

Traffic Commission Minutes  
September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**When:** Thursday September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 5:30pm

Agenda published September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 7:00pm, updated September 15<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025, 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.

Click this link for access to the full recording of this meeting:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nQgNUkwiQ2I>

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, Asst. Chief Sean Tierney, Sgt Michael McCarey

Staff: Jackie Stagnari, Suzanne Rinfret, Adrienne Pomeroy, Jacob Murray, Justin Schreiber, Viola Augustin, Adam Polinski, Jessica Bellow

Other: Councilor Matt McLaughlin, Colleen Mountzouros, Toriah Mimms, Paul Robichaud,

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

The Chair requested a roll call to confirm a quorum.

Chair Lathan – present  
Councilor Sait – present  
Lena Webb – present  
Asst. Chief Tierney – present  
Sgt McCarey – present

**Item #1** – Acceptance of the Minutes from the June 12, 2025 Traffic Commission meeting.

**Motion to accept made by Asst. Chief Tierney, seconded by Councilor Sait. A roll call vote was taken; Chair Lathan-yes, Councilor Sait-yes, Lena Webb-yes, Asst. Chief Tierney-yes, Sgt McCarey-yes. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

The Chair stated there was a request to take item #5 out of order and asked if there were any objections. None were raised.

**Item #5 – Cross St at Broadway Bus Stops**

- a) Regarding the curb on the west side of Cross St between Broadway and Randolph Pl, request to convert approximately 20 feet of Two-Hour Parking (Except by Permit) to No Parking Anytime for a Bus Stop.
- b) Regarding the curb on the east side of Cross St between Broadway and Brook St, request to convert approximately 50 feet of Two-Hour Parking (Except by Permit) to No Parking Anytime for a Bus Stop.

Justin Schreiber, Senior Transportation Planner-Mobility, presented [these slides](#). The Chair stated she would allow Councilor McLaughlin and members of the public the opportunity to speak on this item. Councilor McLaughlin, Colleen Mountzorous, Toriah Mimms, and Paul Robichaud [commented on the changes](#).

Lena Webb asked about the MBTA's timeline for these changes. Justin stated the deadline for the fall service schedule was August 24<sup>th</sup>, as well as returning it in time for school to start in the end of August. Chair Lathan inquired about the timeline of the MBTA notifying the City about these planned bus service changes, and Justin outlined the process. Councilor Sait asked about the number of parking spaces removed. Justin stated staff refer to it as number of feet, approximately 50 ft on the northbound side of Cross St, and 20 ft on the southbound side of Cross St. Councilor Sait expressed that this bus route is necessary for a lot of families, and inquired about the City's typical outreach process. Justin noted that this level of change would not typically receive a community process or public meeting, but there should have been more outreach to direct abutters. Councilor Sait asked about the consequences of rejecting the item. Suzanne Rinfret, Director-Parking, stated the regulation would not be enforceable.

Asst. Chief Tierney noted an error in the request language, the reference to Randolph Pl should be Cross St Pl. Sgt. McCarey asked about the requirements of the MBTA to bring service back to Cross St, given that the bus used to run this route. Justin stated the MBTA buses had a higher rate of incidents on Cross St and they were concerned with the navigability of this intersection in particular.

Councilor Sait inquired about the availability of business permits, which Suzanne explained were available on residential streets typically 1-2 blocks away.

**Motion to amend item 5(a) to change Randolph Pl to Cross St Pl made by Sgt McCarey, seconded by Lena Webb. A roll call vote was taken; Chair Lathan-yes, Councilor Sait-yes, Lena Webb-yes, Asst. Chief Tierney-yes, Sgt McCarey-yes. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

Chair Lathan expressed concern about the timeline of the changes and lack of Councilor and business outreach. Councilor Sait shared concerns about this not passing and creating issues for families that rely on this bus to get to school.

**Motion to accept made by Lena Webb, seconded by Councilor Sait. A roll call vote was taken; Chair Lathan-no, Councilor Sait-yes, Lena Webb-yes, Asst. Chief Tierney-yes, Sgt McCarey-no. The motion carried 3-2-0.**

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

- a) 48 Glen St
- b) 123 Hillsdale Rd (to be located on Chetwynd Rd adjacent to 123 Hillsdale Rd)

- c) 82 Fellsway W
- d) 74 Washington St

Adrienne Pomeroy, ADA Coordinator, stated she reviewed these applications and recommended all be approved.

