

CITY OF MARLBOROUGH MEETING POSTING

Meeting Name: Traffic Commission

Date: Friday, February 25, 2022

Time: 10:00 AM

Location: City Hall, 3rd Floor – Memorial Hall

Agenda Items to be addressed:

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
CITY OF MARLBOROUGH

2022 FEB 22 A 7:45

- 1) **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**
 - a) Review draft from 01-26-2022
- 2) **NEW BUSINESS**
 - a) Illegal parking concerns at several locations
 - b) Traffic/Safety issues on Ash Street
 - c) Request for 15-minute parking at Sugar Heaven
- 3) **OLD BUSINESS**
 - a) Issues with the turn movement at intersection of Boston Post Road West & Ames Street
 - b) Resident concerns at 315 Cook Lane
 - c) Time Limit Parking at 240 Main Street

THE LISTING OF TOPICS THAT THE CHAIR REASONABLY ANTICIPATES WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING IS NOT INTENDED AS A GUARANTEE OF THE TOPICS THAT WILL HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED. NOT ALL TOPICS LISTED MAY IN FACT BE DISCUSSED, AND OTHER TOPICS NOT LISTED MAY ALSO BE BROUGHT UP FOR DISCUSSION TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW.



**CITY OF MARLBOROUGH
OFFICE OF TRAFFIC COMMISSION
140 MAIN STREET
MARLBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS 01752**

DRAFT

Traffic Commission Minutes

The Regular Meeting of the Traffic Commission was held on Wednesday, January 26, 2022 at 10:00 am. The meeting was also recorded and is available to view online at the City of Marlborough website (www.marlborough-ma.gov). Members present: Chairman - Police Chief David Giorgi, Commissioner of Public Works Sean Divoll and City Clerk Steve Kerrigan. Also present: City Engineer Tom DiPersio, Ashley Miller also from the Engineering Department, Sgt. Zac Attaway and Officer Any Larose from the MPD Traffic Services Unit, City Council President Mike Ossing and City Councilor Katie Robey

Minutes taken by Karen Lambert, MPD Records Clerk.

Chief Giorgi started recording the meeting at 10:00 a.m. and began by welcoming everyone and making introductions.

1- Minutes

The minutes of the Traffic Commission meeting of Wednesday, December 26, 2021:

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED:

TO APPROVE. All in Favor - Accept and Place on File.

2 - New Business

2) **Resident concerns at 315 Cook Lane**

Sgt. Attaway received an email from Lori Priest regarding multiple accidents that have occurred in front of her home at 315 Cook Lane. The most recent was on January 7th, the same day as her follow up email to Sgt. Attaway. A car once again hit her stonewall and knocked down her mailbox. This is a very bad corner. She is requesting that the City install some sort of barrier in front of her home or some signage indicating the curve ahead.

Sgt. Attaway and Officer Larose reviewed the accident history here. They found 5 reported accidents in the last 10 years. Officer Larose brought up a photo of the area. There is currently a stone wall in front of 315 Cook Lane. Ms. Priest is looking for something in addition to the wall. He said, maybe a guardrail or at least a sign indicating "blind curve ahead". Chief Giorgi asked if the City owned the wall. Tom DiPersio said the right of way may be at the wall, but he will check on this. Officer Larose had the accident narratives and said that there usually was damage to the wall. He noted that a few of the reported accidents were due to ice and one was a roll over, but it was also an OUI. There have been others that weren't reported. Steve Kerrigan said that maybe the advance warning signs were a good idea.

Commissioner Divoll asked if the stone wall has been compromised over the years. He is thinking it could be on its last legs. Officer Larose said there is no mortar and that it is really just flagstone. The wall has prevented cars from hitting the home. Commissioner Divoll said that it seems like a guardrail might be warranted and that the City should do something for safety reasons. If it weren't for the wall, the crashes would have come into her yard. Tom DiPersio said that the accidents here are a frequent enough occurrence to warrant at least looking into it further.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to ENGINEERING for review and to Sgt. Attaway to advise the homeowner of the discussion.

