pond Parkway; turn Right into the parking lot heading toward the movie theater.
- D. **The Street**- Stop in the rear of the garage by the movie theatre; proceed straight going toward Star Market; stop at MBTA Bus Shelter; exit the parking lot; turn Right onto Hammond Pond Parkway; turn Right on to Beacon Street; turn Left onto College Road; stop at the existing College Road bus stop; turn Right onto Commonwealth Avenue; stop at Boston College Main Gate.
- E. **Boston College Main Gate** – Continue on Commonwealth Avenue; turn Left onto Fr. Herilhy Drive; turn Right onto campus at St. Ignatius Gate; continue on Campanella Way stop at Robsham Theatre.
- F. **Boston College Robsham Theatre**—Continue on Campanella Way; Stop at Alumni Stadium
- A. **Alumni Stadium**

Proposed Schedule September –December: January -May

Thursday - 2 pm to 10 pm 8 trips last pick up at 9:30pm
Friday - 2 pm to 10 pm 8 trips last pick up at 9:30pm

Saturday- 10 am to 5 pm 7 trips last pick up at 4:30pm

Sunday- 10 am to 5 pm 7 trips last pick up at 4:30pm

Should ridership be greater than expected, an increase in frequency may be requested.

Boston College Buses:

Boston College Buses are equipped with the Transloc application. This application allows users to track BC buses in real time. It also allows administrators to monitor speed and capacity of each bus allowing BC administration to respond to issues and safety concerns in real time.

Boston College Buses have 32 seats and a total capacity of 45 passengers, the buses run on Biodiesel fuel. Boston College Transportation was recognized in March of 2014 by the Massachusetts DOT for its efforts toward making a more sustainable Massachusetts and awarded the ***Pace Setter Award***.



BOARD OF ALDERMEN

NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02459

R. Lisle Baker
Alderman – Ward 7

617 796-1210

February 22, 2015

Dear Beacon Street abutter:

As your Ward Seven Newton Ward alderman, I am writing to inform you of a proposal for limited Boston College bus service on Beacon Street during the BC academic year. Since the Newton Board of Aldermen approves all bus routes, this proposal will be discussed by the Public Safety Committee of the Newton Board of Aldermen at its meeting at Newton City Hall, likely on March 4 after 7:45 p.m. The Committee then makes a recommendation to the full Board of Aldermen, which is usually followed.

Specifically, Boston College has long operated a shuttle bus for its students from the Chestnut Hill campus to its Newton campus and back. You have doubtless seen these College busses many times near the campus on Beacon Street or along Commonwealth Avenue. More recently, the College has experimented with a weekend bus during along the same route but coming south on Centre Street to Newton Centre to provide access to the shops there.

The College now has a proposal to run a similar shopping shuttle to the shopping areas on route Nine. Specifically, it would run a shuttle along Beacon Street as before, but now continue along Beacon to Hammond Pond Parkway, turn on the Parkway and then go to stops at down to the Street, the Chestnut Hill Mall, and Chestnut Hill Square, then back up Hammond Pond Parkway to Beacon, then back to College Road and the College. The proposal would anticipate that the bus would operate about once an hour during the fall and spring terms of the BC academic year on Thursday and Friday from 2 pm to 10 pm., and on Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 pm. (Please see the College map and information it provided enclosed with this letter.) The College has a license from the Board of Aldermen for its existing routes, and proposes to add this one to those already approved.

There is no requirement that you do anything in response to this letter. However, I did not want a new route to begin without providing you notice of the proposal, which I believe is intended to reducing the incentive for BC students (or faculty and staff) to drive cars to these areas. My colleague, Ward Seven Alderman-at-Large Ruthanne Fuller, sits on the Public Safety Committee as well and will be at the meeting on the 4th when this is discussed. (I serve on another committee that meets at the same time, but I will try to attend as well.) The meeting is also open to the public and while not a formal public hearing, it is often the practice of the Committee Chair to invite comment, if any, on matters before it.

My contact information is below, and I have also copied my Alderman Fuller as well as Jeanne Levesque of Boston College who is bringing forward the proposal. Thank you.

