

CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

TRAFFIC COUNCIL REPORT

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2018

Present: David Koses, Traffic Council Chair; Captain Anastasia, Newton Police Department; Isaac Prizant, Traffic Engineer; Councilor Ciccone and Alicia Wilson, Resident Member

Also Present: Councilors Gentile, Leary and Markiewicz

Mr. Koses provided Council members with a PowerPoint presentation, attached to this report.

AP2-18      ALICE COTOIA, 16 Beech Street, requesting an accessible parking space in front of 16 Beech Street. (Ward 1) [11/05/18 @ 2:43 PM]

**The Newton Commission on Disability to meet.**

**The Newton Commission on Disability APPROVED 10-0 on 12/10/18.**

**ACTION:      APPROVED 5-0. Approved the language of TPR 452. TPR 452 adds an accessible parking spot in front of 16 Beech Street.**

**This item may be appealed through the close of business January 2, 2019.**

**NOTE:**      Alice Cotoia, petitioner attended tonight's discussion.

Council members were provided with a location map, site photos and the Traffic Council Policy #2 on Accessible Parking Spaces in Residential Areas.

Councilor Ciccone stated that an accessible parking space on the street is necessary. It is an easier route and shorter route of travel to the front door.

Ms. Cotoia stated that she applied for this accessible parking space on the street because the front door is an easier route to the front door. Beech Street is often parked up with vehicles, making parking in front of her home difficult.

Without discussion, Councilor Ciccone made a motion to approve this request. Council members agreed 5-0. Mr. Koses stated that this item may be appealed through the close of business on January 2, 2019.

TC68-18      RICHARD BIBBO, 4 Fairview Street, requesting removal of two-hour limit, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., both sides, entire length on Fairview Street. (Ward 1) [10/15/18 @ 10:53 AM]

**ACTION:      APPROVED 5-0. Approved the language of TPR 453. TPR 453 removes all existing parking restrictions on Fairview Street and adds back a parking prohibition, all times, on the north side of Fairview Street from Willard Street to a point 290 feet westerly.**

**This item may be appealed through the close of business January 2, 2019.**

**NOTE:** Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bibbo, petitioner attended tonight's discussion.

Council members were provided with a location map, site photos, characteristics , current parking regulations and options for consideration.

Mr. Koses stated that Fairview Street is approximately 22 to 26 feet wide with inconsistent curbing. When a street is narrower than 24 feet the City tends to restrict parking on one side to allow emergency vehicle access and trash pickup without difficulties.

Mr. Koses stated that the utility poles are located on the east and north side, one fire hydrant is located on the west side. Current parking restrictions include a two-hour limit 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., both sides, entire length of Fairview Street. The same parking restrictions on neighboring streets. During observations on six different occasions he observed between zero to two vehicles parking on Fairview Street.

Mr. Koses opened the discussion to members of the public who were present. Ms. Bibbo stated that the request is to remove the two-hour limit, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., both sides, entire length on Fairview Street which was implemented approximately five years ago. The street does not have issues with commuter parking. It is too far a distance for commuters and employees to walk to and from Fairview Street. The neighbors support this request, and all signed the petition. Two residents present agreed and stated that they support the removal of the parking restriction. A suggestion was made to implement resident parking permits.

Councilor Ciccone stated that the 22-foot section of the street should still have a parking restriction. Captain Anastasia stated that he supports removing the parking restriction in the other areas.

Mr. Koses stated that if commuters and employees begin to park up the area then other options may be docketed for Traffic Council's consideration.

Mr. Koses stated that he supports removing the current parking restriction. He recommends implementing no parking, north side from Willard Street to a point 290 feet westerly at the bend of the road. Mr. Prizant suggested residents use caution and park their vehicles facing the proper direction. Captain Anastasia agreed and stated if not, this is a moving violation and the driver could be ticketed.

Without further discussion, Mr. Koses made a motion to approve TPR. 453. Council members agreed 5-0. Mr. Koses stated that this item may be appealed through the close of business on January 2, 2019.

