

**TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, September 25, 2019 at 6:00p.m.**  
**Main Library Room, 613 Pleasant Street**

*Chairman Scott Liberty explains the process of the Traffic Commission, announces the commissioner in attendance, and calls the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.*

**Present:** Scott Liberty, Brian Gomes, Richard Simmons, Manuel Silva, Jacob Gonsalves, Ian Trombly

**Absent:** William Brad Markey, Michael Baker, Patrick Sullivan

*Motion by Commissioner Silva to accept and approve minutes from 07/30/19 Traffic Commission meeting; second by Commissioner Silva, the Ayes have it*

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**PUBLIC HEARING**

**PH1.**

Dorothy Couet, 94 Farmfield Street, is requesting to widen existing curb cut by 18 feet located at 51 Acushnet Avenue (Plot 24, Lot 216)

*Commissioner Silva motioned to open PH1; second by Commissioner Simmons the Ayes have it.*

*John Couet, 94 Farmfield Street, spoke on behalf of PH1 to request a new curb cut. Commissioner Silva stated that they are requesting to build a new curb cut. Commissioner Silva stated that we would amend to state it is a new curb cut but that the location must be between the existing driveway just west of your property and the stop sign. Chairman Liberty asked if anyone wanted to speak or be recorded in favor or in opposition. Councillor Joseph Lopes would like to be recorded in favor. Chairman Liberty asked if anyone had any other questions for petitioner. Commissioner Gomes motioned to close PH1, second by Commissioner Silva; the Ayes have it. Commissioner Silva motioned to amend PH1 to state Dorothy Couet is requesting to install a new curb cut 18' x 8' on Rivet Street just west of existing stop sign, second by Commissioner Gomes; the Ayes have it. Commissioner Silva motioned to approve PH1 as amended; second by Commissioner Gomes; the Ayes have it.*

**Passed 5-0**

*Commissioner Silva motioned to take Petition 4 out of order, second by Commissioner Gomes; the Ayes have it.*

**4.PETITION**

Councillor Lima on behalf of Southcoast Hospitals Group, St Luke's Hospital is requesting to install two flexible crosswalk signs to warn motorists in both directions of the pedestrian crosswalk on Page Street between Bedford Street and Allen Street.

*James Silva, 4 Nobel Drive, North Dartmouth spoke on behalf of P4 he stated he wanted the flexible crosswalk signs on the main entrance. Chairman Liberty asked if there were any questions for the petitioner. Commissioner Silva asked if they were asking for two signs on both sides of main entrance. Commissioner Silva asked if the hospital was buying the signs and that if he is aware that the signs get hit quite often and they are breakable and when they do the hospital would be responsible for replacing them and that they city is not. Councillor Lima states that Edward Burns is fully aware of purchasing and any damage that is done to the signs, he just wanted to make sure the city will be installing the signs. Commissioner Gomes asked they will have to remove the signs if there are snowstorms, they will have to remove the signs. Commissioner Silva stated to Councillor Lima that they can call his office to have them installed. Chairman Liberty asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor or in opposition. Commissioner Gomes motioned to approve; second by Commissioner Gonsalves; the Ayes have it.*

**Passed 5-0**

### **1.PETITION**

Brenda Demars, 295 Tinkham Street, is requesting to have **NO PARKING BETWEEN SIGNS** to be placed on each side of her driveway.

*Brenda Demars stated that he wanted signs on either side of her driveway, she states that she has an empty lot and they keep parking within 5ft of the driveway. Chairman Liberty asked if there were any questions for the petitioner. Commissioner Silva asked if they park in front of the house, he states that is an illegal spot he states that we do not need to have signs. Commissioner Gomes stated that we can put a sign for no parking here to corner, but we are unable to put signs on both sides of the driveway. Brenda Demars agreed to the sign at the corner. Commissioner Gomes motioned to amend petition to have No Parking Here to Corner sign 25ft on Tinkham Street, second by Commissioner Silva. Commissioner Silva motioned to approve, second by Commissioner Gonsalves; the Ayes have it*

**Passed 5-0**

### **2. PETITION**

Teodosio Soto Cardonda, 118 Buchanan Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, property owner, there is a driveway).