Sincerely,

R. Lisle Baker
Ward Alderman, Ward Seven
lbaker@newtonma.gov, (617-566-3848)

Cc: Alderman Ruthanne Fuller; Jeanne Levesque, Boston College

#309-14 ALD. JOHNSON requesting a discussion re changes that may need to be made to the membership of the Traffic Council to make it more effective, efficient, and representative of the community. [07/28/14 @9:20 AM]

ACTION: HELD 7-0

NOTE: Items #309-14 and #325-14 were discussed together. Please see summary below.

Ald. Yates made the motion to hold this item to allow Mr. Freas and Mr. Paille the opportunity to return to this Committee with several options for consideration on the future of Traffic Council. Council members agreed 7-0.

#325-14 ALD. ALBRIGHT, requesting a review and possible change in the composition of Traffic Council membership in light of the consolidation of all parking and transportation staff in the Department of Public Works. [08/19/14 @ 9:16 AM]

ACTION: APPROVED 7-0

NOTE: Items #309-14 and #325-14 were discussed together.

Ald. Albright, Sgt. Babcock, Mr. Paille, Mr. Freas, Mr. Koses and Mr. Grafe joined the Committee for discussion on these items.

Council members were provided with resumes of Traffic Council members, attached to this report.

309-14

Ald. Johnson said that she docketed item #309-14, requesting a discussion on changes that may need to be made to the membership of the Traffic Council to make it more effective, efficient, and representative of the community. She is concerned with the composition of Traffic Council as it is mainly City staff and appears to be a political process. Traffic Council discusses street-by-street or sign-by-sign docket items. They should be discussing and voting on a more comprehensive approach. City parking needs to be managed on a broader basis. As it appears to be a political process, she feels additional citizens should be represented on the Council for balance. Perhaps administratively street-by-street or sign-by-sign items could be discussed, rather than at Traffic Council. She then suggested Traffic Council consider the work of the Transportation Advisory Group (TAG) and Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC). Ald. Johnson asked, as a Committee what is the best way to move forward?

Ald. Lipof said that approximately eighteen years ago, Traffic Council was created to alleviate Traffic Council responsibilities from this Committee.

325-14

Ald. Albright said that she docketed item #325-14, requesting a review and possible change in the composition of Traffic Council membership in light of the consolidation of all parking and transportation staff in the Department of Public Works. Mr. Koses was transferred from the Planning & Development Department to the Department Public Works. The City ordinance states that he cannot serve on Traffic Council because he is no longer an employee of the

Planning & Development Department. If a staff member from the Planning & Development Department is not needed, an ordinance change is necessary. Ald. Albright then stated that the City is fortunate to have professional and educational traffic, parking and transportation staff members. She does not feel an additional citizen member is necessary to serve on Traffic Council. Ald. Albright said that she would prefer that street-by street or sign-by-sign items be discussed administratively rather than be discussed at Traffic Council keeping the appeals process.

309-14 and 325-14 Discussion

Mr. Freas stated that since Mr. Koses' transfer to the Department of Public Works, the Planning and Development Department does not staff members with transportation planning as their primary role or in their job title. Traffic Council creates an outlet to residents with concerns. He agreed that perhaps administratively items could be discussed and determined. He agrees an amendment to the ordinance is necessary.

Mr. Paille stated that balance is necessary with Traffic Council members. Staff members understand the laws and are able to educate the public. Traffic Council address concerns and parking in the City and has made great progress towards creating and implementing parking plans. Most recently, the Transportation Division has moved to a policy to be pro-active, interactive, meet with, and educate residents prior to docketing an item for Traffic Council's consideration. He agrees an amendment to the ordinance is necessary. He is not opposed to the current five-member council and suggested that a non-resident and a resident who is also a business owner who are educated with traffic, parking and transportation be considered as additional Traffic Council members. Some neighboring communities have as many as ten members including staff and citizens who serve on their Traffic Council. Mr. Paille then stated that a Parking Manager position was approved in the budget. He hopes to interview the four candidates soon.

Committee members, Ald. Albright, Sgt. Babcock, Mr. Paille, Mr. Freas and Mr. Grafe discussed options for consideration and expressed the pros, suggestions and concerns of Traffic Council. They agree that an ordinance change is necessary to allow Mr. Koses an opportunity to return.

Pros

- It appears Traffic Council is working well.
- Backlog is minimal.
- Most recently, items have been docketed on a broader basis.

