

**CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
TRAFFIC AND PARKING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING
MONDAY, MAY 23, 2022, 7 P.M.
VIRTUAL MEETING**

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair James Lewis, Vice Chair Ann Tucker, Annie Ebbers, Jason Osborne, Lavonda Bonnard, and Casey Kane

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: T&ES – Hillary Orr, Deputy Director; Katye North, Division Chief; and Max Devilliers, Urban Planner II.

1. Announcement of deferrals and withdrawals: None.
2. Approval of the April 25, 2022, Traffic and Parking Board meeting minutes:

BOARD ACTION: Ms. Tucker made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kane to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2022, Traffic and Parking Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

3. **WRITTEN STAFF UPDATES:** The Board received written staff updates on Duke Street truck traffic, food truck parking program, the status of the King, Callahan, and Russell intersection, the RPP process for N. Early Street, the North Patrick Street safety improvements, and the pandemic curbside loading program.

4. **PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD:**

Hilary Wanke joined in person, with a request for a stop sign at the intersection of Dartmouth Road and Vassar Place.

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ebbers to docket this request for the June Traffic and Parking Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Francis McCarthy joined via Zoom, with concerns about parking impacts during and after the redevelopment of the Minnie Howard campus of Alexandria City High School and the completion of the new multifamily residential building in the area.

Ann Scully joined via Zoom, with concerns about parking availability around 300 South Lee Street and oppose the application for a driveway curb cut at 322 South Lee Street.

Kristine Metter joined via Zoom, with concerns about vehicular speeding on Taney Avenue, North Pegram Street, and Polk Avenue.

Jim Durham joined via Zoom, with concerns about vehicular speeding around schools, particularly on South Pickett Street, West Braddock Road, and North Beauregard Street.

Sean Palmer joined via Zoom, with concerns about the lengthy pedestrian signal cycles for crossing Eisenhower Avenue throughout the corridor near Mill Race Lane and unmet 311 requests related to the issue.

CONSENT ITEMS

BOARD ACTION: Ms. Tucker made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ebbers to remove item 5 from the consent calendar to allow for a public hearing given the number of comments received in opposition.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

5. **ISSUE:** Consideration of a request to extend the No Parking zone on the east side of Cambridge Road, south of Dartmouth Road and remove up to five (5) parking spaces.

DISCUSSION: Ms. North presented the item to the Board. Ms. Ebbers raised a concern about the absence of parked cars resulting in vehicular speeding along Cambridge Road. Roy Byrd responded that the roadway is still narrow enough that drivers will still feel the need to drive slowly, especially given the traffic volume on Cambridge Road and presence of speed bumps. Ms. Tucker asked if Bishop Ireton High School had been consulted about these changes and Roy Byrd responded that a letter was sent to the school but the residents did not head back. Ms. Ebbers asked City staff if they were opposed to eliminating all parking on the east side of Cambridge Road and Ms. Orr responded that staff are not opposed to removing all parking and simply wanted to address as many residents' concerns as possible. Ms. Tucker commented that the Duke Street Traffic Mitigation project and access from West Taylor Run Parkway to Telegraph Road should help to mitigate issues with cut-through traffic on Cambridge Road.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: Roy Byrd, Mark Weston, and Lisa Porter testified in opposition to City staff's recommendation, citing that the remaining two parking spaces in front of 255 Cambridge Road—a home with a garage and a driveway—still create a bottleneck for drivers which disrupts the quality of life for residents along Cambridge Road and other neighboring streets.

BOARD ACTION: Ms. Ebbers made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tucker to remove all parking on the east side of the 200 block of Cambridge Road. The motion carried unanimously.

6. **ISSUE: [DEFERRED FROM APRIL MEETING]** Consideration of a request to implement 2-hour parking restrictions for approximately 19 on-street parking spaces along the 400 block of South Pickett Street as well as Cameron Station Boulevard.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Devilliers presented the item to the Board. Mr. Kane raised concerns about recent developments not including signage or wayfinding to indicate the location of visitor bike parking if located in the garage. Ms. North responded that City staff need to revisit the City's bike parking standards for new developments to ensure this is addressed.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: There were no public speakers on this item.

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ebbers to approve the installation of signage restricting parking to 2 hours in the on-street parking spaces along the 400 block of South Pickett Street and Cameron Station Boulevard. The motion carried unanimously.

7. **ISSUE:** Consideration of Old Town Parking changes, including removal of the boundary for the Residential Pay-by-Phone Program and changes to parking rates fees in garages, meters, and Residential Pay-by-Phone areas.

DISCUSSION: Ms. North presented the item to the Board. Mr. Osborne raised concerns about—if implemented—drivers knowing where the lower parking rates are prior to arriving to Old Town so that parking demand shifts as intended. Ms. North responded that the only method at this time for drivers to know the differing rates would be by checking the ParkMobile app. However, City staff will work with Visit Alexandria and the Old Town Business Association and communicate via the City website and other outlets to notify drivers of the areas with lower rates. Mr. Kane raised concerns about the drivers using parking kiosks on a block with a different rate from the one the driver parked on and the rates not matching accurately. Ms. North responded that City staff will have to work with the kiosk vendor to ensure the rates can differ per block and that the kiosk will capture those differences accurately. Mr. Kane asked what other cities have done with regards to differing rates. Ms. North responded that she has been in contact with the District Department of Transportation which is managing dynamic pricing around the Convention Center and Chinatown and they communicate this through their payment app and on the meter. Mr. Kane raised concerns about the feasibility of parking enforcement and Ms. North responded that the Police Department have reported that it is easier for officers to enforce on blocks with Residential Pay by Phone because officers can tell immediately if a driver has paid to park or not. Ms. Bonnard noted problems with enforcement. Ms. Tucker stated perhaps the resident only parking discussions should be re-evaluated and a potential program be developed. Mr. Lewis noted the Board should emphasize the need for strong enforcement with the council and recommend the City look at developing a resident only parking program. Mr. Kane asked staff to consider an increasing fine structure for repeat offenders of RPP parking.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: Israel Negron, Gretchen Moss, David Heiden and Bridget Scanlan, spoke in support of the changes but feel more still needs to be done such as resident only parking. Gail Rothrock felt that the Residential Pay by Phone program had not helped and recommended the City do resident only parking. Stephen Milone of Old Town Civic Association, spoke against expanding the Program noting he did not think it had been successful, did not support splitting District 1 into small districts, and suggested

trying resident only parking for a few blocks. Michael Jamroz spoke in support of the changes and noted the program should not be tied to metered areas. Yvonne Callahan stated the City needed to re-examine resident only parking. Mike Hatcher noted the benefits of resident only parking but felt it would probably not be realistic and supported the Residential Pay by Phone Program.

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Tucker to approve the resolutions as stated and provide a memorandum to the City Council on four additional ideas for mediating parking-related woes in Old Town near the waterfront.

INFORMATION ITEMS

There were no staff updates.

Mr. Kane provided the Board with the following updates:

- There will be a public hearing for the Long Range Work Plan in June
- A Vision and Goals have been developed for the Duke Street in Motion project
- The Eisenhower West Work Group discussed the Landmark Mall demolition and the Vulcan development project.