2b) Time Limit Parking at 240 Main Street

Chief Giorgi advised that this issue began with an email from Officer Wicks on 1/20/22. He has received multiple complaints from a resident of 240 Main Street regarding violations of the 2-hour parking limit directly in front of the building. The resident said that the 2-hour parking limit signs were removed from the light pole adjacent to the 4 parking spots. Officer Wicks said that the signs were actually knocked down during snow removal several years ago and never reinstalled. The resident says that people park in these spots all day and this ties up spaces for other people who then resort to blocking the crosswalks and illegal parking for pick ups and drop offs.

Ashly Miller investigated this issue and sent an email to Chief Giorgi with her findings. According to Google street view the signs seem to have come down sometime between 2017 and 2019. She also checked the regulations to see what was currently in effect. She found a regulation for a 30-minute time limit parking between Windsor Street and Newton Street on the south side of Main Street. The signs that were previously posted were for 2-hour parking, however, under the same article there is no regulation for 2-hour parking. Another section of the regulations shows 2-hour parking on both sides from East Main Street to West Main Street and includes the 30-minute parking for 4 spaces in front of 240 Main Street.

She is asking if there is a need for 30-minute parking in front of 240 Main Street or should it be changed to 2-hour parking to be consistent with the rest of Main Street? If the Traffic Commission keeps the 30-minute time limit, should it be extended for all the spaces between Newton Street and Windsor Street (10 spaces)? The regulations need to be clarified as there appears to be an overlap and confusion.

Tom DiPersio said that his first reaction was to put the signs up but now that Ashley has found these discrepancies it should all be clarified. It was discussed that the 30-minute time frame was probably established to allow residents to drop off groceries etc., however, this is difficult to enforce. There needs to be a balance. Tom DiPersio asked if it would make sense to get some input from the CDA. Chief Giorgi said that in his opinion, some type of shorter time limit parking for a few spots is necessary. Keeping 4 spots at 30 minutes may be enough, as the other six are more for the downtown businesses where the 2 hour time limit is applicable. Maybe the signs were never put back up because of the conflicting regulations. It needs to be clarified that downtown parking is 2 hours, all day, from 6:00 am to 1:00 am, with the 4 spaces in front of 240 Main Street limited to 30-minute parking. So it looks like the Downtown street parking regulation should stay the way it is currently written under "Ch. 586-28 – Municipal Parking Areas – Designation; regulations for use" and the specific reference to Main Street under "Ch. 586-56 – Time Limit Parking" should be deleted.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REFER to Chief Giorgi to amend the regulation for the next meeting.

3-Old Business

3a) Issues with the turn movement at intersection of Boston Post Road West & Ames Street

Update: No update yet from MA DOT. Commissioner Divoll will follow up with them.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to TABLE for the next meeting.

3b) Request for 2 handicapped parking spaces on Laviolette Street.

Update: Completed application received. DPW can now install proper signage.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REMOVE from the Agenda.

3c) Prospect Street – Request for Handicapped Parking Space & One Way Arrow

Update: Completed application received. DPW can now install proper signage. Chief Giorgi said that the resident's car was parked there when he went by recently. However, he asked Officer Larose to speak to the neighbor as they sometimes park a truck here. This will not be an issue once the proper signage is installed.

MOTION was made, seconded, duly VOTED to REMOVE from the Agenda.

That there being no further business of the Traffic Commission held on this date, the meeting adjourned at 10:21 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Lambert
Records Clerk
Marlborough Police Department

List of documents and other exhibits used at the meeting:

-City of Marlborough Meeting Posting for Traffic Commission Meeting on Wednesday, January 26, 2022, including meeting agenda.

-Draft of Traffic Commission Minutes from Wednesday, December 29, 2021.

-Email from Lori Priest to Sgt. Attaway, dated 1/7/22, Re: Accidents on Cook Lane (including photo).

-Email from Ashley Miller to Chief Giorgi, dated 2/21/22, Re: 240 Main Street, 2-hour signage.

-Copy of Chapter 586, Article V – Municipal Parking Areas, Section 28 – Designation; regulations for use.