Suggestions

- Increase the number of Council members to include a citizen and business owner.
- The Transportation Engineer or Director of Transportation should not vote at Traffic Council meetings.

Concerns

- All docketed items should come before Traffic Council to allow public input.
- It is necessary to have professionals serve on Traffic Council.

Ald. Johnson suggested amending the current ordinance to include the parking manager and an additional citizen to Traffic Council.

Mr. Freas and Mr. Paille offered to return to this Committee with several options for consideration on the future of Traffic Council. Committee members and others present agreed. In the short term, they all agreed to amend the City ordinance.

309-14

Ald. Yates made the motion to hold this item to allow Mr. Freas and Mr. Paille the opportunity to return to this Committee with several options for consideration on the future of Traffic Council. Council members agreed 7-0.

325-14

Council members discussed, reviewed and amended Article II of Chapter 19, Sec. 19-25. Establishment of traffic council; membership. Ald. Yates made the motion to approve an amended ordinance. Council members agreed 7-0. Ald. Fuller made a friendly amendment to include ...as designated 'jointly' by the commissioner of public works and the director of planning and development...Committee members agreed 6-1-0, Ald. Yates opposed. The Committee then voted to amend the city ordinance and agreed 7-0.

Ald. Johnson requested that the Chair or Vice-Chair be part of the interview process when the Parking Manager candidates are interviewed.

On September 18, 2014, Assistant City Solicitor, Marie Lawlor provided amendments to Chapter 19, Sec. 19-25 of the City Ordinance. A draft ordinance is attached to this report.

#150-13 ALD. JOHNSON, ALBRIGHT & LINSKY, requesting the Planning Department create a traffic and parking management plan for the Education Center, Day Middle School, Horace Mann Elementary School and Carr School neighborhood area by December 2013. (Wards 1 & 2) [03/29/13 @ 9:11 AM]

ACTION: HELD 7-0, Ald. Fuller not voting

NOTE: Lt. Boudreau, Sgt. Babcock, Mr. Koses and Ald. Albright joined the Committee for discussion on this item.

Mr. Koses provided Committee members with a PowerPoint presentation, attached to this report. He described the following parking management plans and progress made to date.

Horace Mann Elementary School - 70 staff, 20 off-street parking spaces are available. On street parking is available on Albemarle Road, approximately 40 spaces. The path to Albemarle Road has been recently improved including lighting.

Carr School - 70 staff, 48 off-street parking spaces are available. Eight buses park daily on Nevada Street. Concerns include that there are too many vehicles in front of the Carr School, loading buses may cause backups onto California Street, limit access onto Nevada Street during school hours, no Blue Zone. Focus on busing and pick-up/drop-off locations on residential streets. Recently, Traffic Council developed and implemented a resident and staff permits parking plan allowing them to park in the "authorized parking only" section of Nevada Street. Vehicles are restricted access to one block of Nevada Street. Mr. Koses noted that this plan has worked well.

Education Center – The parking lot has expanded from 162 to 176 parking spaces and remains at 100% capacity. Overflow spaces are available on Churchill, Crafts and Walnut Streets. Permits are issued to employees allowing them to park. A School Zone, restricted parking near crosswalks and a short-term parking zone are recent improvements made to Walnut Street for better visibility and for parent pick-up/drop-offs.

Day Middle School - 180 staff, 53 parking spaces on-site. Staff have to be encouraged not to park in the Education Center parking lot. Principal Turner continues to encourage staff to park on Albemarle Road, not in the Education Center parking lot and not on neighboring streets. A neighborhood permit system is not an optimal solution due to the additional signage and new restrictions for residents. In many cases, staff parking would be a further walk from school. Sgt. Babcock agreed a parking program is not necessary.

Mr. Koses then said that there are three items on the Traffic Council Agenda relating to parking at these locations.

Ald. Johnson agreed that the Carr School neighborhood appears to be working well. She said that she has requested from the School Department that they consider transferring the Horace Mann Elementary School students to the Carr School and convert the Horace Mann Elementary School to a temporary school. The Horace Mann Elementary School is not adequate.

Ald. Johnson asked if a creation of a bus inlet on school property was considered to allow bus

parking at the Carr School? Sgt. Babcock explained that the Transportation Team provided three options for bus parking including the current bus location, side of the school and an inlet. Approximately five vehicles per day pass school buses when the bus arm is extended. The Police Department is citing these drivers. Sgt. Babcock prefers an inlet accommodating 3-4 buses.