TC74-18      CAPTAIN ANASTASIA, requesting a "No Left Turn" restriction on Auburn Street in the area of 164-158 Auburn Street to restrict left turns from Auburn Street into the exit driveway of the parking lot of the Brookline Infant and Toddlers Center of Newton, 1900 Commonwealth Avenue. (Ward 4) [11/21/18 @ 2:51 PM]

**ACTION:**      **APPROVED 5-0. Approved the language of TPR 454. TPR 454 adds a left turn prohibition from eastbound Auburn Street into the driveway of 1900 Commonwealth Avenue.**  
**This item may be appealed through the close of business January 2, 2019.**

**NOTE:**      Council members were provided with a location map, site photos and background information.

Mr. Koses stated that the driveway is a one-way from Commonwealth Avenue to Auburn Street with many vehicles parking in the driveway. Some motorists are entering the 'EXIT' (wrong direction) and are illegally turning left from Auburn Street into the parking lot.

Mr. Koses opened the discussion to members of the public who were present. A resident stated that since drivers are entering the exit, a "No Left Turn" sign is not necessary, but it may confuse drivers. Drivers may think that they cannot turn onto Commonwealth Avenue. He suggests the school install additional signage administratively. A school representative spoke in support of this docket request. She said that the driveway is clearly marked. Drivers are entering the 'EXIT' daily. Drivers have the tendency to speed through the driveway. Parents and children do not look for drivers who are driving in the wrong direction. She then said that most drivers take a right onto Auburn Street to avoid the traffic signal. The school is considering painting the driveway and perhaps installing speed humps hoping to deter the drivers from speeding and driving in the wrong direction.

Mr. Koses suggested installing a "No Left Turn into Driveway" sign. Captain Anastasia said that he does not feel this is necessary. He suggested the school administration post additional signs if needed. The driveway is private property.

Councilor Markiewicz supports the installation of a "No Left Turn into Driveway" sign.

Mr. Koses stated that Traffic Council would vote on the request of a "No Left Turn" restriction on Auburn Street. If other signs are needed for clarity, these will be installed administratively, if necessary.

Captain Anastasia stated that drivers driving in the wrong direction is an offense. He suggested to the school that they install a larger "Do Not Enter Sign".

Without further discussion, Mr. Koses made a motion to approve TPR. 454. Council members agreed 5-0. Mr. Koses stated that this item may be appealed through the close of business on January 2, 2019.

TC51-18      TRAFFIC BUREAU CAPTAIN PAUL ANASTASIA, DPW COMMISSIONER JAMES MCGONAGLE AND PLANNING DIRECTOR BARNEY HEATH, requesting temporary and permanent changes in terms of the location, duration, and pricing of public parking spaces, location of traffic signals, and changes to traffic circulation within and proximate to the Washington Street corridor in West Newton, to include abutting blocks of intersecting streets, in order to facilitate the reconstruction of the Washington Street corridor. (Wards 3 & 4) [08/01/18 @ 4:07 PM]

**ACTION:**      **HELD 5-0. Hold for a trial of the following: Temporary and permanent changes in terms of the location, duration, and pricing of public parking spaces, location of traffic signals, and changes to traffic circulation within and proximate to the Washington Street corridor in West Newton, to include abutting blocks of intersecting streets, in order to facilitate the reconstruction of the Washington Street corridor. Changes during the trial period will be approved by the Commissioner of Public Works in conjunction with the Director of Planning and Development and the Traffic Bureau Chief.**

**NOTE:**      Mr. Koses stated that this project is approximately a \$5 million Capital Improvement Project (CIP) to reconstruct Washington Street. This project was vetted and approved by the City Council. Construction is scheduled to begin after April 1, 2019.

Mr. Koses recommends holding this item to allow for various traffic and parking-related changes to occur during construction, as needed. When construction is complete, the Traffic and Parking Regulations (TPR) will be updated to reflect new conditions.

Mr. Koses opened the discussion to members of the public who were present. There was no public comment.

Without discussion, Mr. Koses made a motion to hold this item. Council members agreed 5-0.

TC50-18      TRAFFIC BUREAU CAPTAIN PAUL ANASTASIA, DPW COMMISSIONER JAMES MCGONAGLE AND PLANNING DIRECTOR BARNEY HEATH, requesting temporary and permanent changes in terms of the location, duration, and pricing of public parking spaces, and changes to traffic circulation within and proximate to the Walnut Street corridor in Newtonville, to include abutting blocks of intersecting streets, in order to facilitate the reconstruction of the Walnut Street corridor. (Ward 2) [08/01/18 @ 4:07 PM]

**ACTION:**      **HELD 5-0. Hold for a trial of the following: Temporary and permanent changes in terms of the location, duration, and pricing of public parking spaces, and changes to traffic circulation within and proximate to the Walnut Street corridor in Newtonville, to include abutting blocks of intersecting streets, in order to facilitate the reconstruction of the Walnut Street corridor. Changes during the trial period will be approved by the Commissioner of Public Works in conjunction with the Director of Planning and Development and the Traffic Bureau Chief.**

**NOTE:** Mr. Koses stated that this project is approximately a \$4 million Capital improvement Project (CIP) to reconstruct Walnut Street. This project was vetted and approved by the City Council. Construction is scheduled to begin after July 1, 2019.

