

**CITY OF ALEXANDRIA  
TRAFFIC AND PARKING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING  
MONDAY, MARCH 28, 2022, 7 P.M.  
VIRTUAL MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman, William Schuyler, Vice Chair, James Lewis, Jason Osborne, Annie Ebbers, Ann Tucker, Lavonda Bonnard and Casey Kane

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:** T&ES - Alex Block, Principal Planner, Ryan Knight, Civil Engineer IV, Cuong Nguyen, Civil Engineer III, Hillary Orr, Deputy Director of Transportation, and Max Devilliers, Urban Planner II.

**INTRODUCTIONS AND RECOGNITION OF THE CHAIR:** Board members and City staff offered thanks and congratulations to William Schuyler for his last meeting, capping ten years of service on the Traffic and Parking Board.

1. Announcement of deferrals and withdrawals: None.
2. Virtual Meeting Resolution:

**BOARD ACTION:** Mr. Lewis made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tucker to approve the virtual meeting resolution. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of the February 28, 2022, Traffic and Parking Board meeting minutes:

**BOARD ACTION:** Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ebbers to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2022, Traffic and Parking Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

4. **WRITTEN STAFF UPDATES:** The Board received written staff updates on the Duke Street Traffic Mitigation Pilot, the Potomac Yard and Potomac Greens Residential Permit Parking Districts, and a status update on Capital Bikeshare expansion. Chair Schuyler thanked staff for an excellent process with the Duke Street pilot; Ms. Hillary Orr noted that the community asked the City to extend the pilot through the end of April due to snow in January.
5. **PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD:** Mary Kate Sparrow spoke about future parking problems on N. Early Street that residents anticipate with the Minnie Howard school construction; Carolyn Griglione of N. Ivanhoe Street requested the City proactively lower speed limits on several streets and that the City treat these streets consistently. Charles Thabet lives on the West End and volunteers as a crossing guard at Taney and Pegram, and wants to see changes to make the intersection safer. Jennifer Boyle spoke in

opposition to any proposed removal of parking on Green Street at Washington Street for a Bikeshare station.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Osborne noted that speeding on Seminary Road remains an issue. Ms. Orr responded that the City has submitted an application for a walk audit with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. Mr. Kane noted many streets need speed reductions, including Braddock, Beauregard, King, as well as the off-ramps from Interstate 395 and others, and hope that the City could move to reduce speed limits across the board. Ms. Tucker asked about school slow zones; Ms. Orr noted that the Board has reviewed them in a batch in the past.

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

6. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a request to designate a disability parking space at 506 Four Mile Road.
7. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a Taxi Fare Surcharge

**BOARD ACTION:** Mr. Lewis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Osborne to approve items 6 and 7 on the Consent items list. The motion carried unanimously.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

8. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a request to add 15-Minute Loading Only restrictions for five on-street parking spaces along the south side of the 2400 block of Mandeville Lane

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Devilliers presented the item to the Board, noting the application of a childcare center for a Special Use Permit, conditional on approval of on-street loading by the Board. Ms. Tucker expressed frustration with this and similar applications that remove the Board's discretion, and requested that Department of Planning & Zoning be available for such items in the future. Mr. Kane expressed concern that the spaces would be occupied by parkers and other users and not be available for daycare parents. Mr. Schuyler asked about parking revenues and fees; Mr. Block noted that because the loading zone is not for the exclusive use of the daycare business, there are no additional fees. Mr. Lewis echoed Ms. Tucker's frustration, noting that the Board sent a letter to the Planning Commission about this and never received a reply.

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY:** There were no public speakers on this item.

**BOARD ACTION:** Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lewis to approve the request. Ms. Tucker offered a friendly amendment that the signs not be posted until the daycare obtains a certificate of occupancy; the amendment was accepted by both Mr. Kane and Mr. Lewis. The motion carried unanimously.

9. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a request to add four on-street parking spaces on the east side of the 500 block of Mount Vernon Avenue

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Devilliers presented the item to the Board, noting the changes in the proposal since the Board saw the same application in February. Chair Schuyler asked if the Board is approving the bike parking, or just the change in car parking; Mr. Block noted that the Board's authority is over car parking spaces, but Staff wanted to provide the full context for the City's plan. Mr. Kane asked to confirm that the in-street scooter corral would also include standard bike parking and bike racks; Mr. Devilliers affirmed that it would.

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY:** Wayne Patterson suggested the parking be limited only to evenings and night hours, perhaps starting at 5pm. Gaelan Smith lives on the 400 block of Mount Vernon Ave and asked why these spaces were not part of the Residential Permit Parking District. Mr. Block noted that the boundary of the district runs down the middle of the street, and the east side of Mount Vernon Ave is not within the RPP District. Frank Capone asked if metered parking was considered, and if so, why wasn't it adopted here? Mr. Block responded that Staff did consider metered parking, but noted that there aren't any other paid parking areas nearby.

**BOARD ACTION:** Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ebbers to approve the request. The motion carried unanimously.

## **END OF PUBLIC HEARING**

**BOARD ACTION:** Mr. Lewis moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Ms. Ebbers. The motion carried unanimously.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

10. **STAFF UPDATES:** Mr. Block provided the Board with an update on meeting schedules, noting that the City Attorney has determined that Boards and Commissions must resume meeting in-person starting April 1, 2022. The Board expressed concern about the loss of public access if the virtual meeting option is lost: Ms. Tucker asked if the Board can be a priority, noting the importance behind the Planning Commission and City Council. Ms. Ebbers wanted to keep the option for access to the general public. Ms. Bonnard expressed support for a hybrid meeting option. Mr. Kane also supported a hybrid option, and asked if the only hold-up is a lack of resources. Mr. Schuyler also supported a hybrid option and noted that the Board did not object to appearing in person with a quorum of members, but wanted to preserve flexibility and ensure the public can easily participate in these meetings. Mr. Schuyler indicated his intent to send a letter to the City Manager outlining these concerns from the Board.

Mr. Block asked about the start time for the April 25 meeting; the Board indicated a 7pm start would be their preference.

11. **COMMISSIONER UPDATES:** Mr. Kane updated the Board on the Transportation Commission meetings in March, which included a presentation on the City's Vision Zero Action Plan update. Mr. Kane suggested that a similar presentation would be useful for

the Board. Mr. Kane also noted that he will serve as the Transportation Commission's representative on the Duke Street in Motion advisory panel.