*Teodosio Soto Cardona is requesting handicap spot because it is easier to carry him in the front of the house. Commissioner Silva asked how many people live in the house and how many cars do they have? Mrs. Cardona stated that there is only one family and there are two cars and that she prefers the front instead of the driveway. Chairman Liberty asked if there were any questions for the petitioner. Chairman Liberty asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor or in opposition. Commissioner Gomes motioned to approve, second by Commissioner Gonsalves; the Ayes have it.*

### **3.PETITION**

Councillor Joseph Lopes, Councillor Hugh Dunn, Councillor Naomi Carney, Councillor Maria Giesta Councillor Brian Gomes, Councillor Scott Lima, Councillor Brad Markey and Councillor Dana Rebeiro are requesting that the Traffic Commission establish a free parking program at all metered spaces across the City of New Bedford and at Fort Taber Park for individuals with Veteran license plates.

*Councillor Joseph Lopes spoke on behalf of P3 he states other spots across the state that anyone with a veteran license plate can park free at a metered spot just like a handicap spot and at a federal state beach. I included Fort Taber because it is federal land. Chairman Liberty asked if there were any questions for the petitioner. Commissioner Silva asked if the plates were forever. Commissioner Silva was advised they must renew every four years. Commissioner Silva asked if we could amend it to state with a valid Veteran License*

*Plate. Chairman Liberty asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor or in opposition. Commissioner Gonsalves motioned to approve with the amendment, second by Commissioner Silva; the Ayes have it.*

## **5.PETITION**

Brandon Roderick, owner of The Baker, 562 Pleasant Street and Nick Ricciardi owner of Café Italia Ristorante, 555 Pleasant Street is requesting for a Loading Zone on Pleasant Street meters to be removed will be single meter 656 and double meter 438AB.

*Commissioner Gomes motioned to table P5, second by Commissioner Gonsalves; the Ayes have it.*

## **6.PETITION**

Erik Rousseau, Administrator of SRTA, 700 Pleasant Street, is requesting for No Parking & No standing signs to be installed approximately between 115 ft and 140ft south of Elm Street. The area is between the curb cut for the bus only entryway into bus platform.

*Shayne Trimbell, 264 Reed Street, spoke on behalf of P6 he is requesting for a sign because Taxis continue to park there and is creating a lot of conflict and when a vehicle is there it creates a blind spot for buses turning into the terminal. Chairman Liberty asked if there were any questions for the petitioner. Commissioner Silva stated that he is with him for the no parking, but we can tell them no standing, it is a city sidewalk, and anybody can stand there. Chairman Liberty asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor or in opposition. Commissioner Gomes motion to approve with amend to No Parking Anytime, second by Commissioner Silva; the Ayes have it.*

**Passed 5-0**

## **7. PETITION**

Councillor Gomes is requesting that the Traffic Commission make Riverside Avenue a 20 Mile an Hour traffic flow, from Belleville Avenue to Coffin Avenue in a north and south direction and that signage be installed on the east and west side of Riverside Avenue, notifying motorists of the speed limit on this stretch.

*Commissioner Gomes states this request after meeting with the residents down at Whaler's Cove that road he signs down that stretch off the road that says 30 miles an hour, the residents are not feeling safe. Chairman Liberty asked if there were any questions for the petitioner. Chairman Liberty asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor or in opposition. Commissioner Silva wanted to add that he went with the Commissioner and he agrees that the people that live that need some protection and all the side street that don't have stop signs are t intersection, so they really don't need it. Chairman Liberty asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor or in opposition. Commissioner Gonsalves motioned to approve, second by Commissioner Silva; the Ayes have it.*

*Commissioner Silva motioned to approve HP1-HP24, second by Commissioner Gomes; the Ayes have it. Commissioner Silva motioned to approve rescinded HP signs, second by Commissioner Gomes; the Ayes have it.*

## **HP1.**

Ceceila Rose, 232 Grinnell Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, property owner, no driveway).