Mr. Koses recommends holding this item to allow for various traffic and parking-related changes to occur during construction, as needed. When construction is complete, the Traffic and Parking Regulations (TPR) will be updated to reflect new conditions.

Mr. Koses opened the discussion to members of the public who were present. There was no public comment.

Without discussion, Councilor Ciccone made a motion to hold this item. Council members agreed 5-0.

TC67-18      DAVID KOSES, TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR, requesting to remove the following from the official Traffic and Parking Regulations (TPR): Bullough Park, one-way street from Berkshire Road southerly to Commonwealth Avenue. This item fixes an inconsistency and will not make any changes in the field. (Ward 2) [10/11/18 @ 1:49 PM]

**ACTION:**      **APPROVED 5-0. Approved the language of TPR 455. TPR 455 removes the one-way restriction that is on the books and makes no changes to signage on the street.**  
**This item may be appealed through the close of business January 2, 2019.**

**NOTE:** Mr. Koses stated that this item was docketed as a request from a resident who brought to his attention that Berkshire Road is not a one-way street and should be removed from the Traffic and Parking Regulations (TPR). This item fixes an inconsistency in the TPR and will not make any changes in the field.

Without discussion, Mr. Koses made a motion to approve TPR 455. Council members agreed 5-0. Mr. Koses stated that this item may be appealed through the close of business on January 2, 2019.

TC75-18      DAVID KOSES, TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR, requesting to rescind the Traffic Council vote on October 25, 2018 of TC65-18 (TPR NO. 443) **Sec. TPR-84 speed zones designated** from the Traffic and Parking Regulations (TPR). [11/27/18 @ 9:58 AM]

**ACTION:**      **APPROVED 5-0. Approved the language of TPR 456. TPR 456 rescinds the Traffic Council vote on October 25, 2018 to remove the speed restrictions from the TPR and adds them back as they were prior to October 25, 2018.**  
**This item may be appealed through the close of business January 2, 2019.**

**NOTE:** Mr. Koses stated that on October 25, 2018 Traffic Council approved removing Section TPR-84(b) from the Traffic and Parking Regulation (TPR). Section 84(b) lists the special speed regulations for streets in Newton, which are approved by MassDOT and not by the Newton Traffic Council.

However, City Ordinance specifies that the Traffic Council shall constitute the rule-making body of the city under the provisions of section 18 of chapter 90 of the general laws and section 2 of chapter 85 of the general laws. So, while MassDOT approves the speed regulations in the City, Traffic Council implements the regulatory speed limits. The City's Law Department informed Mr. Koses to either change the City Ordinance or rescind the previous vote that would have removed the language from the TPR.

Without discussion, Mr. Prizant made a motion to approve TPR 456. Council members agreed 5-0. Mr. Koses stated that this item may be appealed through the close of business on January 2, 2019.

TC77-18      JASON SOBEL, DIRECTOR TRANSPORTATION OPERATIONS, requesting to add a pedestrian signal on Commonwealth Avenue at Pamela Court. (Ward 4) [12/03/18 @ 12:30 PM]

**ACTION:**      **APPROVED 5-0. Approved the language of TPR 457. TPR 457 adds a pedestrian activated Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon on Commonwealth Avenue, 20 feet west of Pamela Court.**  
**This item may be appealed through the close of business January 2, 2019.**

**NOTE:**      Mr. Koses stated that this request comes from the MBTA who will be paying for this request. The MBTA requested the City install a pedestrian activated Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon (RRFB) on Commonwealth Avenue at Pamela Court to allow accessible boarding and to be ADA accessible to incorporate a safe crossing and landing pad.

Captain Anastasia asked whether the RRFB would impact the high volume of traffic. Councilor Markiewicz answered no. The number of pedestrians at this location is minimal, pedestrians are from the neighborhood, crossing Commonwealth Avenue to access the Star Market. Councilor Markiewicz then stated that he could support the installation of an RRFB at this location. Mr. Prizant agreed and stated that public safety is more of a concern than traffic impacts.