-Copy of Chapter 586, Article VII – Schedules, Section 56, Schedule XII: Time Limit Parking.

-Copy of completed application for on-street parking at 68 Prospect Street.

-Copy of completed application for on-street parking at Laviolette Street close to side door of Academy Knoll Apts.

Additional Handouts

-Copies of narrative from previous accidents at 315 Cook Lane.

Karen Lambert

From: David Giorgi
Sent: Tuesday, February 8, 2022 8:50 PM
To: Karen Lambert
Subject: Fwd: Parking on Central and Mechanic
Attachments: IMG_20220131_194307236.JPG

Hi Karen,

Can you please add this to the agenda for the month of February?

Thank you,
David

Chief David A. Giorgi
Marlborough Police Department
355 Bolton Street
Marlborough, MA 01752
Office: (508)485-1212 ext. 36974
Fax: (508)624-6938
FBI NA #234

From: Mark Oram
Sent: Tuesday, February 8, 2022 8:40:03 PM
To: David Giorgi
Cc: City Council John Irish
Subject: Parking on Central and Mechanic

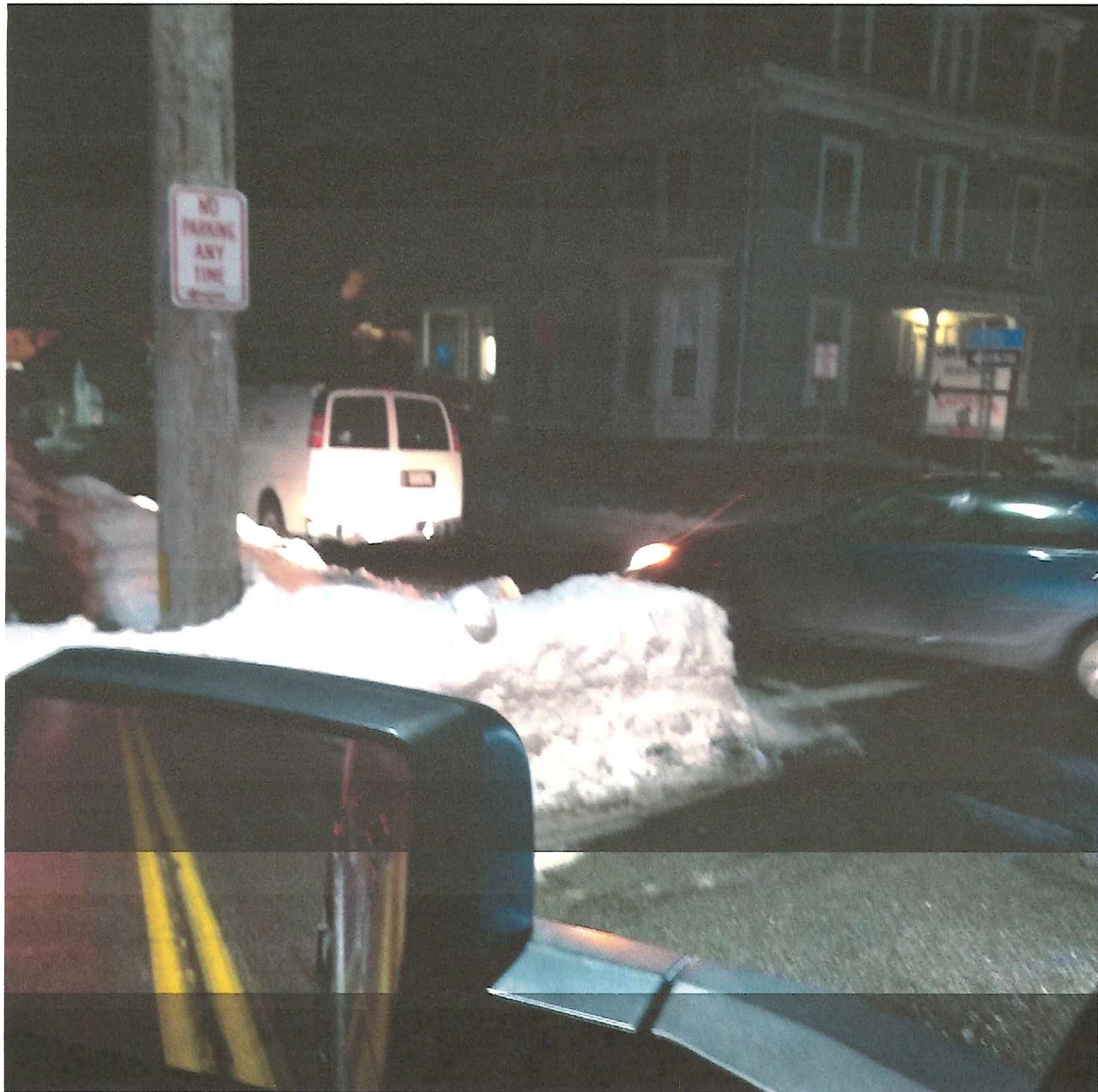
Hello Chief Giorgi, David

Please see the attached recent photograph of parking at the corner of Central and Mechanic Streets.

