

MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMISSION
AUGUST 14, 2017

Note: the monthly meetings of the Traffic and Parking Commission are documented via video and are available through Metro ITS Department (<http://www.nashville.gov/Information-Technology-Services.aspx>) and Metro Nashville's YouTube Channel (<https://www.youtube.com/MetroNashville>)

The regular monthly meeting of the Traffic and Parking Commission was held at 3:00 p.m., on Monday, August 14, 2017 at the Sonny West Conference Center. The following were present unless noted otherwise:

Commission Members

Betsy Williams	Nora Kern
Breonus Mitchell Sr - absent	Saralee Woods
Feller Brown, Vice Chair	MNPD – SGT Gilliland
John Green, Chair	Council Member Larry Hagar
Mary Vavra	

Staff Members

Theresa Costonis, Legal Advisor	Benny Word, Traffic Calming Office
Chip Knauft, Traffic Engineer	
Diane Marshall, Parking Administrator	

Chairman John Green called the meeting of August 14, 2017 to order at 3:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman John Green mentioned Ordinance No. BL2006-1050 regarding the appeals process of the Traffic and Parking Commission.

“If you are not satisfied with a decision made by the Traffic & Parking Commission, you may appeal the decision by filing for a writ of certiorari with the Davidson County Chancery or Circuit Court. Your appeal must be filed within 60 days of the date of the entry of the Commission’s decision. We advise that you seek your own independent legal advice to ensure that your appeal is filed in a timely manner and that all procedural requirements have been met.”

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Vavra moved for **approval** of the Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Woods and **approved with no opposition**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Vavra requested made a motion that the approval of the minutes deferred one month due consent item “k” being omitted from the minutes. Motion to defer approved 7-0

RESOLUTION 08-17

- a) Authorize 3-Way Stop at Irma Drive and Reeves Road; Council Member Vercher
- b) Modify 2-Way Stop to 4-Way Stop at Irma Drive and McBride Road; Council Member Vercher
- c) Authorize All-Way Stop control on S 7th Street and Glenview Avenue; Council Member Withers
- d) Authorize All-Way Stop control with white bars at intersection on Cottage Lane and Delrose Avenue; Council Member Syracuse
- e) Authorize Valet Zone on Demonbreun Street, East of 3rd Avenue South; The Diner
- f) Proposal 2017M-020AB-001 – A request for the abandonment of Alley #925, from 21st Avenue North to 22nd Avenue North, between Charlotte Avenue and Clifton Avenue (see site plan for details), utility easements are requested to be abandoned; requested by Perry Engineering, LLC, applicant
- g) Proposal 2017M-021AB-001 – A request for the abandonment of a portion of Richardson Avenue, from Montgomery Avenue east to the CSX Railroad right-of-way (see sketch for details), Utility Easements are to be retained; requested by Rob Benshopf, applicant
- h) Reduce speed limit on Sanborn Drive, from Elm Hill Pike to Bismark Drive, from 35mph to 30 mph
- i) Proposal 2017M-022AB-001 – A request for the abandonment of a portion of Lea Avenue, from 8th Avenue South eastward approximately 137 feet to the southwest corner of Map 093-10 Parcel 067, and Alley #114, from 8th Avenue South to Lafayette Street (see sketch for details), utility easements and pedestrian easement are to be retained; requested by Avison Young, applicant
- j) Authorize 2-hour Parking Signs on the North side of Acklen Avenue from 20th Avenue S to 21st Avenue S
- k) Authorize Loading and Unloading Zone for State Shuttle at 8th Avenue N and Gay Street
- l) Remove valet stand at Cabana 1910 Belcourt Avenue
- m) Authorize Loading Zone on West side of Almond Street at 410 4th Avenue S for Marin Barbecue
- n) Authorize Loading Zone at 115 27th Avenue N

Consent items (e) and (j) were removed from the Consent Agenda. The remaining Consent Agenda consisting of Resolution 08-17 was approved as amended. Commissioner Woods made a motion to **approve the resolution on the Consent Agenda**, Seconded by Commissioner Vavra.

Item (e) was requested for removal from the consent agenda by Commissioner Williams. After discussion by representative from The Diner and testimony by Rory Rowan, the motion for approval passed 7-0.

Item (j) was requested for removal from the consent agenda by Commissioner Woods. Cmbrr Allen testified that there is currently RPP on Acklen Ave adjacent to this proposed section. Commissioner Woods recused herself based on her business relations in the area. Motion passed 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Residential Parking Permit on Elliott Avenue; Council Member Sledge

Chairman Green and Commissioner Vavra commented on the need for detailed information on the meeting agenda. Commissioner Vavra asked for details regarding the location. Ms. Marshall provided that the location is Elliott Ave from Inverness Drive to Hillview Heights. Commission Woods asked if the Council Member has submitted a recommendation. Ms. Marshall stated that CM Sledge has provided his recommendation for approval. Motion for approval Brown. Second Woods. Motion passed 7-0

2. Residential Parking Permit on Belcourt Avenue; requested by Council Member Allen

Chairman Green stated that this item also needs additional agenda information. Ms. Marshall informed the commission that this is a request for residential parking by permit on Belcourt Ave from Natchez Trace to 32nd Ave, M-F 8am-4pm, with 2-hour parking allowed for non-permit holders. Motion for approval Brown. Second Woods. Motion passed 7-0

3. Truck Prohibition on 51st Avenue between Delaware Avenue and Centennial Blvd; Metro Legal Department

Item was revisited at the request of Metro Legal on the basis that all parties may not have had the opportunity to participate in the case discussion. Chairman Green opened the forum for public discussion and noted the desire for testimonies to consist of new information and be within the desired 3-minute timeline.

