

ACTION ITEMS AND MINUTES
PARKING and TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

8:00 A.M. – Thursday, October 1, 2015
City Hall – Eileen Dondero Foley Council Chambers

Action Items requiring an immediate ordinance during the next Council meeting: none

Temporary Action Items requiring an ordinance during the annual omnibus:

Chapter 7, Vehicles, Traffic and Parking, Article V

Chapter 7, Vehicles, Traffic and Parking, Article III, Section 7.336: One-Way Streets
addition of section of roadway in front of 8 Wilson Road and 3 Coolidge Drive

ACTIONS:

[1] Accepted and placed on file the minutes of the Parking and Traffic Safety Committee Meeting held September 3, 2015.

[2] Accepted and placed on file the Financial Report for August 2015.

[3 VI.A.]) Wilson Road and Coolidge Drive intersection recommendation - **VOTED** to approve the short-term and long-term recommendations with monies being included in the proposed FY2017 Highway Division operations budget.

[4 VI.B.]) Islington Street speed zoning update – **No action item.**

[5 VI.C.]) Chapter 7 Bicycle ordinance update – **VOTED** to approve the ordinance as amended and forward to City Council for approval.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Lown called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL:

Members Present:

Councilor, Brad Lown
Assistant City Manager, David Allen
Public Works Director, Peter Rice
Deputy Fire Chief, James Heinz
Police Captain, Frank Warchol
Member, Ted Gray
Member, Harold Whitehouse
Alternate Member, Mary Lou McElwain

Staff Advisors Present:

Parking Manager, Joey Giordano
Parking and Transportation Engineer, Eric Eby
Transportation Planner, Juliet Walker

Excused Absences:

Member, Ronald Cypher
Member, Shari Donnermeyer

III. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:

Ted Gray motioned to accept September 3, 2015, meeting minutes.
Mary Lou McElwain seconded.

Motion passed 8-0.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT:

Harold Whitehouse motioned to accept August 2015 Financial Report.
Ted Gray seconded.

Motion passed 8-0.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

None.

VI. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Wilson Road and Coolidge Drive intersection recommendation – Eric Eby discussed the short-term and long-term recommendations for the site. The short-term recommendation consists of changing the traffic flow on the section of roadway in front of 8 Wilson Road and 3 Coolidge Drive from two-way to one-way flow. To provide traffic control and guidance in front of 3 Coolidge Drive, YIELD signs would be posted facing the one-way traffic, back to back, with DO NOT ENTER signs facing northbound traffic on Coolidge Drive. ONE-WAY signs would also be mounted atop the sign posts.

The long-term recommendation consists of removing the roadway segment in front of 8 Wilson Road and 3 Coolidge Drive, and replacing it with loam and seed, and trees or vegetation, to eliminate traffic using this section of roadway altogether. The driveways from both houses would be extended to meet Wilson Road or Coolidge Drive at close to 90 degree angles. This change would effectively enlarge the existing green space in the middle of the Wilson Road and Coolidge Drive intersection. All traffic would travel through the T intersection of Wilson and Coolidge, thereby reducing the number of vehicle conflict points and vehicle speeds. The estimated cost to construct the long-term recommendation is approximately \$10,000.

Public Works Director Rice stated there are no monies in the existing budget, and the \$10,000 estimated cost would need to be added to the proposed FY2017 Highway Division operations budget.

Harold Whitehouse motioned to approve the short-term and long-term recommendations, with the \$10,000 being included in the proposed FY2017 Highway Division operations budget.

Mary Lou McElwain seconded.

Vote 8-0, to approve the short-term and long-term recommendations with monies being included in the proposed FY2017 Highway Division operations budget.

B. Islington Street speed zoning update – Eric Eby stated that traffic is currently being monitored and data is being collected. Once the process is complete, staff will report back to the Committee. **No action item.**

C. Chapter 7 Bicycle ordinance update – Eric Eby stated that the proposed staff changes have been made to the ordinance and were noted in red in the agenda packet. The changes are being recommended in order to bring the chapter in conformance with New Hampshire state law. The bicycle parking section needed to be updated, which was presented at a previous PTS meeting.

Mary Lou McElwain asked if mopeds were addressed in the ordinance changes. Joey Giordano, Parking Manager, confirmed that New Hampshire state law treats scooter / mopeds with motors under 50 cc. in size as bicycles. The license plate on the scooter is the designator that it is below 50 cc.

Public Works Director Rice stated that issues regarding parking concerns of mopeds and bicycles have been addressed by creating no parking areas using signage and painting. The PTS Committee voted (in the past) to address the concern by designating no parking areas. If

mopeds and/or bicycles are blocking sidewalk foot traffic then enforcement can act on the infraction.

The ordinance change also addresses bicycles riding on the sidewalk. Eric Eby stated that bicycles with wheels 16" or smaller can ride on the sidewalk. Also, a shared use path, that is at least 8 feet wide, would allow bicycles on the path.

Juliet Walker, Transportation Planner, confirmed that the intent of the changes is to bring the ordinance in compliance with state law.

Assistant City Manager Allen motioned to approve the ordinance as amended and forward it to City Council for approval. Police Captain Warchol seconded. **Vote 8-0, to approve the ordinance as amended and forward to City Council for approval.**

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Rick Becksted, 1395 Islington Street, discussed locations in the City where children need to ride on the sidewalk because of traffic and street widths. Mr. Becksted asked if the blinking driver feedback sign could be permanently placed on Islington Street. He believes it slows vehicle speed on Islington Street.

