

MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMISSION
NOVEMBER 13, 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, November 13, 2017 at the Sonny West Conference Center. The following were present unless noted otherwise:

Commission Members

John Green, Chairman
Betsy Williams
Mary Vavra
Nora Kern
Saralee Woods

Metro Council – Larry Hagar
Breonus Mitchell
Feller Brown
MNPD – Sgt. Gilliland

Staff Members

Chip Knauf, Traffic Engineer
Diane Marshall, Parking Administrator
Jackie Conner, Administrative Assistant

Benny Word, Traffic Calming Office
Tara Ladd, Legal Advisor

Chairman John Green called the meeting of November 13, 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 Woods moved for **approval** of the Agenda, seconded by Commissioner Vavra, and **approved with no opposition**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

Consent Agenda - Resolution 11-17

1. CD35: Authorize truck restriction over 8 tons on Old Charlotte Pike from Charlotte Pike (by McCrory) to Sawyer Brown – requested by CM Rosenberg
2. CD29: Authorize Traffic Signal on Bell Road and Mossdale Road – requested by CM Johnson
3. CD24: Authorize All-Way Stop on Park Circle and Acklen Park Drive – requested by CM Murphy
4. **Removed from Consent Agenda - See New Business**
5. **Removed from Consent Agenda - See New Business**
6. CD19: Authorize truck restriction over 8 tons on 5th Avenue N from Lafayette Street to Division Street – requested by MPW
7. CD19: Authorize No Right Turn – Trucks; south bound Lafayette Street at Division Street
8. CD18: Modify Valet zone hours at 3201 West End Avenue (Tin Angel Restaurant) from AM and PM to 4pm-12 midnight – requested by Parking Management Company
9. **Removed from Consent Agenda - See New Business**
10. CD17: Authorize Traffic Signal at 16th Avenue S and Horton Ave – requested by CM Sledge
11. CD17: Authorize Residential Parking Permit (RPP) on Grantland Avenue from Benton Avenue to Bradford Avenue – requested by Mario Avila with letter from CM Sledge in support
12. CD16: Authorize “No Parking” on Collier Avenue – requested by CM Freeman
 - on north side from Nolensville Pike to 800’ east of Nolensville Pike
 - on south side from Nolensville Pike to 600’ east of Nolensville Pike
13. CD15: Authorize truck restriction on McGavock Pike from Pennington Bend Road to Park Drive – requested by CM Syracuse
14. CD11: Authorize All-Way Stop control at 24th Street and Dabbs Avenue – requested by CM Hagar
15. CD07: Authorize Stop control on Addine Street at McAlpine Avenue – requested by CM Anthony Davis
16. CD06: Modify speed limit on Shelby Avenue, from S 5th Street to Shelby Park, from 35mph to 30mph – requested by CM Withers
17. CD06: Authorize Stop control Beechmont Place at Crescent Hill Road – requested by MPW

Consent Agenda consisting of Resolution 11-17 was approved as presented. Commissioner Brown made a motion to approve the resolution on the consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Woods. No opposition.

NEW BUSINESS

Consent 4. CD19: Modify speed limit on James Robertson Parkway, between Church Street and Spring Street/S 5th Street, from 40mph to 35mph – requested by CM O’Connell

Sgt. Bourque MNPd stated that low speed vehicles are allowed on roadways 35mph and under and that lowering the speed limit could allow LSV to use JRP. Mr. Knauf stated that he would follow up with the Transportation Licensing Commission to make sure that JRP would remain off limits to LSV.

Motion to defer indefinitely and remove from consent agenda Commissioner Brown, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell was passed with no opposition.

Consent 5. CD19: Authorize Passenger Loading Zone on west side of 6th Avenue N at Union, hours 4pm-12 midnight – requested by Tennessee Performing Arts Center and Sheraton Hotel

Commissioner Kern asked the location of the proposed loading zone and if it would interfere with TPAC events. Diane Marshall stated that the proposed parking area would serve TPAC for app based transportation services – UBER and Lyft

Motion to approve but removed from consent agenda Commissioner Kern, seconded by Commissioner Woods was passed with no opposition.

Consent 9. CD17: Authorize Traffic Signal at Gale Lane and Granny White Pike – requested by CM Sledge

CM Sledge requested a one-month deferral.

Motion to defer one month and remove from consent agenda Commissioner Woods, seconded by Commissioner Kern was passed with no opposition.

- 1. CD17: Appeal All-Way Stop denial at the intersection of 10th Avenue South and Lawrence Avenue; requested by CM Sledge**
- 2. CD17: Appeal All-Way Stop denial at the intersection of 10th Avenue South and Caruthers Avenue; requested by CM Sledge**
- 3. CD17: Appeal All-Way Stop denial at the intersection of 10th Avenue South and Halcyon Avenue; requested by CM Sledge**

Chairman Green suggested that we discuss the stop sign request along 10th Ave S all at once.

CM Sledge speaking on all of the stop sign requests in general stated that 10th Avenue S is being completely redesigned and is currently undergoing construction related to a utilities project. He continued by saying that traffic is becoming a big issue especially around the school (Waverly Belmont). Water mains are being replaced plus other work all phased into redesign. Narrowing the lanes and providing for bike lanes will be introduced along with some on street parking. On this stretch there are no 4-way stops which contribute to high rates of speed. With this re-striping project he requests that we put in 4-way stops. He also said that the crash data shows that there have been 12 incidents at Lawrence, and 5 each at Caruthers and Halcyon.

Chip Knauf (MPW) spoke regarding the traffic data and investigation results. He stated that the traffic volumes do not justify the installation at any of the three requested locations. Admittedly the data could be off due to all the construction activities. The data shows that the intersection of Lawrence St at 10th Ave S comes closest to meeting the thresholds for an all way stop, at a 70/30 split. Caruthers would follow at 83/17 and Halcyon has a 97/3 split.