Please note that I am requesting this and other recent concerns on illegal parking at street corners be reviewed by the Traffic Commission.

Thanks, Councilor Oram, Mark

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Karen Lambert

From: Mark Oram
Sent: Thursday, February 17, 2022 7:22 PM
To: Karen Boule
Cc: David Giorgi
Subject: Additional pictures for Traffic Commission
Attachments: IMG_9742.jpg; IMG_9743.jpg

Hello Karen

Thanks for sending out this notice on the Traffic Commission and to the Chief on placing illegal parking concerns on the agenda and his present actions to proactively enforce the illegal parking at corners including the intersection at Mechanic and Central.

Please note that there are issues on Grant Street across from the church parking lot entrance/exit and I have attached pictures taken at this location on February 14, 2022.

Also, there were illegally parked cars on West Main Street to the corner of Broad Street this Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at approximately 6:30 PM. You also have brought this illegal parking to my attention recently and I was able to witness this parking concern.

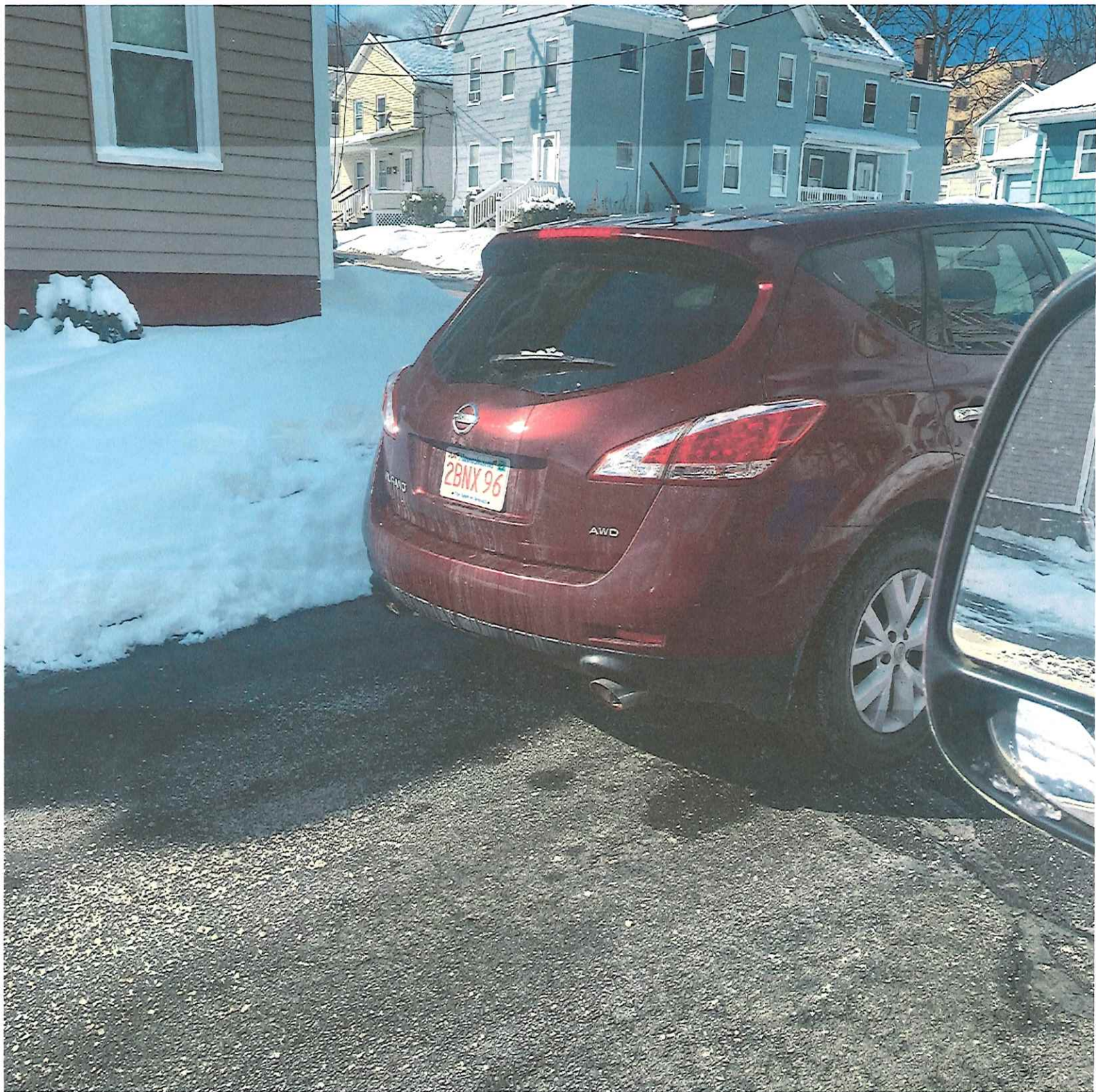
I will plan to attend the Traffic Commission meeting.

