

Traffic Commission Minutes
April 9th, 2026

When: Thursday April 9th, 2026 at 5:00pm

Agenda published April 3rd, 2026 at 10:00am

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://youtu.be/qm6hd97yatY>

Meeting Ground Rules:

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

Attendance: Chair Eric Weisman, Councilor Naima Sait, Lena Webb, Assistant Chief Sean Tierney, Lt. Michael Holland

Staff: Jackie Stagnari, Anna Rebelo, Brad Rawson, Adam Polinski, Lilly Worth, Greg Hanafin

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

The Chair requested a roll call vote to establish a quorum.

Chair Weisman – present

Councilor Sait – present

Lena Webb – present

Asst. Chief Tierney – present

Lt. Holland – present

Item #1 – Approval of the Minutes from the March 12th, 2026 Traffic Commission Meeting.

The Chair requested a roll call vote on this item. Councilor Sait-yes, Lena Webb-yes, Assistant Chief Tierney-yes, Lt. Holland-yes, Chair Weisman-yes. The item was approved 5-0.

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

- a) 75 Hinckley Street
- b) 14 Mansfield Street

c) 68 Derby Street

Jackie Stagnari, Staff Liaison, shared that the ADA Coordinator recently moved on to a new role and was not in attendance but recommended the approval of the items.

The Chair requested a roll call vote on this item. Councilor Sait-yes, Lena Webb-yes, Assistant Chief Tierney-yes, Lt. Holland-yes, Chair Weisman-yes. The item was approved 5-0.

Item #3 – Requesting changes to the curb on the east side of Illinois Ave, from approximately 40 feet northeast of Broadway to approximately 80 feet northeast of Broadway – request to convert 40 feet of resident permit parking to a loading zone.

Lilly Worth, Transportation Planner-Mobility, shared this request comes from a daycare at this location, to make it easier for pick up and drop off activities without interfering with bus operations on Broadway.

Chair Weisman inquired about the hours of the loading zone, which Lilly stated would be 24/7. Councilor Sait asked if this could be used by other businesses in the area, which Lilly confirmed it could be used by anyone with a passenger plate for 5 minute or a commercial plate for 20 minutes.

The Chair requested a roll call vote on this item. Councilor Sait-yes, Lena Webb-yes, Assistant Chief Tierney-yes, Lt. Holland-yes, Chair Weisman-yes. The item was approved 5-0.

Item #4 – Requesting changes to the curb on the south side of Foley St, from approximately 20 feet east of Assembly Row to approximately 80 feet east of Assembly Row – request to convert approximately 60 feet of metered parking to a loading zone.

Lilly Worth shared this request stems from an upcoming farmer’s market taking plan on Assembly Row. Because Assembly Row will be closed to vehicles, they need alternate loading zone space available for businesses in this area.

The Chair requested a roll call vote on this item. Councilor Sait-yes, Lena Webb-yes, Assistant Chief Tierney-yes, Lt. Holland-yes, Chair Weisman-yes. The item was approved 5-0.

Item #5 – Requesting changes to the curb regulations at Broadway at Wallace Street and Broadway at Simpson Avenue for a Quick-Build Safety Improvements Project as detailed within.

Greg Hanafin, Transportation Planner-Mobility, presented the Broadway at Wallace & Simpson Quick-Build Safety Improvements slides.

Lena Webb asked for clarification on the placement of flex posts, which Greg highlighted as the orange dashes on the plans. Chair Weisman inquired about the type of flex posts that would be

used, which Greg stated would be the standard white ones in the buffer zones and orange in the center of the road. Chair Weisman inquired about how the 85th percentile speeds observed here compared to other stretches of Broadway. Brad Rawson, Director-Mobility responded these are some of the highest recorded speeds that staff have collected data on in the past decade. Lena Webb asked if staff knew what percentage of vehicles were cut-through traffic. Brad Rawson responded they did not perform origin or destination studies for this proposal but in this case that data would not fundamentally change the safety recommendations offered. Greg noted that with the data they do have, it is likely both people commuting as well as traveling to Davis Square for different reasons throughout the day.

Councilor Sait inquired about traffic enforcement at this location. Lt. Holland stated that SPD does traffic enforcement on Broadway and if there is a particular issue, officers can be directed to that location. Chair Weisman inquired about the design of the flex posts at the Wallace St turn, if that design had been used in other locations, and if the flex posts there needed to be replaced more frequently. Brad noted that turning movements for larger vehicles are taken into account when planning flex post placement and can always be adjusted in the field or as needed.

The Chair requested a roll call vote on this item. Councilor Sait-yes, Lena Webb-yes, Assistant Chief Tierney-yes, Lt. Holland-yes, Chair Weisman-yes. The item was approved 5-0.

Item #6 – Requesting changes to the traffic and curb regulations on Elm Street, Somerville Avenue, Mossland Street, Beacon Street, Summer Street, Cutter Avenue, Russell Street, Windom Street, Hancock Street, Cherry Street, Sartwell Avenue, Holyoke Road, Craigie Street, and Roseland Street as part of the Elm-Beacon Connector Project as detailed within.

Brad Rawson noted that staff had given an informational presentation on this project last month and were now returning with a request for approval. Adam Polinski, Senior Planner-Mobility, presented the Elm-Beacon Connector Traffic Commission Final Presentation slides.

Councilor Sait inquired about the project implementation timeline. Adam stated if the item was approved at this meeting, the expected timeline is approximately July to November for implementation. Councilor Sait also inquired about the timeline for the raised crosswalk in front of the Kennedy School. Adam stated that it was likely to be completed next year, after this project is implemented, since it would be done through a separate contract and contractor. Commissioner Webb advocated for the addition of more raised crosswalks on Elm St in the future. Chair Weisman noted the Commission received a note in support of the project from a resident.

The Chair requested a roll call vote on this item. Councilor Sait-yes, Lena Webb-yes, Assistant Chief Tierney-yes, Lt. Holland-yes, Chair Weisman-yes. The item was approved 5-0.

A roll call vote to adjourn the meeting was taken at 6:21pm.

Councilor Sait-yes, Lena Webb-yes, Assistant Chief Tierney-yes, Lt. Holland-yes, Chair Weisman-yes.