Jeff Hammond (MPW) presented the changes planned for the roadway. This includes bike lanes, bollards and narrowed driving lanes. He noted that these changes could achieve the lower speeds that the CM and residents are seeking. However, the changes are not completely implemented at this time and he requests that the Commission delay any decisions regarding traffic control pending the completion of the roadway project because numerous all way stops could interfere with the other objectives.

Chairman Green opened up the public hearing.

Erin Block who lives at 908 Halcyon Avenue, was a member of a PTO and started the walk/bike program, she must walk out into the street to make sure no one is going to hit her children while trying to cross the street. Advocating some way to help those who need to cross and to cross safely.

Carrie Hartley 2405 12th – multiple incidents right in front of her house. You can't get across 10th Avenue S safely. They feel the feedback was not taken and this is for the safety of pedestrians. Narrowing the street with construction, people are still flying, and this is not worth the loss of someone's life.

Joseph Dunagan – 2306 10th Avenue S, has almost been hit 3 times by vehicles due to high rate of speeds. Doesn't believe the data is correct on the number of accidents.

Ken Winters – we think the historic church will be redeveloped for multi-family.

Lauren Merit – 2306 9th Avenue S, had the same issues with crossing on 10th Avenue S, the survey from Collier was taken on Halloween but the road was closed, the traffic number she believes is incorrect due to that event.

Jesse Booker – 1509 Ferguson Avenue, from an economic stand point, the incremental costs of adding 4-way stops is minimal, put in the 4-way stops then study moving forward if needing to remove the 4-way stops.

Commissioner Woods – to MPW staff, how do we notify the drivers of new stop signs?

Mr. Knauf – MPW installs stop signs, stop bars and stop ahead signs. Sign visibility is not expected to be an issue.

Commissioner Brown – Will this increase the speeds from one stop sign to another?

Mr. Knauf – studies show that speeds can increase because of making up lost time from stopping. Also, traffic diverting through neighborhoods can be a result.

Commissioner Woods – Speed and traffic calming should help. Are there any plans to help pedestrians cross the street? Per Jeff Hammond, bulb outs bringing in safe areas/crossing distance is shorter, narrow to 10' lanes and full cross walks which all are being implemented. Green – rumbled strips, Jeff said there are no plans for that but is still discussing. Green – time frame for MPW to implement the project, just been paved, paint is not complete, first week of December is the time frame to complete the painting portion, first of the year everything should be complete. Keeping 30mph. Mitchell, difference of percentage,

Mr. Knauf - MPW sign installation schedule would be about the same as the expected paving.

Item 1: All-Way Stop denial at the intersection of 10th Avenue South and Lawrence Avenue

Motion to approve Woods; 2nd Mitchell. Approved with no opposition

Item 2: All-Way Stop denial at the intersection of 10th Avenue South and Caruthers Avenue

Motion to approve Mitchell; 2nd Woods. Approved 7-1 with Brown in opposition

Item 3: All-Way Stop denial at the intersection of 10th Avenue South and Halcyon Avenue

Motion to defer Mitchell; 2nd Brown. Tie vote 4-4. Chairman Green cast vote to oppose the motion. Motion fails.

Motion to approve installation Woods; 2nd Kern. Williams, Kern, Woods, Vavra in favor, Brown, Mitchell, Hagar, Gilliland oppose. Tie 4-4. Chairman Green casts vote to approve. Motion passes 5-4.

4. CD19: Discussion to install a permanent park let on the west side of 2nd Avenue N at 129 2nd Avenue N; requested by Cumberland River Compact

Reps from Nashville Civic Design Center and Cumberland River Compact presented the objective of the park let and the request to the Commission. Makel Hatten from the CRC stated that they would like to convert two parking spaces as a park let, the rendering is at a conceptual stage. The concept has been in place previously via a temporary permit. The objective is to “recapture” that space and use it as a park let.

Sgt. Bourque, MNPd, met with group about the location of the park let, as a safety concern there is a lot of traffic especially bus traffic. It would be a tragedy if a bus hit the park let, high DUI area, vagrancy is a big complaint, park lets can be an issue and need to be brought to the attention for the merchants. If permanent it is hard to move a park let. Sgt. Bourque and Sgt. Gilliland expressed concerns on the use of the area and the potential for loitering, etc.

Mary Beth Ikard (Mayors Office) stated that this is a signature project from the Mayor.

Ron Yearwood from the NCDC said that they had a similar event last year that was well accepted and the objective now is to make the concept for permanent. Hatten is requesting approval to these two parking spaces to a park let.

Mr. Knauf expressed concern that the discussion is drifting from the Chartered roll of the Commission. The eventual use of the space is not an action item that the Commission can address. The Commission should simply consider if the current use of the parking spaces should be changed from "Police Parking Only" to "No Parking". Mr. Knauf continued by saying that if there is a concern over the impact that a park let could have on traffic, a temporary permit could be issued.

Commissioner Vavra made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Kern, and 3 in favor and 4 against. Commissioner Mitchell recused. Motion failed.

OTHER BUSINESS

1. Annual Chair and Vice Chair elections – Nominated Annual Chair John Green and Vice Chair Brown

Commissioner Woods made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Mitchell, and passed with no opposition.

Traffic and Parking Commission Resolution No. 17-11 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: November 13, 2017

EFFECTIVE: November 17, 2017

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, MNPD Sgt. Gilliland moved to ***adjourn***, seconded by Commissioner Brown and ***approved by voice vote with no opposition***. The meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.

Approved on the **13th** day of **November** 2017.

Assistant Director
Department of Public Works

Chairperson
Traffic and Parking Commission