

Traffic Commission Minutes
February 13th, 2025

When: Thursday February 13th, 2025 at 5:30pm

Agenda published 2/6/25

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting of the Traffic Commission may be conducted via remote participation. We will post an audio recording, audiovideo recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of these proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting on the City of Somerville website and local cable access government channels.

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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, Assistant Chief Sean Tierney, Councilor Naima Sait, Lena Webb

Staff: Jackie Stagnari, Suzanne Rinfret, Anna Rebelo, Adrienne Pomeroy, Justin Schreiber

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:39pm.

The Chair asked for an attendance roll call to confirm a quorum.

Chair Lathan – present
Assistant Chief Tierney – present
Councilor Sait – present
Lena Webb – present (arrived 5:50pm)

Item #1 – Acceptance of the Minutes from the January 9, 2025 Traffic Commission meeting.

Motion to accept made by Assistant Chief Tierney, seconded by Councilor Sait. A roll call vote was taken; Chair Lathan-yes, Councilor Sait-yes, Assistant Chief Tierney-yes. The motion carried 3-0-0.

Item #2 – Request for accessible parking spaces at the following locations:

- a) 7A Carter Terrace
- b) 80 Partridge Ave
- c) 82 Partridge Ave (for resident of 80 Partridge Ave)

Adrienne Pomeroy, ADA Coordinator, explained that for item 2b and item 2c, there are two accessible parking spaces being requested for two residents that both live at 80 Partridge Ave. Having two spaces would be the most accessible option for them, they both have disability placards from the state and separate vehicles. Their driveway is narrow and it's not very accessible for them to access their vehicles. Adrienne recommended that both spaces be approved, but had prepped the applicants for the possibility that only one may be approved.

Chair Lathan inquired what happens when residents leave the city – do they notify us? Adrienne responded that residents are supposed to notify the city if they leave, and the parking space is converted back to what it was before (typically resident permit parking). If they do not notify us, either the Parking Department or Adrienne will be notified by neighbors that the space is no longer being used, and the Parking Department would research the space and determine if it was still being used or not.

Suzanne Rinfret, Director of Parking, noted that there is also an existing space at 78 Partridge Ave, for a resident at that address. Adrienne confirmed that space is still active and being used by the original applicant. She noted that residents are told when they apply for these spaces that they are not for their exclusive use, and anyone with a Somerville resident parking permit and proper disability placard can park in those spaces. Suzanne confirmed that this street is a one way street with parking on both sides.

Chair Lathan requested that item 2 a, b, and c be taken up separately. There were no objections.

Motion to accept item 2a made by Councilor Sait, seconded by Assistant Chief Tierney. A roll call vote was taken; Chair Lathan-yes, Councilor Sait-yes, Assistant Chief Tierney-yes. The motion carried 3-0-0.

Motion to accept item 2b made by Councilor Sait, seconded by Assistant Chief Tierney. A roll call vote was taken; Chair Lathan-yes, Councilor Sait-yes, Assistant Chief Tierney-yes. The motion carried 3-0-0.

Motion to accept item 2c made by Councilor Sait, seconded by Assistant Chief Tierney. A roll call vote was taken; Chair Lathan-no, Councilor Sait-yes, Assistant Chief Tierney-yes. The motion carried 2-1-0.

Item #3 – 74 Middlesex Ave Curb Regulation Changes

- a) Regarding the curb on the west side of Middlesex Avenue nearest 74 Middlesex Avenue, from approximately 65 feet south of McGrath Hwy to approximately 95 feet south of McGrath Hwy, request to convert the existing Metered Parking regulation to Accessible Parking.
- b) Regarding the curb on the west side of Middlesex Avenue nearest 74 Middlesex Avenue, from approximately 95 feet south of McGrath Hwy to approximately 140 feet south of McGrath Hwy, request to convert the Metered Parking regulation to a Loading Zone.
- c) Regarding the curb on the west side of Middlesex Avenue nearest 74 Middlesex Avenue, from approximately 140 feet south of McGrath Hwy to approximately 20 feet north of Foley St, request to convert the Metered Parking regulation to No Parking Any Time.
- d) Regarding the curb on the north side of McGrath Hwy opposite the McGrath Hwy frontage of 74 Middlesex Ave, from Middlesex Ave to Marginal Road, request to regulate the curb as Two-Hour Parking Except by Permit.
- e) Regarding the curb on the south side of McGrath Hwy nearest the McGrath Hwy frontage of 74 Middlesex Ave, from approximately 70 feet west of Middlesex Ave to approximately 115 feet west of Middlesex Ave, request to convert the existing Two-Hour Parking Except by Permit regulation to a Loading Zone.
- f) Regarding the curb on the south side of McGrath Hwy nearest the McGrath Hwy frontage of 74 Middlesex Ave, from approximately 115 feet west of Middlesex Ave to approximately 205 feet west of Middlesex Ave, request to convert the existing Two-Hour Parking Except by Permit regulation to Metered Parking.

Justin Schreiber, Senior Planner-Mobility, [presented this item](#). These parking regulations surround a newly constructed building in Assembly Row. He explained the different sections of curb and their associated proposed regulations.

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

Motion to adjourn made at 5:55pm.

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