Please forward this email and pictures to the Ward Councilors who represent these three noted intersections.

Sincerely, Mark

Mark Oram
City Councilor at Large
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Karen Lambert

From: City Council
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 3:16 PM
To: David Giorgi; Thomas DiPersio; Sean Divoll; Mayor
Cc: John Irish; Mike Ossing; Samantha Perlman; Mark Oram; Kathleen Robey
Subject: TO ALL: From City Council Office: RE: Ward 5 Query - Plans for a safe Ash Street?

From: City Council
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 3:10 PM
To: Mathew Wisniewski
Cc: John Irish Karen Boule
Subject: From City Council Office: RE: Ward 5 Query - Plans for a safe Ash Street?

Mr. Wisniewski:

Thank you for your email regarding Ash Street.

I can assure you that Councilor Irish and all members of the City Council are concerned about traffic issues impacting neighborhoods across the city.

Traffic and parking is an ever growing concern—a never ending battle.

Streets and traffic issues are under the jurisdiction of the city's Traffic Commission.

I will forward your message to the Police Chief, the chair of the commission, for placement on a future agenda. It is not required, but you may attend the meeting in person to address your concerns.

I will reach out to the DPW to see if any repairs are in the works for Ash Street and, if not, will ask if the damage expressed in your email can be addressed.

As far as major repairs, the Mayor works annually with his managers and councilors to determine which streets, sidewalks and other capital projects are most dire.

I will provide your message to all concerned as they conduct these reviews. I have copied Councilor Irish for his information. Feel free to communicate directly with him.

Thank you again.

Karen

Karen A. Boule, Secretary
 Marlborough City Council
 City Hall, 2nd Floor
 Marlborough, MA 01752
 508-460-3711
citycouncil@marlborough-ma.gov

From: Mathew Wisniewski
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 1:06 PM
To: City Council
Subject: Ward 5 Query - Plans for a safe Ash Street?

