# CITY OF ALEXANDRIA TRAFFIC AND PARKING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27 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
- Ashley Mihalik

## **BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

### **STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

- Hillary Orr, Deputy Director, T&ES
- Katye North, Division Chief, T&ES
- Sheila McGraw, Principal Planner, T&ES
- Max Devilliers, Urban Planner II, T&ES
- Bryan Hayes, Complete Streets Coordinator, T&ES
- Daniel Scolese, Civil Engineer IV, T&ES
- Daphne Kott, Project Director, DPI
- Murphy Ng, Associate Technical Project Manager, DPI
- Cuong Nguyen, Civil Engineer I, T&ES
- 1. Announcement of deferrals and withdrawals: None.
- 2. Approval of the January 23, 2023, Traffic and Parking Board meeting minutes:

**BOARD ACTION:** Mr. Osborne made a motion, seconded by Ms. Mihalik to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2023, Traffic and Parking Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

- 3. **PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD:** No comments were received for the public discussion period.
- 4. **WRITTEN STAFF UPDATES:** The Board received written staff updates on the Duke Street & Route 1 Intersection Safety Audits, Safe Streets & Roads for All (SS4A) Grant, King-Callahan-Russell Access to Transit Project Update, Oakville Construction Parking, Fillmore Ave Parking, and City Parking Garage Hourly Rate Changes.

Ms. Tucker asked if the temporary signage regarding the new parking rates would remain in place and how else these changes could be advertised. Ms. North responded that they would remain in place until they needed to be taken down due to wear and tear. Also, ParkMobile is working to add a pop-up message in the app notifying users of this rate changes. The City's parking page also has information on these changes.

Mr. Kane asked for an update on the taxicab meter rates and Ms. North responded that the City Council has asked City staff if there is more that we can do to support the taxicab companies operating in Alexandria and will look to Arlington and DC for best practices. Fares will be reconsidered in September.

## **CONSENT ITEMS**

Mr. Kane requested to move Item Number 5 to the Public Hearing. Ms. Tucker seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

5. **ISSUE:** Consideration of implementing a Curbside Pick-up and Loading Zone on the 500 block of North Henry Street.

**BOARD ACTION:** Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Bonnard to recommend the Director of T&ES install 'Active Loading and Curbside Pickup Only' signage for the three parking spaces closest to Pendleton Street, in front of 540 North Henry Street. The motion carried unanimously.

6. **ISSUE:** Consideration of Residential Permit Parking on the 700 Block of Bluemont Avenue.

**BOARD ACTION:** Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Bonnard to recommend the Director of T&ES install 2-hour parking restrictions from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Saturday, Residential Permit Parking (RPP) District 13 permit holders exempt on the 700 block of Bluemont Avenue. The motion carried unanimously.

**7. ISSUE:** Consideration of installing Disability Parking on the 2800 block of Main Line Boulevard.

**BOARD ACTION:** Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Bonnard to recommend the Director of T&ES to designate a disability parking space on the 2800 block of Main Line Boulevard at the northwest corner with Seaton Avenue. The motion carried unanimously.

## **PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS**

8. **ISSUE:** [Formerly Item Number 5] Consideration of "No turn on red" (NTOR)

restrictions at ten locations on the Patrick & Henry Street corridor.

Mr. Kane asked if Madison Street, the width of the roadways, and the timing of signals could be considered for changes in conjunction with the elimination of turns on red along Henry and Patrick Streets. Mr. Scolese stated that narrowing lane widths during paving is already being considered and the timing of the signals is already set up to accommodate drivers who are driving exactly 25 miles per hour. Steve Milone asked why Prince and Cameron Streets were not included in this project. Mr. Hayes stated that changes to both Madison and Prince Streets would have negatively affected traffic flow, so City staff would need to develop separate plans to eliminate right turns on red from those two streets. Mr. Milone also requested City staff implement Leading Pedestrian Intervals (LPIs) along Washington and Duke Streets and eliminate all pedestrian push buttons in Old Town as well.

**BOARD ACTION:** Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ebbers to recommend the Director of T&ES install No Turn on Red restrictions at 10 intersections with Patrick Street and Henry Street as well as continue studying solutions for enabling and eventually implementing No Turn on Red restrictions on Prince and Madison Streets. The motion carried unanimously.

9. **ISSUE:** Consideration of Duke Street and West Taylor Run Parkway Pilot Extension Request.

**DISCUSSION:** Daniel Scolese presented the item to the Board requesting a two-month extension for the pilot to continue research due to lack of robust Origin-Destination data via StreetLight over the last year. Other features of StreetLight are still usable and robust, however. Mr. Osborne noted that there is significantly more congestion on Duke around Fort Williams Parkway now likely due to this pilot. Ms. Orr stated that the plan has always been and will continue to be to close West Taylor Run's access to Telegraph Road permanently, and the purpose of the pilot is to determine how the ramp to Telegraph Road will be altered.

