

Traffic Commission Minutes  
December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**When:** Thursday December 12, 2024 at 5:30pm

Agenda published 12/5/24

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87326993595> (Please click this link to attend the virtual meeting).

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Webinar ID: 873 2699 3595

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=13T1GoUtrKE>

**Meeting Ground Rules:**

1. Listen to the other side
2. Focus on issues, not personalities
3. Avoid questioning motives
4. Be polite

**Attendance:** Chair Jill Lathan, Councilor Naima Sait, Lena Webb, Lt. William Rymill, Assistant Chief Sean Tierney

**Staff:** Jackie Stagnari, Suzanne Rinfret, Adrienne Pomeroy, Viola Augustin, Adam Polinski, Anna Rebelo, Jacob Murray

**Public:** Jeff Phelps (Lumentation Photo Lab), Lemon Thai Restaurant, Peg Morgan

Lt. Rymill began the meeting standing in for Chair Lathan, who was running late. He called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Lt. Rymill asked for an attendance roll call to confirm a quorum.

Lt. Rymill – present

Assistant Chief Tierney – present

Councilor Sait – present

Lena Webb – present

Chair Lathan – present (arrived 5:45pm)

**Item #1** – Acceptance of the Minutes from the November 14, 2024 Traffic Commission meeting.

**Motion to approve made by Assistant Chief Tierney, seconded by Councilor Sait. A roll call vote was taken; Lt. Rymill-yes, Councilor Sait-yes, Lena Webb-yes, Assistant Chief Tierney-yes. The motion carried 4-0-0.**

**Item #2** – Request for an accessible parking space at 120 Walnut St.

Adrienne Pomeroy, ADA Coordinator, stated she reviewed the application and supports approval.

**Motion to approve made by Assistant Chief Tierney, seconded by Lena Webb. A roll call vote was taken; Lt. Rymill-yes, Councilor Sait-yes, Lena Webb-yes, Assistant Chief Tierney-yes. The motion carried 4-0-0.**

**Item #3** – Request for a loading zone at 211-213 Highland Ave, for approximately 70 ft. between the bus stop and the fire hydrant. The loading zone hours will be 8:00am-2:30am, and will revert to resident permit parking from 2:30am-8:00am.

Suzanne Rinfret, Director of Parking, shared [this presentation](#) outlining the need for a loading zone at this location. Jeff Phelps from Lumentation Photo Lab (219 Highland Ave) stated support for this item, sharing this is a continuous issue. Businesses can't get delivery trucks in that don't impede traffic and it becomes disruptive not only for delivery drivers but also for neighbors. Staff from Lemon Thai restaurant (215 Highland Ave) also expressed support for the loading zone, stating they have a lot of pickup and delivery orders which causes a lot of illegal parking in the bus stops and driveways. Peg Morgan, local resident, stated this corner is problematic every night and this loading zone will help support these small businesses be successful. Councilor Sait thanked Peg and the businesses and also shared support for this item as the current situation is creating unsafe parking conditions.

**Motion to approve made by Councilor Sait, seconded by Lt. Rymill. A roll call vote was taken; Lt. Rymill-yes, Councilor Sait-yes, Lena Webb-yes, Assistant Chief Tierney-yes. The motion carried 4-0-0.**

**Item #4** – Tufts Street Reconstruction Project Curb Regulation Changes

- a) Regarding the 40 ft of curb on the east side of Tufts Street nearest 19/23 Tufts Street, request to convert the existing no parking any time regulation to a loading zone from 8am to 8pm and permit parking only at all other times.
- b) Regarding the 40 ft of curb on the east side of Tufts Street nearest 45/47 Tufts Street, request to convert the existing no parking any time regulation to a loading zone from 8am to 8pm and permit parking only at all other times.

Viola Augustin, Planner-Mobility, shared this item is a follow up to the Tufts St project that was presented two months ago. This final request is to [add two parking areas](#) back to Tufts St.

Lt. Rymill inquired about the construction timeline for this project. Viola stated the project is going out to bid shortly, and the construction will hopefully start in 2025 and finish in 2026.

Chair Lathan joined the meeting at 5:45pm and Lt. Rymill relinquished the Chair position to her.

**Motion to approve made by Lena Webb, seconded by Lt. Rymill. A roll call vote was taken; Chair Lathan-yes, Councilor Sait-yes, Lena Webb-yes, Lt. Rymill-yes, Assistant Chief Tierney-yes. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

**Item #5 – Hawkins Street Contraflow Bicycling Request**

- Request to allow two-way travel for people riding bicycles on Hawkins Street between Washington Street and Somerville Avenue.

Adam Polinski, Planner-Mobility, stated that when the Western Washington reconstruction project items were brought to Traffic Commission, the formalization of the contraflow biking on Hawkins St. was missed. [This contraflow connection](#) offers an alternative for anyone that does not feel comfortable using the bus/bike shared lane on Washington St.

**Motion to approve made by Lena Webb, seconded by Councilor Sait. A roll call vote was taken; Chair Lathan-yes, Councilor Sait-yes, Lena Webb-yes, Lt. Rymill-yes, Assistant Chief Tierney-yes. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

**Motion to adjourn made at 5:51pm.**

**Motion to adjourn made by Assistant Chief Tierney, seconded by Lt. Rymill. A roll call vote was taken; Chair Lathan-yes, Councilor Sait-yes, Lena Webb-yes, Lt. Rymill-yes, Assistant Chief Tierney-yes. The motion carried 5-0-0.**