

**CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
TRAFFIC AND PARKING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING
MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2023, 7 P.M.
IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING**

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair James Lewis, Vice Chair Ann Tucker, Annie Ebbers, Jason Osborne, Lavonda Bonnard, Casey Kane, and Ashley Mihalik.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: T&ES – Katy North, Division Chief; Alex Boulden, Civil Engineer III; Sheila McGraw, Principal Planner; Daniel Scolese, Civil Engineer IV; Bryan Hayes, Urban Planner III; Max Devilliers, Urban Planner II; Cuong Nguyen, Civil Engineer I.

1. Announcement of deferrals and withdrawals: None.
2. Approval of the March 27, 2023, Traffic and Parking Board meeting minutes:

BOARD ACTION: Ms. Tucker made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ebbers to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2023, Traffic and Parking Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

3. **WRITTEN STAFF UPDATES:** The Board received written staff updates on the bicycle parking near transit project, the dockless mobility program, ‘No Turn on Red’ restrictions along Patrick and Henry Streets, and the new administrative stop sign application process.

Ms. Ebbers requested that Mr. Scolese provide her with the names of the requestors for a stop sign in Del Ray who haven’t recently responded to staff’s outreach. Mr. Kane noted that two intersections that had been discussed at previous Board meetings were not included on the list re-visited requests for stop signs (Wilkes & S Payne and Taney & N Howard). Mr. Scolese noted that those two intersections had not been re-requested since the change in the administrative process so he will discuss next steps with City leadership.

Mr. Kane asked if there is a different process for implementing a dockless mobility slow zone on private streets as opposed to public streets and whether the City could regulate speed limits on private streets. Ms. Tucker asked if dockless mobility companies are evaluated on their performance of retrieving devices and whether the onus to recognize when devices need to be retrieved is on the company or the residents, to which Ms. McGraw replied that the onus is on the company but residents can help to expedite the process by submitting 311 tickets.

4. **PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD:** Susan Schmidt spoke on removing parking at Sanborn Place and Mount Vernon Avenue for visibility and suggested that the scooter corral across the street be moved to that location to prevent drivers from parking in those spaces. Ms. Schmidt also supports any other strategies to calm traffic on Mount Vernon Avenue. Ms. Tucker asked if moving the corral across the street would make conditions dangerous for drivers turning where the corral exists today. Al Havinga agreed with Ms. Schmidt's comments and noted that left turns are prohibited for southbound traffic on Mount Vernon Avenue at Commonwealth Avenue which creates demand for making left turns out of Sanborn Place. Staff is not supportive of removing parking at this intersection because it would require removing at least three spaces which would be too large for an effective scooter corral and would likely encourage speeding due to the wider travel lane as a result of parking removal. Ms. North mentioned that she would check with Complete Streets on additional speed reduction efforts and relevant signage. Ms. North also mentioned that staff would look into removing a parking space at the entrance to Del Ray Tower for visibility improvements. A full redesign of the intersection on the waitlist which is evaluated on a yearly basis according to number of traffic incidents.

Carolyn Griglione spoke on the curb ramps that exist 20 feet from the crosswalk across N Hampton Drive at W Braddock Road without crossing markings that pedestrians sometimes use accidentally. In addition, Ms. Griglione added that the planted median on N Hampton Drive protrudes into the crosswalk at W Braddock Road forcing pedestrians further into the intersection. Mr. Lewis asked if these issues could be resolved during the next paving of N Hampton Drive so Ms. North said she would relay these issues to Complete Streets. Mr. Lewis asked that staff consider doing the same at the false crossing near N Ripley Street and Holmes Run Parkway. Staff will provide the Board with an update once decided.

CONSENT ITEMS

Ms. Tucker requested to move Item Number 6 to the Public Hearing. Ms. Mihalik seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

9. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a reserved disability parking space at 1210 Queen Street.

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Osborne made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ebbers to recommend the Director of T&ES install a reserved disability parking space at 1210 Queen Street. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

10. **ISSUE:** Consideration of on-street parking removal on East Uhler Avenue in front of Mount Vernon Community School to daylight a crosswalk. Mr. Hayes presented the item to the Board. Rebecca Kudla spoke on drivers speeding and running stop signs as well as the rising sun blinding drivers on E Uhler Avenue. Ms.