Council Member Roberts stated that the area is undergoing a transformation in use and the transportation modes are changing too. She continued to say that 51st Ave has become more commercial and residential than it was in its “industrial” past and that pedestrian exposure was much more prevalent now than before.

Tim Brown – expressed a concern regarding the turning radii at 51st Ave and Centennial Blvd for turning large vehicles.

Attorney Tom Lee spoke on behalf of Marathon Oil for Frost Brown Todd, LLC. Mr. Lee stated that the location of the terminal being near intersection of 51st Ave and Centennial Blvd presented an efficient and safe location for ingress / egress for the terminal and interstate. He also stated that the safety of the employees, drivers and neighbors are very important to his client. Other information provided was that the drivers and their trucks are often equipped with dash cams, on board data recordings for speeds, location, etc.

Mr. Joshua Carter presented videos showing the difficult turning experienced by drivers at the intersection of 51st Ave and Centennial Blvd. He requested that Public Works research the possibility of installing a left turn traffic signal phase and prohibit parking near the intersection to improve vehicle turning movements. He stressed that safety of all involved is important to his company.

Tom Lee – “51st Avenue is the safest route in the area”

Donald Yawl – representing Innophos, 4600 Centennial Blvd, expressed concern over the increase in route mileage and fuel consumption. Mr. Yawl stated that it could be as much as 15,000 extra miles annually depending on trucking volumes of 12-18 trucks per day.

Chairman Green closed to public hearing. Mr. Knauf recommended that the commission hear from KCI Technologies regarding the truck rerouting impact.

Mr. Brandon Taylor representing KCI Technologies, presented his findings from the engineering study he conducted. He stated that 51st Ave is classified as an arterial roadway and is designed and constructed for truck traffic. Mr. Taylor also stated that all vehicles, including trucks, are required to follow the rules of the road regarding crosswalks and posted speed limits.

Mr. Knauf followed up Mr. Taylor’s presentation by adding that arterial roadways “are the roadways that we want the trucks to use to access the interstate system.” He also added that due to the classification of the roadway as being an arterial, the direct route to/from the interstate, and the accident history, the implementation of a truck prohibition is not recommended.

Motion to implement a truck prohibition for trucks more than 16,000 lbs. on 51st Ave between Delaware Ave and Centennial Blvd, made by Commissioner Vavra. Seconded by Commissioner Kern.

Motion passed;
5 for (Kern, Vavra, Williams, Hagar, Woods)
2 against (Brown, Gilliland)

4. Appeal Denial to Lower Speed Limit on Old Hickory Blvd between Bell Road and Burkitt Road from 40mph to 35mph

CM Bedne testified that he asked to raise the speed limit in the past. However, he would now like it lowered back to the original speed limit of 35 mph. Staff testified that the 85% speed data indicates the speed limit should be 40mph. Motion to approve Hagar. Second Brown. Motion passed 7-0

OLD BUSINESS

1. Proposal 2017M-018AB-001 – A request for the abandonment of a portion of Junior Gilliam Way and Alley #205 proposed right-of-way; for Junior Gilliam Way, from 5th Avenue North to Alley #205; for Alley #205, from Jefferson Street to Junior Gilliam Way, utility easements are to be abandoned; Metro Public Works; deferred from July 10th meeting

Clarification provided regarding service access. Motion Vavra. Second Woods. Motion passed 7-0

2. Appeal Denial of Valet Zone on East side of 15th Avenue N, North of Charlotte Pike; Requested by The Parking Company; deferred from July 10th meeting

Representatives from The Parking Company, which has been operating a valet at this location via a temporary permit, testified that their business is not creating a traffic safety or congestion concern and that other activities of concern in the area are not a result of his businesses operations.

Mr. Knauf stated that staff had acquired Collier Engineering to conduct a site study regarding the operations of the valet. Ms. Amy Burch from Collier Engineering presented that their findings showed geometric conditions of the roadway and the operations of the valet service did not cause traffic concerns and that other area users could be involved in the reported issues related to roadway use and congestion. Ms. Burch stated that various for hire vehicles frequent the area and are contributing to the issues of U-turns, narrow pass-by lanes and delays.

Various representatives from the area stated that that valet is causing traffic concerns which could be contributing to other area issues.

Mr. Knauf commented that Council Member O'Connell has submitted a letter of support for the denial of the valet permit.

Motion to deny the appeal – Kern. Second Hagar. Motion to deny passed 7-0

Traffic and Parking Commission Resolution No. 17-08 authorized by Chapter 9 of the Charter of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee as amended

BE IT RESOLVED by the Traffic and Parking Commission of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee as follows:

SECTION I: That Chapter 12 of said Metropolitan Code, said Chapter being entitled 'Vehicles and Traffic' is amended as follows:

SECTION II. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be published in a daily newspaper in Metropolitan Nashville/Davidson County, Tennessee, and that a certified copy be filed with the Chief of Police of the Metropolitan Police Department, and that a certified copy be filed with the Metropolitan clerk, and that said Resolution take effect five (5) days thereafter.

APPROVED: August 14, 2017

EFFECTIVE: August 19, 2017

The above-mentioned Resolution items were previously approved under the Consent Agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, MNPd Sgt. Gilland moved to ***adjourn***, seconded by (Vavra) and ***approved by voice vote with no opposition***. The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Approved on the **14th** day of **August** 2017.

Department of Public Works

Chairperson
Traffic and Parking Commission