I'm hoping to get an understanding of The Council and specifically Councilor Irish's plans to promote a safer community for residents who live on or off the roads of Ash Street. It is very apparent to any traveler of Ash Street that the road is unfit from a safety, and driveability perspective. Untreated multiyear road damage, a narrow/windy roadway, coupled with a constant flow of traffic given the importance of Ash Street as a through road for residents and out of town commuters has led to growing safety concerns for families and children of Ash Street. And during the Summer, the roadway becomes a hot spot for unsafe speed. This is even more of a concern considering the impending influx of new residents given the new Town Houses at the top of Ash Street.

How has the Council tackled this growing issue of safety and reliability of Ash Street?

Speaking for myself, I'd like to see what Councilor Irish has done to push for more investment in this very important through road.

I welcome your response and input. Thanks in advance.

Mat Wisniewski
Cusella Drive

Karen Lambert

From: Sugar Heaven
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2022 4:46 PM
To: David Giorgi
Subject: Sugar Heaven Parking

Hi David

This is Fernanda from Sugar Heaven. We spoke a few days ago about the parking here and you told me to shoot you an email.

I've had the bakery open for about two years and I've had many complaints about there not being anywhere to park, and the few parking spaces that are around seem to always be occupied.

I'm just writing this email to ask for at least 2 parking spaces beside the store, I would like it for 15 minute use for take out orders. At this point I've lost a lot of money due to the lack of spaces here.

Thank you so much!!

Karen Lambert

From: Shattuck, Lori (DOT)
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 12:12 PM
To: Ashley Miller
Cc: Thomas DiPersio; Sean Divoll; David Giorgi; Frawley, Joseph R. (DOT)
Subject: RE: Ames Street / Route 20 "No Right on Red"

Good afternoon, Ashley. I apologize for not getting back to you sooner. We would like to get an idea of how the intersection would operate with the proposed changes so now that traffic volumes seem to be representative of the "new normal", we will collect peak period traffic counts and perform analysis to determine the impact of eliminating a right turn lane on Ames Street.

Once we have performed the analysis, I think it would be helpful to set up a meeting to discuss our findings. I realize this has been a concern of the City's for a while so I will get the counts scheduled asap (taking into consideration the weather and school vacation).

Thank you,

Lori

From: Ashley Miller
Sent: Wednesday, February 9, 2022 1:05 PM
To: Shattuck, Lori (DOT)
Cc: Thomas DiPersio ; Sean Divoll ; David Giorgi
 ; Frawley, Joseph R. (DOT)
Subject: RE: Ames Street / Route 20 "No Right on Red"

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon Lori,

I would like to follow up on the e-mail from Commissioner Divoll regarding the elimination of the "No Right on Red" restriction on Ames Street at Route 20 and the concept plans eliminating a lane to see if you have had a chance to review them. Please let me know if you would like to schedule a meeting to discuss this.

Thank you,

Ashley Miller
 Assistant Civil Engineer
 Department of Public Works
 Engineering Division
 135 Neil Street
 Marlborough, MA 01752
 P: 508.624.6910

From: Shattuck, Lori (DOT)
Sent: Thursday, December 16, 2021 11:09 AM
To: Sean Divoll
Cc: Thomas DiPersio ; Frawley, Joseph R. (DOT) ; David Giorgi ; Ashley Miller
Subject: RE: Ames Street / Route 20 "No Right on Red"

Thank you, Sean. Once we've had a chance to review the information provided, I think a meeting to discuss would be helpful. I'll reach out if I have any questions or require additional information.

Thank you,

Lori

From: Sean Divoll <
Sent: Wednesday, December 15, 2021 3:26 PM
To: Shattuck, Lori (DOT) ; Frawley, Joseph R. (DOT)
Cc: Thomas DiPersio ; David Giorgi ; Ashley Miller
Subject: Ames Street / Route 20 "No Right on Red"

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Lori and Joe,

I hope all is well. I want to come back to our request to eliminate the "No Right on Red" restriction on Ames Street at Boston Post Road West. There is a voluminous library of emails on this subject and I would rather not add to the library and come to a decision soon. If allowed a right on red, two right turn lanes are not needed. I have included two concepts that eliminates a right turn lane. Option 1 is to eliminate the right most turn lane and Option 2 is to eliminate the second right turn lane. We prefer Option 2 because we think it is the option that will provide the best compliance. Option 1 drivers may want to cheat into the hatched out area to make a right turn. Some signal indications would be need to be changed.