**Motion to accept made by Lena Webb, seconded by Councilor Sait. A roll call vote was taken; Chair Lathan-yes, Councilor Sait-yes, Lena Webb-yes, Asst. Chief Tierney-yes, Sgt McCarey-yes. The motion carried 5-0-0.**

Councilor Sait left the meeting at 6:26pm.

**Item #3 – Somerville Ave at Union Square Bus Stop Relocation**

- a) Regarding the curb on the south side of Somerville Ave between Hawkins St and Warren Ave, request to convert approximately 45 feet of Metered Parking to No Parking Anytime for a Bus Stop.

Justin Schreiber [presented these slides](#).

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

**Item #4 – Maffa Way/Mystic Ave Bridge Superstructure Replacement Project**

- a) Regarding the curb on the south side of Broadway between Mt. Vernon St and Mt. Pleasant St, request to convert approximately 115 feet of Metered Parking to No Parking Anytime.
- b) Regarding the curb on the south side of Broadway, east of Mt. Pleasant St, request to convert approximately 40 feet of Metered Parking and 20 feet of 15-Minute Parking to No Parking Anytime.

Justin Schreiber [presented these slides](#).

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

**Item #6 – Medford Two-Way Protected Bike Lane**

- a) Regarding the curb on the north side of Medford Street, east of the bus stop at School Street (in front of 355 and 357 Medford Street), request to convert approximately 60 feet of Two-Hour Parking (Except by Permit) to No Parking Anytime.
- b) Regarding the curb on the north side of Medford Street, east of the bus stop at School Street (in front of 353 Medford Street), request to convert approximately 17 feet of Two-Hour Parking (Except by Permit) to No Parking Anytime.

Viola Augustin, Senior Planner-Mobility, [presented these slides](#).

**Motion to accept made by Lena Webb, seconded by Sgt McCarey. A roll call vote was taken; Chair Lathan-no, Lena Webb-yes, Asst. Chief Tierney-yes, Sgt McCarey-no. The motion did not carry 2-2-0.**

**Item #7 – Middlesex Ave Quick-Build Protected Bike Lanes**

- a) Regarding the curb on the west side of Middlesex Ave between Fellsway and Cummings St, request to convert 310 ft of unregulated angled parking and 45 ft of unregulated parallel parking to 50 ft of parallel accessible parking and 280 ft of parallel Courthouse Parking Only from 8am to 5pm.
- b) Regarding the curb on the north side of Cummings St west of Middlesex Ave, request to convert 160 ft of unregulated parking to 2 hour parking from 8am to 8pm.
- c) Regarding the curb on the east side of Middlesex Ave between Cummings St and Fellsway, request to convert 415 ft of unregulated parking to metered parking.
- d) Regarding the curb on the west side of Middlesex Ave between Cummings St and McGrath Hwy, request to convert 20 ft of unregulated parking and 40 ft of no parking any time to 60 ft of metered parking.
- e) Regarding the curb on the north side of McGrath Hwy between Middlesex Ave and Marginal Rd, request to convert 175 ft of 2 hour parking (except by permit) to 2 hour parking from 8am to 8pm.
- f) Regarding the curb on the west side of Middlesex Ave between Foley St and Mystic Ave, request to convert 80 ft of metered parking to City of Somerville Fire Department vehicle parking only.
- g) Regarding the curb on the east side of Middlesex Ave between Foley St and Cumming St, request to convert 165 ft of unregulated parking to 105 ft of metered parking and 60 ft of no parking any time. Existing metered parking to remain.

Adam Polinski, Senior Planner-Mobility, [presented these slides](#).

There was a discussion about how participatory budget funding worked with project approvals such as this one and the previous item. Sgt McCarey asked a clarifying question about the number of parking spaces being removed, which Adam confirmed. Chair Lathan reiterated the importance of working with the DPW Highway Division to ensure the new bike lanes were able to be swept and cleared of snow.

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

**Motion to adjourn made at 7:05pm.**

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