Kudla requested speed bumps and painted ‘STOP’ markings on E Uhler Avenue as well as a stop sign for westbound traffic on E Uhler Avenue and two additional parking spaces removed on the north side of E Uhler Avenue just east of Clyde Avenue. Ms. Kudla also requested that ‘Do Not Block Driveways’ signage be installed on Clyde Avenue and E Uhler Avenue and that the City replace the ‘One Way’ signage as well. Claudia Gallino spoke against the removal of parking spaces but supports all of the other safety measures brought forth by staff and Ms. Kudla. Ms. Gallino asked what other surveys had been conducted since 2017 looking specifically at traffic impacts. Ms. Tucker asked which spaces were originally requested for removal in 2017 and Mr. Hayes responded that they were the two spaces on the south side of E Uhler Avenue between Commonwealth Avenue and Clyde Avenue. Ms. Tucker requested that there be crossing guards on duty during school hours and one-way traffic on Clyde Avenue. Mr. Hayes responded that a meeting held on April 21, 2023, resulted in a permanent crossing guard being assigned to this particular intersection during school hours moving forward. Future paving projects will include painted improvements in the near term while curb extensions will be constructed in future pending grant funding (which will result in a loss of parking). Permanently removing parking as opposed to time-specific parking restrictions will help with traffic flow generally, during and outside school hours. However, the spaces on the north side of E Uhler Avenue just east of Clyde Avenue were not included in the scope of this request for parking removal. Ms. Mihalik asked when parking lanes on Commonwealth Avenue would be fully painted and triangles on the roadway at midblock crosswalks would be installed, to which Mr. Hayes said he would check and follow up once confirmed. Ms. North noted that T&ES Operations could cap the parking lane with additional paint. Ms. Mihalik asked why there aren’t two crosswalks at Clyde Avenue and E Uhler Avenue and Mr. Hayes responded that it is due to the driveway present on the south side of E Uhler Avenue. Ms. Ebbers added that E Uhler Avenue is already one-way east of Mount Vernon Avenue so making these blocks of E Uhler Avenue one-way as well would be logical and would allow for more parking, and Mr. Hayes responded that traffic reconfigurations were not part of the scope of this near-term project. Mr. Osborne requested that staff mark the legal spaces throughout E Uhler Avenue and Clyde Avenue with ‘No Parking Here to Corner’ signage.

BOARD ACTION: Ms. Ebbers made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tucker to recommend to the Director of T&ES that the parking spaces as shown in the docket be removed. The motion carried unanimously.

11. **ISSUE:** Consideration of making the Duke Street Pilot Phase II Mitigation permanent, restricting access from West Taylor Run Parkway to the Telegraph Road ramp.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Scolese presented the item to the Board. Mr. Osborne asked about what is being voted on at the Board meeting in May to which Mr. Scolese responded “Duke Street in Motion.” Mr. Osborne asked how traffic can be alleviated for drivers backed up on Wheeler Avenue due to the prohibition of left turns onto Duke Street, and Mr. Lewis added that staff should find a way to prevent drivers from the blocking that intersection to alleviate the issue. Mr. Scolese responded that the traffic engineers are

addressing traffic progression through the corridor step by step by ultimately encouraging drivers to primarily use Quaker Lane. Ms. Tucker noted that the traffic signal timing at Duke Street and Cambridge Road is shorter but staff should find a way to increase the number of drivers making it through the intersection in one signal cycle given the hill on Roth Street.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: Leslie Catherwood testified in support of the item but requested additional traffic mitigation efforts of northbound traffic on W Taylor Run Parkway.

BOARD ACTION: Ms. Tucker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Osborne to recommend to the Director of T&ES that the Duke Street Pilot Phase II Mitigation be made permanent. The motion carried unanimously.

12. **ISSUE:** Consideration of an updated approval process for curb cut applications and their appeals.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Boulden presented the item to the Board. There was no discussion..

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: There was no public testimony.

BOARD ACTION: Ms. Mihalik made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ebbers to approve an updated approval process for curb cut applications and their appeals. The motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

13. **STAFF UPDATES:** Prior to the presentation about Duke Street In Motion, Mr. Lewis disclosed his position as Condo Board President of his residential community that is situated on/adjacent to Duke Street and vowed to vote on Duke Street in Motion-related items in a manner that is fair and unbiased. Jen Monaco provided the Board with an update regarding the Duke Street in Motion project. Ms. Monaco noted that she is not aware at this stage of how delays will be impacted on the side streets feeding into Duke Street as a result of these various concepts. Ms. Monaco added that the costs for each concept are just capital costs and include estimated inflation/healthy contingency amounts. Ms. Tucker requested more detailed information before the Board is asked to make endorsements at the Board meeting in May. Staff will discuss internally on how exactly this item will be brought before the Board in May and Ms. Monaco will send all the pertinent information regarding the project to the Board via email separately.
14. **COMMISSIONER UPDATES:** Mr. Kane provided the Board with the following updates:

- Could not attend Transportation Commission meeting therefore no updates from that meeting
- Mr. Lewis heard from the City Manager at an event that the City Manager is interested in technology implementations to benefit traffic infrastructure and move drivers more effectively and efficiently.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Tucker moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Ebbers. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.