Without further discussion, Mr. Koses made a motion to approve TPR 457. Council members agreed 5-0. Mr. Koses stated that this item may be appealed through the close of business on January 2, 2019.

TC63-18      COUNCILOR MARKIEWICZ, requesting to extend the current "no parking 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m." parking prohibition on the east side of Lexington Street, between Auburn Street and Commonwealth Avenue, to a "no parking 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m." prohibition, to help improve traffic circulation". (Ward 4) [09/26/18 @ 2:21 PM] [REVISED 10/19/18]

**ACTION:**      **APPROVED 5-0. Approved the language of TPR 458. TPR 458 extends the current "no parking 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m." parking prohibition on the east side of Lexington Street, between Auburn Street and Commonwealth Avenue, to a "no parking 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**  
**This item may be appealed through the close of business January 2, 2019.**

**NOTE:** Council members were provided with a location map and site photos.

Mr. Koses stated that this docket request is to extend the current parking meter zones on Lexington Street, which currently allow parking with a two-hour limit, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., east side, from Commonwealth Avenue to Auburn Street. The request is to expand the times when parking is restricted to between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. and between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., to help improve traffic circulation. The current parking meter parking restriction zone allows for an additional travel lane when meters are not in use.

Mr. Koses opened the discussion to members of the public who were present. A resident expressed opposition to this docket request. He said that drivers will continue to be confused. He suggested eliminating the parking meters.

Councilor Markiewicz stated that the current parking meter zone allows for an additional travel lane when meters are not in use. There are two parking lots, one is metered in this location with room available for parking. He then stated that he does not feel businesses and patrons would be inconvenienced by extending the morning and evening prohibition one additional hour.

Councilor Gentile spoke in support of this docket request. He stated that approximately two years ago, the current parking prohibition of 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. was implemented due to challenges of the Auburndale Square project. Councilor Gentile then stated that traffic backs up on Lexington Street, Commonwealth Avenue and over the Auburn Street Bridge. He then said that the extra hour in the morning and evening are necessary. Captain Anastasia agreed and stated that he supports this request.

Mr. Koses said that drivers who appeal their parking tickets are often angry because sometimes they do not see the sign indicating the hours when meters can and cannot be used. It is unusual to have meters with time restrictions in the City. He suggested eliminating the parking meters at this location entirely, to allow for a travel lane at all times. Others did not support this suggestion. Mr. Koses then suggested implementing a posted (non-metered) parking restriction along this stretch of Lexington Street from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Captain Anastasia disagreed because it is not an all-day issue.

Councilor Gentile recommends Traffic Council approve the docket item as requested. He is opposed to more drastic measures. In fairness to the businesses, please maintain the meters. Councilor Ciccone agreed.

Without further discussion, Councilor Ciccone made a motion to approve TPR 458. Council members agreed 5-0. Mr. Koses stated that this item may be appealed through the close of business on January 2, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

David Koses, Transportation Coordinator  
Traffic Council Chair

CITY OF NEWTON

TRAFFIC & PARKING REGULATION

TPR NO. 452

December 13, 2018

In accordance with the vote of the Traffic Council on December 13, 2018:

The City of Newton Traffic & Parking Regulations, as established in Chapter 19, Section 27 of the City of Newton Revised Ordinances, 2017, as amended, be and are hereby further amended as follows:

By INSERTING into the provisions of **Sec. TPR-200. Accessible Parking Spaces**, the following:

*Beech Street:* in front of 16 Beech Street.

Approved as to legal form and character:

(SGD) ALISSA OCASIO GIULIANI  
City Solicitor

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON  
City Clerk



CITY OF NEWTON

TRAFFIC & PARKING REGULATION

TPR NO. 453

December 13, 2018

In accordance with the vote of the Traffic Council on December 13, 2018:

The City of Newton Traffic & Parking Regulations, as established in Chapter 19, Section 27 of the City of Newton Revised Ordinances, 2017, as amended, be and are hereby further amended as follows:

By DELETING from the provisions of **Sec. TPR-176. Parking regulations pertaining to particular streets.**, the following:

*Fairview Street*

(1) Two-hour limit, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., both sides, entire length

By INSERTING into the provisions of **Sec. TPR-176. Parking regulations pertaining to particular streets.**, the following:

*Fairview Street*

(1) No Parking, north side, from Willard Street to a point 290' westerly.