Lenore W. Bronson, 828 Woodbury Avenue, expressed concern over the number of accidents and near accidents occurring on Woodbury Avenue. She presented an account of an incident, and photographs of the accident, in front of St. Catherine of Siena Church at 845 Woodbury Avenue several weeks ago. Ms. Bronson also presented a police report dated April 30, 2012, regarding an incident in front of her home.

Ms. Bronson requested stop signs be installed as a way to slow traffic in the area. She is also concerned about the traffic that travels through the residential area to the shopping malls. She is requesting new signage be installed to direct traffic away from the residential area. She also noticed that the 25 mph speed limit is not being obeyed, and trucks are regularly traveling on the roadway: they are prohibited and signs have been posted.

Ms. Bronson also believes that no study was conducted regarding the stop signs placed on Hanover Street.

Howard Mangold, 1275 Maplewood Avenue, asked the Committee about the potential traffic circle or roundabout scheduled to be installed at Maplewood Avenue and Woodbury Avenue. He would prefer to have a stop sign, traffic light or T intersection. He also expressed concern over traffic when the Maplewood Avenue bridge is opened after construction. Mr. Mangold also suggested a name change for the residential area of Woodbury Avenue.

Sarah McLaughlin, 161 Thornton Street, discussed the intersection at Burkitt Street and Thornton Street. She is concerned about the line of vision issue due to on-street parking and signage at the corner. She is asking for an all-way stop sign. If an all-way stop sign cannot be installed, she suggested moving the existing signage to improve the sight line.

Kevin Drohan, 1240 Maplewood Avenue, asked about the potential traffic circle or roundabout to be installed at Maplewood Avenue and Woodbury Avenue. He opposes the idea and asked that alternatives be explored.

Fred Lewis, 1238 Maplewood Avenue, stated that he opposes the traffic circle at Maplewood Avenue and Woodbury Avenue due to the affect it will have on his property value. He would prefer other traffic calming measures be explored, and would appreciate an opportunity to express views and opinions when the matter is discussed further.

Andrea Amico, 820 Banfield Road, asked the Committee for an update on when the radar speed signs would be placed on Banfield Road in October.

VIII. INFORMATIONAL

A. Banfield Road update – Eric Eby stated proposals for design work will be opened at the end of October for Banfield Road. An engineering study and design plan will be prepared for the culverts. Traffic calming and safety measures will be explored as part of a master plan of the roadway. Public Works Director Rice clarified that the design work is focused on the culverts near Heritage Avenue and that the conceptual work will include the overall corridor from Ocean Road to Peverly Hill Road.

The traffic from Water Country is also being investigated. Eric Eby stated there is a meeting with New Hampshire Department of Transportation to discuss the issue. Police Captain Warchol stated that the sign will be set on Banfield in the next few weeks to collect data on traffic speeds.

B. Work Session date to discuss Councilor Thorsen's Parking Program memo – Public Works Director Rice stated that a joint work session between the Fee Committee and the PTS Committee will be held to review the best management practices and guiding principles related to parking. City Councilors will be informed of the work session and are welcome to attend. The Committee discussed a mutually agreeable time to hold the work session. They decided it would follow the November 5, 2015, PTS meeting.

C. Woodbury Avenue Traffic Study presentation – Eric Eby clarified that this section of Woodbury Avenue is between Rockingham Avenue and Dennett Street. A consultant has been hired to do a traffic study and provide short-term and long-term recommendations regarding safety on this section of Woodbury Avenue. At the next meeting, staff will be presenting the consultant's recommendations. A comprehensive study, including the number of accidents, will be provided.

Chairman Lown requested a report back on alternative methods to slow vehicle speeds on Woodbury Avenue and Maplewood Avenue.

Public Works Director Rice clarified that a formal warrant study was done on Hanover Street. It concluded the stop signs were warranted. He also stated that the Maplewood Avenue project is currently under design, and there will be a public process for citizens to comment on the designs proposed.

IX. ADJOURNMENT - At 9:03 a.m., voted to adjourn.
Respectfully submitted by:

Amy Chastain
Secretary to the Committee

Percentage of Fiscal Year Complete 16.67%

Totals Thru
August-15

FY 16

Parking Meter Fees
 Parking Meter Space Rentals
 Meter In Vehicle
 Parking Garage Revenue
 Garage Passes
 Parking Validation
 Pass Reinstatement
 Vaughan St Parking Facility

 Parking Violations
 Boot Removal Fee
 Summons Admin Fee

 Total FY 16 Parking

FY 16 to Date:		
TOTALS	BUDGETED	% of Budget
383,373	1,765,500	22%
28,769	50,000	58%
13,395	50,000	27%
470,482	1,850,000	25%
145,915	1,000,000	15%
2,225	10,000	22%
615	2,000	31%
3,750	15,000	25%
135,052	700,000	19%
4,950	12,000	41%
50	5,000	1%
1,188,576	5,459,500	22%

FY 16 BUDGETED

(3,047,195.00)	Transfer to Parking Fund
2,412,305.00	Funds Remaining in Gen Fund
5,459,500.00	Total Revenue