**HP2.**

Debra Coelho, 49 Emerson Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, there is no access to driveway).

**HP3.**

Nancy Ramos, 373 Belleville Avenue, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner on file, there is no access to driveway).

**HP4.**

Robert Leonard, 294 Austin Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, there is no access to driveway).

**HP5.**

Trena Melton, 42 Princeton Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, no driveway).

**HP6.**

Marangeli Ocasio Roman, 350 Smith Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from housing authority, no driveway).

**HP7.**

Bobbil Gales, 42 Newton Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, no driveway).

**HP8.**

Phyllis Duhameli, 15 Valentine Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, no driveway).

**HP9.**

Ian Rolston, 37 Capitol Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, there is no access to driveway).

**HP10.**

Michael Strait, 57 State Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, there is no access to driveway).

**HP11.**

Edwin Hernandez, 158 Appongansett Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, there is no access to driveway).

**HP12.**

Lynette Lawton, 28 Dudley Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, no driveway).

**HP13**

Robert Fournier, 261 Nash Road, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, there is no access to driveway).

**HP14.**

Rose Russo, 66 Oaklawn Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, there is no access to driveway).

**HP15.**

Joyce Poirier, 202 Brook Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed on the Hathaway Street side of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, there is no access to driveway).

**HP16.**

Sephra Moniz, 49 Dunbar Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, there is no access to driveway).

**HP17.**

Ana M. Farinhas, 107 Rockland Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, property owner, no driveway).

**HP18.**

Edith E. Hernandez, 39 Deane Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, no driveway)

**HP19.**

Billie-Marie Gomes, 178 Smith Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, no driveway)

**HP20.**

Scott Cruz, 154 Morgan Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, there is no access to driveway)

**HP21.**

Robert Pepin, 29 Ellen Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, there is no access to driveway)

**HP22.**

Councillor Scott Lima on behalf of Lucimar Silva, 508 Rockdale Avenue is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, there is no access to driveway)

**HP23.**

Councillor Joe Lopes on behalf of Ernest Medeiros, 74 Capitol Street is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, no driveway)

**HP24.**

Scott Vieira, 52 Locust Street, is requesting **NO PARKING EXCEPT HANDICAP** signs to be installed in front of said residence (A copy of HP card is on file, letter from property owner, there is no access to driveway)

**RESCINDED HP SIGNS**

185 Ash Street  
574 Middle Street  
48 Rockland Street  
87 Walden Street

23 Woodlawn Street  
505 Purchase Street  
140A Oakdale Street  
107 Rockland Street

122 Potomska Street  
14 Bourne Street  
169 Buchanan Street  
38 Sagamore Street

**TABLED ITEMS**

**T1.**

Chairman Scott Liberty, 51 Elm Street is requesting to review the approved petition from the 03/28/18 Traffic Commission meeting in which the board approved to install a **STOP** sign on South Rodney French Boulevard and Brock Avenue. This stop sign was approved as a temporary measure in order to give SRTA bus time to fix their scheduled route.

*Shayne Timball spoke on behalf of the tabled item. Commissioner Gomes states this was only supposed to be temporary and wants to extend the route. Shayne Timball states that they are not ready to make that change. Commissioner Gomes is giving them six months to come back and have an alternate route for them. Commissioner Gomes will give them until our April meeting.*

**LATE FILE**

**L1.**

Councilor Gomes, requesting “No Parking Any Time” signs to place on the south side of Braley Road as part of the Pulaski School traffic safety plan at the following locations (location list on file) all located on the south side of Braley Road.

*Commissioner Gomes requested to amend from 8:00-3:30pm Monday-Friday, second by Commissioner Gomes Braley Road is a heavily traveled road. Commissioner Silva asked what the length of the road was, the length would be between Laurelwood Road and Briarwood Road. Chairman Liberty asked if anyone wanted to speak in favor or in opposition. Commissioner Gonsalves motioned to approve, second by Commissioner Silva; the Ayes have it.*

**PASSED 5-0**

*Commissioner Gomes motioned to adjourn time 7:15pm; second by Commissioner Silva; the Ayes have it*