

**CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
TRAFFIC AND PARKING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2021, 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: Katye North, Acting Deputy Director, Bob Garbacz, Division Chief of Traffic Engineering, Ryan Knight, Civil Engineering IV, Cuong Nguyen, Civil Engineering II, Megan Oleynik, Urban Planner II, Alex Block, Principal Planner, Alexandria Carroll, Complete Street Coordinator, and Vicky Caudullo, Urban Planner II.

1. Announcement of deferrals and withdrawals: None.
2. Approval of the January 25, 2021 Traffic and Parking Board meeting minutes:

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Osborne made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lewis to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2021 Traffic and Parking Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

3. **WRITTEN STAFF UPDATES:** None
4. **PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD:** Mr. Wildfire, Mr. Connor, Mr. Wilkerson, Ms. Elizabeth, and Ms. Zoomer expressed concerns about the safety of the intersection of N. Patrick Street and Cameron Street. The Board inquired if the Vision Zero Taskforce was looking at this intersection and asked staff to work with the residents to improve safety.

PUBLIC HEARING

5. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a request to remove two, on-street parking spaces on the north side of the 500 block of E. Mt. Ida Avenue

DISCUSSION: Ms. Oleynik presented this item to the Board. The Board was concerned about the potential for more parking spaces being removed in the future.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: Ms. Pearlstein, the applicant, spoke in favor of the request. Mr. Morgan opposed the request.

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ebbers to remove one parking space on the north side of the 500 block of E. Mt. Ida Avenue. Mr. Kane, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Ebbers, Mr. Osborne, Ms. Bonnard voted in favor of the motion and Mr. Schuyler and Ms. Tucker voted in opposition. The motion carried with 5 yes and 2 no.

6. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a request to implement left turn restrictions at Westbound Cedar Street onto southbound Russell Road

DISCUSSION: Mr. Knight presented this item to the Board asking that the Board deny the request. The Board inquired about the possibility of implementing less restrictive measures and was also concerned about the accuracy of the data collected during the pandemic.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: Mr. Blatt, Ms. Erdle, Ms. Amatetti, Ms. Giercuskiewicz, Ms Rubenstein, Mr. Gartlan, Ms. Tomai, spoke in favor of the request.

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lewis to approve the request to restrict left turns from westbound Cedar street onto southbound Russell Road, 4 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. Mon-Fri. The motion carried unanimously.

7. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a request to remove and add parking on Commonwealth Avenue for safety and access improvements

DISCUSSION: Ms. Carrol presented this item to the Board. The Board inquired about extending the bike lanes between Oak Street and Braddock Road and suggested considering a different color for the painted curb extensions.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: Mr. Doyle, Ms. Sorokina, Mr. DesJardins, Mr. Hook and Ms. Crane spoke concerning this request. Most of the speakers indicated they wanted the project to include extending the bike lanes further on Commonwealth Avenue.

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ebbers to approve the proposed parking removal and deny the proposed new parking spaces. Mr. Kane, Ms. Ebbers, Ms. Bonnard, and Mr. Lewis voted in favor of the motion and Mr. Schuyler, Ms. Tucker and Mr. Osborne voted in opposition. The motion carried with 4 yes and 3 no.

8. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a request to remove parking spaces on Fillmore Avenue and reduce the taxi stand on Kenmore Avenue to install bikeshare stations

DISCUSSION: Ms. Caudullo presented this item to the Board.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: No one from the public came to speak about this item.

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ebbers to approve staff's recommendation to remove parking spaces on Fillmore Avenue and reduce the taxi stand on Kenmore Avenue. The motion carried unanimously.

- 9. ISSUE:** Consideration of an amendment to the City Code to improve taxicab regulation

DISCUSSION: Mr. Block presented this item to the Board.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: Mr. Summers did not support the provision to allow private background checks because he indicated they are not as thorough as the current background checks, he also had concerns about the proposal for uninsured motorist insurance because he was unsure what the cost would be to the drivers. Mr. Curcio, and Mr. Flachs supported the requirement for uninsured motorist insurance.

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Lewis made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kane to approve the proposed amendment to the City Code and ask staff to evaluate the adequacy of private background checks and the cost of uninsured motorist insurance prior to the Council hearing. The motion carried unanimously.

10. STAFF UPDATES:

Mr. Garbacz updated the Seminary speed limit.
Mr. Kane provided a Transportation Commission update.