Ald. Johnson and Ald. Albright are happy to hear that Principal Turner continues to encourage staff to park on Albemarle Road, not in the Education Center parking lot and not on neighboring streets. Sgt. Babcock said that if a two-hour parking restriction were implemented, it would be necessary for staff to park on Albemarle Road. Ald. Albright agreed and suggested implementing a two-hour parking restriction with resident permits. Lt. Boudreau suggested the school require staff register their vehicle with them allowing the Police Department to use their hand-held devices to determine where staff is parking.

Mr. Koses said that he would like to discuss Crafts Street options with Traffic Council members and the Board of Aldermen to determine if parking should be allowed on Crafts Street or a parking prohibition.

Ald. Johnson said that this docket item also requests the creation of a traffic plan at the Education Center, Day Middle School, Horace Mann Elementary School and Carr School neighborhood. Chair Ciccone said that the Director of Transportation would be asked to discuss the traffic plan concerns on this item.

Without further discussion, Ald. Schwartz made the motion to hold this item to allow the Director of Transportation to discuss traffic plans at these locations as the docket requests.

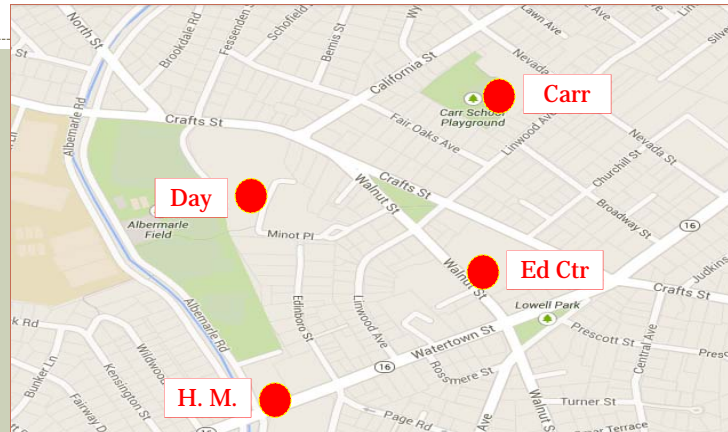
At approximately 9:10 pm, Ald. Harney made a motion to adjourn. Committee members agreed 7-0, Ald. Fuller not voting.

Respectfully submitted,

Allan Ciccone, Jr. Chairman

ED CENTER, DAY MIDDLE, HORACE MANN AND CARR SCHOOL TRAFFIC AND PARKING PLAN

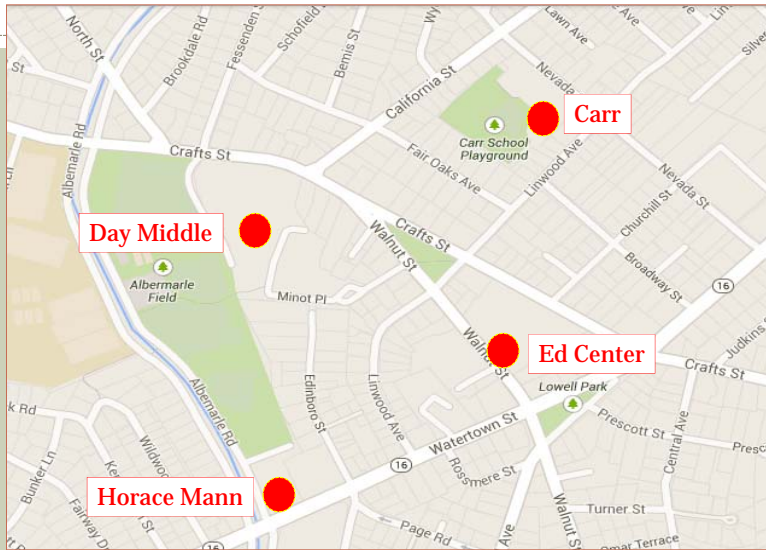
*Public Safety and Transportation Committee
February 4, 2015*