I appreciate your cooperation in moving this forward. I welcome the opportunity to meet and discuss the options either here or at your office.

Please let me know if I or someone from my team can be of assistance.

Take care,

Sean M. Divoll, P.E.
 Commissioner
 Department of Public Works
 135 Neil Street
 Marlborough, MA 01752
 Office: 508-624-6910

From: David Giorgi
Sent: Thursday, March 25, 2021 11:29 AM
To: Shattuck, Lori (DOT)
Cc: Timothy Collins ; Sean Divoll ; Thomas DiPersio
 ; Lorion, Barry J. (DOT) ; Frawley, Joseph R. (DOT)
 ; Sullivan, Ann E. (DOT)
Subject: RE: City of Marlborough Traffic Commission request - Route 20 at Ames Street

Good Morning Lori,

Our most recent request to remove the "No Right on Red" turning movement on Ames Street at Boston Post Road West is due to a continued excessive queue of traffic in the right most lane on Ames Street for an exclusive right turn onto Boston Post Road West(E/B).

In the past, Asst. City Engineer Tim Collins had communicated with Joseph Frawley, District 3 Traffic Operations Engineer, about this issue and I have attached Mr. Frawley's response to Mr. Collin's inquiry. Mr. Frawley had expressed a willingness to allow for a "Right Turn on Red" in the right most lane of traffic. A majority of the traffic on Ames Street planning to make a right turn onto Boston Post Road E/B are using that right most right lane (see attached photo) – despite the two right lane designation signage. Having to process the right turn movement through a "green phase" adds to the timing frequency for the entire signalized intersection.

The attached photo appears to have been taken in the early afternoon. The heaviest traffic flow on Ames Street would be in the late afternoon when the commercial/industrial traffic is leaving work, as this is one of the routes that will get you to Interstate 495.

Please let us know if you require and any additional information or if we may be of any assistance.

Thank you,
 David Giorgi

From: Shattuck, Lori (DOT)
Sent: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 8:56 AM
To: David Giorgi
Cc: Timothy Collins ; Sean Divoll ; Thomas DiPersio
 ; Lorion, Barry J. (DOT) ; Frawley, Joseph R. (DOT)
 ; Sullivan, Ann E. (DOT)
Subject: City of Marlborough Traffic Commission request - Route 20 at Ames Street

Good morning, Chief Giorgi. The District received your request to review the No Turn on Red restriction at the intersection of Route 20 and Ames Street. Given that the Ames Street approach provides two right turn lanes, I have concerns with allowing the right turn on red. Is there a particular time of day that the Ames Street approach experiences the back-up? I'd like to have the intersection observed to see if there are any signal timing changes that could/should be implemented to optimize operations.

Thank you,

Lori Shattuck
 MassDOT Highway Division

District 3 Traffic Engineer
499 Plantation Parkway
Worcester, MA 01605



CITY OF MARLBOROUGH TRAFFIC COMMISSION

A regulation to amend the Rules and Regulations of the Traffic Commission of the City of Marlborough Chapter 586, as amended, thereof entitled VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC, Article VII, Schedule XII "Time Limit Parking".

BE IT ENACTED BY THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF MARLBOROUGH AS FOLLOWS:

Chapter 586 Section 56 Schedule XII of the Rules and Regulations of the Traffic Commission is hereby amended by DELETING to said schedule the following:

No person shall park a vehicle or allow the same to remain parked upon any of the streets or parts of streets described below, between the hours specified, for longer than the time indicated below:

<u>Name of Street</u>	<u>Side</u>	<u>Time Limit; Hours/Days</u>	<u>Location</u>
Main Street	South	30 mins; 8:00am-6:00pm, except Sundays and holidays	Beginning at a point 50 feet west of the intersection of Newton St. thence running 105 linear feet to a point in front of 240 Main Street
Main Street	South	30 mins; 9:30am- 8:00pm, except Sundays and legal holidays	Between Windsor Street and Newton Street