## **PUBLIC TESTIMONY:** None.

**BOARD ACTION:** Ms. Tucker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kane to approve a two-month extension of the access restriction from West Taylor Run Parking onto the Telegraph Road entrance from eastbound Duke Street through May 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

10. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a Right Turn Lane Removal to allow for an Enhanced Crosswalk between Hoffman Street & Anchor Street.

**DISCUSSION:** Murphy Ng presented the item to the Board. Design is expected to be complete by the fall and project completion by summer 2025, which the Board requested be expedited. Mr. Kane requested that the removed trees (2) would be replaced elsewhere. The curb ramps will be the entire width of the crosswalk and the pedestrian signals on the south side are expected to be

placed on WMATA land south of the sidewalk and its handrail, which is planned for as a way to prevent pedestrians from walking on the grass. Mr. Kane requested a raised crosswalk that crosses Grist Mill Road and new accommodation for westbound cyclists that currently use the right turn lane that is to be removed. Ms. Tucker noted the significant distance between this proposed crosswalk and the crosswalks at Mill Race Lane and Stovall Street, and inquired whether flexposts could be installed prior to 2025 to remove the right turn lane prior to project completion. The existing crosswalks at Hoffman Street would be eradicated after project completion and the bike racks and fire hydrant on the north side would be relocated.

## **PUBLIC TESTIMONY:** None.

**BOARD ACTION:** Ms. Mihalik made a motion, seconded by Mr. Osborne to recommend the Director of T&ES remove the westbound right turn lane from Eisenhower Avenue to Hoffman Street. The motion carried unanimously.

11. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a recommendation to update the Residential Permit Parking (RPP) District 9 Boundary to remove the Montgomery Center property.

**DISCUSSION:** Katye North presented the item to the Board. Once this property is removed from RPPD 9, it would require a City Code amendment to become eligible again via the Board and City Council. The City Code enables the City Council to review these situations beyond typical conditions, such as if a parking problem is demonstrated. Mr. Osborne asked about how construction workers will get to the site, to which Ms. North responded that T&ES Permits and Planning & Zoning handle that. Ms. North also noted that the existing parking restrictions signage along each side of the existing Montgomery Center is not exempt for permitholders and that would remain the case after project completion.

### **PUBLIC TESTIMONY:** None.

**BOARD ACTION:** Ms. Tucker made a motion, seconded by Ms. Bonnard to approve the recommended Residential Permit Parking (RPP) District 9 Boundary update for the Director of Transportation Environmental Services (T&ES) to remove the Montgomery Center property. The motion carried unanimously.

12. **ISSUE:** That the Board approve the edits to the approved Parklet Requirements.

**DISCUSSION:** Max Devilliers presented the item to the Board. Mr. Kane asked why City staff proposed changing the term from 'permanent' to 'annual', to which Mr. Devilliers responded that the parklet permits are issued on an annual basis due to the nature of Certificates of Insurance expiration dates. Ms. Mihalik asked if the parklet permit and the sidewalk dining permit could be merged, to which Mr. Devilliers responded that City staff is already working on that and hope to complete by the start of the following permit cycle (October 1, 2023). Mr. Lewis asked if City staff confirm that these applicants also have a valid business license with the City when applying, to which Mr. Devilliers responded that he would need to confirm with T&ES

Permits that that is being verified during application review. Mr. Devilliers also noted that short-term parklet applicants must now provide similar information as part of their application as well, and there is now a map of each parklet in the city available to the public in OpenData. City staff is also trying to encourage more businesses to apply for public parklets, and this update to the Parklet Requirements was meant to make those somewhat more appealing.

# PUBLIC TESTIMONY: None.

**BOARD ACTION:** Mr. Osborne made a motion, seconded by Ms. Mihalik to approve the edits to the approved Parklet Requirements. The motion carried unanimously.

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

13. STAFF UPDATES: None.

- **14. COMMISSIONER UPDATES:** Mr. Kane provided the Board with the following updates:
- Transportation Commission received an update from City staff on the Capital Bikeshare and Dockless Mobility programs. There are now 61 CaBi stations, with funding for approximately 9 more, while some will be replaced entirely due to end-of-life. It's not clear how many complaints about dockless mobility devices there are but City staff is working to improve that, as well as implementing a Slow Zone for those devices around the waterfront and Robinson Landing.
- Mr. Kane asked if there is work to remove parking from in front of the 128 bus stops that are currently being obstructed, to which Ms. North responded that City staff will be doing that work gradually alongside paving projects and resident requests.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Osborne moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Tucker. The motion was adopted unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.