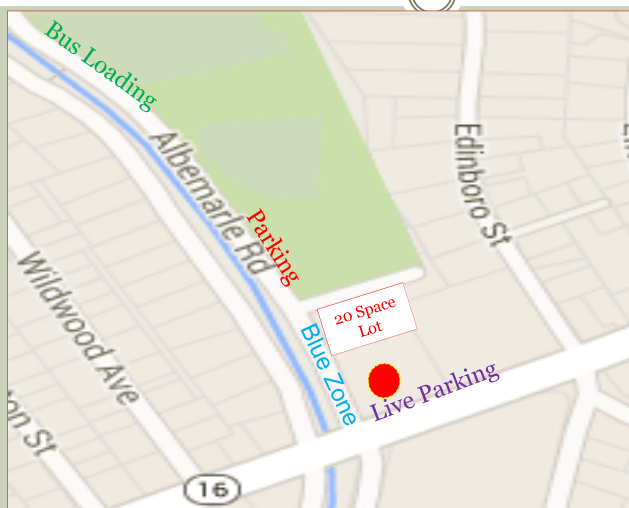
Docketed Item

#150-13 ALD. JOHNSON, ALBRIGHT & LINSKY, requesting the Planning Department create a traffic and parking management plan for the Education Center, Day Middle School, Horace Mann Elementary School and Carr School neighborhood area by December 2013.

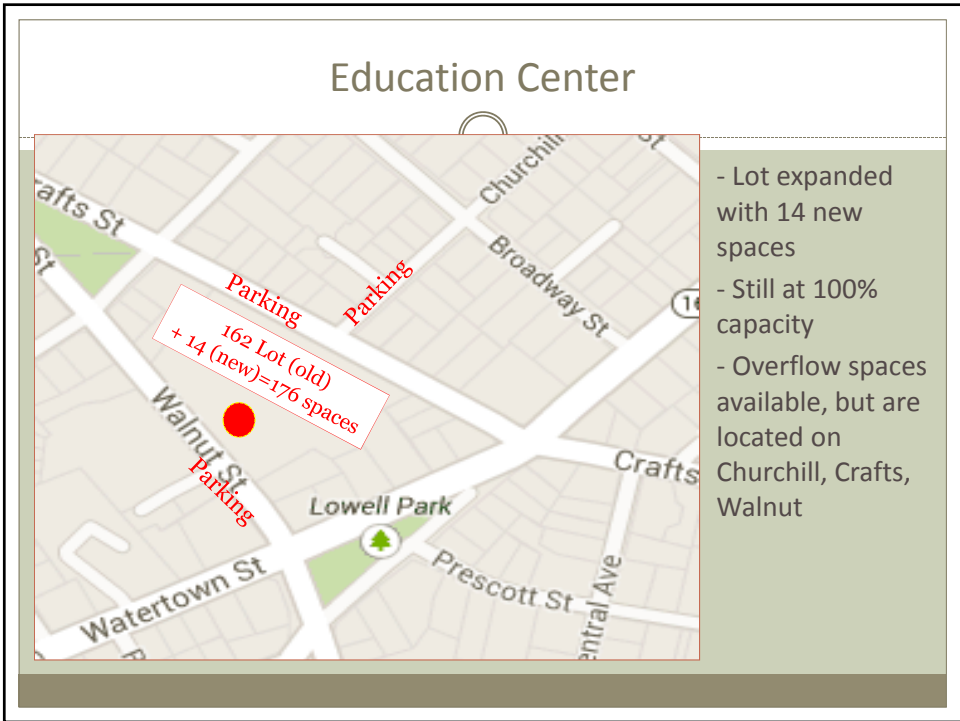
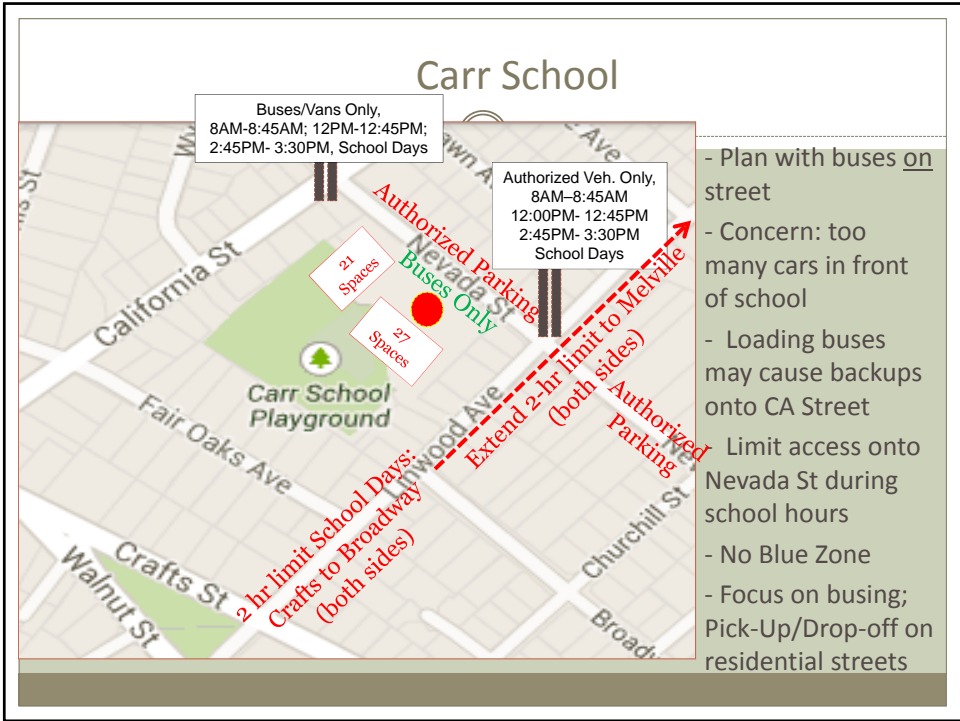
Overview Map