Approved as to legal form and character:

(SGD) ALISSA OCASIO GIULIANI  
City Solicitor

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON  
City Clerk

CITY OF NEWTON

TRAFFIC & PARKING REGULATION

TPR NO. 454

December 13, 2018

In accordance with the vote of the Traffic Council on December 13, 2018:

The City of Newton Traffic & Parking Regulations, as established in Chapter 19, Section 27 of the City of Newton Revised Ordinances, 2017, as amended, be and are hereby further amended as follows:

By INSERTING into the provisions of **Sec. TPR-87. Left turns prohibited.**, the following:

*Auburn Street*, eastbound into driveway of 1900 Commonwealth Avenue.

Approved as to legal form and character:

(SGD) ALISSA OCASIO GIULIANI  
City Solicitor

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON  
City Clerk

CITY OF NEWTON

TRAFFIC & PARKING REGULATION

TPR NO. 455

December 13, 2018

In accordance with the vote of the Traffic Council on December 13, 2018:

The City of Newton Traffic & Parking Regulations, as established in Chapter 19, Section 27 of the City of Newton Revised Ordinances, 2017, as amended, be and are hereby further amended as follows:

By REMOVING from the provisions of **Sec. TPR-85. One-way streets**, the following:

*Bullough Park*, from Berkshire Road southerly to Commonwealth Avenue.

Approved as to legal form and character:

(SGD) ALISSA OCASIO GIULIANI  
City Solicitor

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON  
City Clerk

CITY OF NEWTON

TRAFFIC & PARKING REGULATION

TPR NO. 456

December 13, 2018

In accordance with the vote of the Traffic Council on December 13, 2018:

The City of Newton Traffic & Parking Regulations, as established in Chapter 19, Section 27 of the City of Newton Revised Ordinances, 2017, as amended, be and are hereby further amended as follows:

By DELETING from into the provisions of **Sec. TPR-84. Speed zones designated.**, the following:

(a) In accordance with the provisions of chapter 90, section 17C of the General Laws, the speed limit on any City controlled street is 25 mph., unless otherwise posted, as included in the List of Regulatory Speed Limits by Street. This list is maintained by the Department of Public Works.

By INSERTING into the provisions of **Sec. TPR-84. Speed zones designated.**, the following:

(a) In accordance with the provisions of chapter 90, section 17C of the General Laws, the speed limit on any City controlled street is 25 mph., unless otherwise posted, as listed in section (b).

(b) In accordance with the provisions of chapter 90, section 18 of the General Laws, the following special speed regulations are hereby adopted. The following speed limits are established at which motor vehicles may be operated in the areas described:

(add back entire section)

Approved as to legal form and character:

(SGD) ALISSA OCASIO GIULIANI  
City Solicitor

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON  
City Clerk

CITY OF NEWTON

TRAFFIC & PARKING REGULATION

TPR NO. 457

December 13, 2018

In accordance with the vote of the Traffic Council on December 13, 2018:

The City of Newton Traffic & Parking Regulations, as established in Chapter 19, Section 27 of the City of Newton Revised Ordinances, 2017, as amended, be and are hereby further amended as follows:

By INSERTING into the provisions of **Sec. TPR-146. Flashing warning light locations.**

*Commonwealth Avenue, 20 feet west of Pamela Court (pedestrian activated RRFB).*

Approved as to legal form and character:

(SGD) ALISSA OCASIO GIULIANI  
City Solicitor

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON  
City Clerk

CITY OF NEWTON

TRAFFIC & PARKING REGULATION

TPR NO. 458

December 13, 2018

In accordance with the vote of the Traffic Council on December 13, 2018:

The City of Newton Traffic & Parking Regulations, as established in Chapter 19, Section 27 of the City of Newton Revised Ordinances, 2017, as amended, be and are hereby further amended as follows:

By REMOVING from the provisions of **Sec. TPR-176. Parking regulations pertaining to particular streets.**, the following:

*Lexington Street*

- (1) Parking meter zones, two-hour limit, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., east side, from Commonwealth Avenue to Auburn Street.
- (3) Prohibited, weekdays, 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., east side, from Auburn Street to Commonwealth Avenue.

By INSERTING into the provisions of **Sec. TPR-176. Parking regulations pertaining to particular streets.**, the following:

*Lexington Street*

- (1) Parking meter zones, two-hour limit, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., east side, from Commonwealth Avenue to Auburn Street.
- (3) Prohibited, weekdays, 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., east side, from Auburn Street to Commonwealth Avenue.

Approved as to legal form and character:

(SGD) ALISSA OCASIO GIULIANI  
City Solicitor

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON  
City Clerk