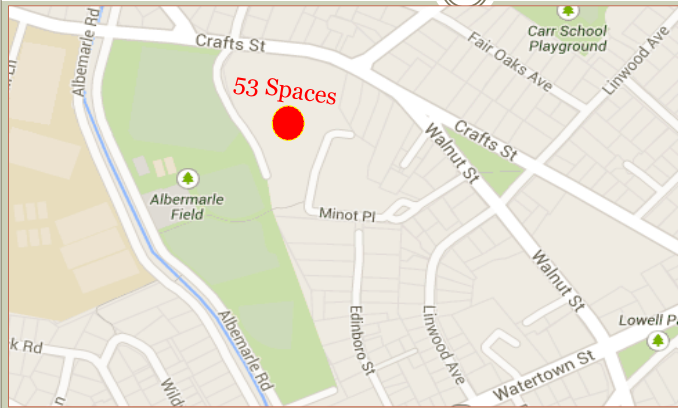
Horace Mann School



- 70 staff
- 20 Space School Lot
- Adequate overflow on street parking available on Albemarle Road

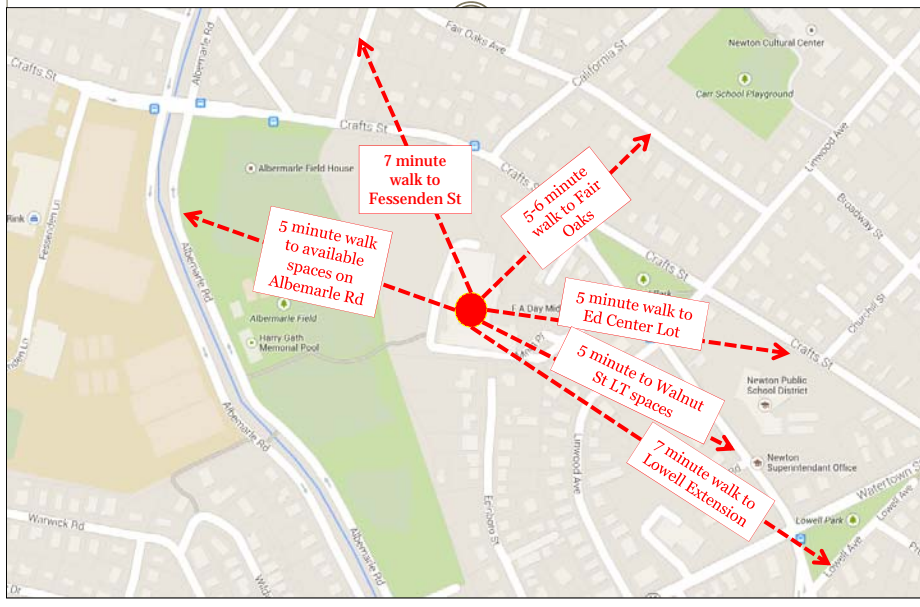


Day Middle School – On-site Parking



- 180 staff
- 53 spaces on-site
 - 50 general
 - 3 handicap

Walk Time to/from Day Middle School



Albemarle Road



Albemarle Road to Day Pathway

Lit >>>>>

Salted >>>>>



Progress To Date

- **Develop and Implement Carr School traffic and parking plan**
 - Permit system in place for residents and staff on 2 blocks of Nevada Street.
 - Restricted vehicular access to one block of Nevada Street
- **Encourage Day staff not to park in Ed Center lot**
 - Memo from Principal to Day staff, regular reminders
 - Permits issued to Ed Center employees to park in the Ed Center Lot
 - Improved pathway between Albermarle Road and Day MS, including lighting
- **Walnut Street Changes**
 - Added a School Zone near the Ed Center
 - Restricted parking near crosswalks near Ed Center (due to poor visibility)
 - Added short-term parking zone near Ed Center (for parent pick-up/drop off)
- **Expand Ed Center Parking Lot by 14 spaces**
 - However, Ed Center use continuing to intensify

Continued Work

- **Current Traffic Council Items:**
 - DAVID KOSES, requesting discussion and possible action related to parking regulations and parking flow on Crafts St between North St & Washington St
 - EMILY NORTON, requesting discussion and possible implementation of parking restrictions on the east side of Albemarle Road between Crafts St & Watertown St
 - ALD LENNON, requesting to extend the resident permit provision to Linwood Avenue of the established Carr School parking district
- **Neighborhood permit system not optimal solution**
 - Adds additional signage, new restrictions for residents
 - In many cases, staff parking would be further walk from school
- **Day MS Principal continue to encourage Staff to park on Albemarle Rd, not in Ed Ctr Lot, not on neighborhood streets**
 - 43-48 empty, available spaces/day between on Albemarle Road.
 - × 5-6 minute walk to Day MS

Discussion



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#326-14 ALD. ALBRIGHT, requesting a discussion and a plan to replace all Newton parking meters within two years. [08/19/14 @ 9:16 AM]

ACTION: HELD 5-0, Ald. Harney and Lipof not voting

NOTE: Ald. Albright and Mr. Paille joined the Committee for discussion on this item.

Ald. Albright stated that she docketed this item due to the number of broken parking meters in the City. She is hopeful meters will be repaired and eventually new meters will be installed that are capable of receiving other forms of payment such as credit cards.

Mr. Paille answered that he anticipates new meters be installed within two-years. The City has been reviewing the status and condition of meters. Data is inaccurate due to the condition of the meters. The City is very far behind in repairing or replacing meters. The City has been reviewing, testing and performing trial runs on different style meters including what payment they accept, if pay by phone application is acceptable, if a credit card payment is acceptable, will coin remain an option, if paying electronically on-line is acceptable and other features. The City will determine and review the available options on what style meter will be purchased and installed in the municipal parking lots, on-street meters and if they will be a kiosk style. Kiosk style "Luke" in the Cypress Street lot is not working as expected.

Meter replacement is now timely because the Police Department hand-held computers can now verify if meters have been paid. There are approximately 830-850 on-street meters and approximately 700 municipal parking lot meters.

The Capital Improvement Project (CIP) includes \$850,000 to cover on-street meter replacement. Mr. Paille anticipates that new meters will begin to be installed in January/February 2015. Meter revenue is approximately 1.8 million dollars per year. This does not include tickets.

Ald. Yates made the motion to hold until Mr. Paille provides an update to this Committee on progress. Council members agreed 5-0, Ald. Harney and Lipof not voting.

At approximately, 9:45 pm the Committee adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Allan Ciccone, Jr. Chairman

#326-14 ALD. ALBRIGHT, requesting a discussion and a plan to replace all Newton parking meters within two years. [08/19/14 @ 9:16 AM]

HELD 5-0 on 09/17/14, Ald. Harney and Lipof not voting

ACTION: HELD 6-0, Ald. Fuller and Johnson not voting

NOTE: Chair Ciccone asked that this item be held because the Director of Transportation is unavailable due to snow removal operations.

Without discussion, Ald. Cote made a motion to hold. Committee members agreed 6-0, Ald. Johnson and Fuller not voting.