

# The Westfield Traffic Commission

September 15, 2021

The Westfield Traffic Commission meeting was held on Wednesday September 15, 2021 in room 315 at 59 Court Street, Westfield, MA.

**Roll Call:** Comm. Cressotti – Present – Acting Comm. Cain – Present - Comm. Mejias – Present – Comm. Clark – Present – Comm. Gadbois – Present

**Approval and Release of Minutes dated March 17, 2021 and June 30, 2021:** Commissioner Clark made a motion to approve and release the minutes dated March 17, 2021 and June 30, 2021. Commissioner Gadbois seconded this motion. All in favor

**OPEN PARTICIPATION** - None



## **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Union St and Court St sidewalks and multi-purpose use - Cressotti:** Commissioner Cressotti said that the City is in the process of enhancing the crosswalks on Court St. The city is also in the process of installing sidewalks on Union St and a crosswalk at Powdermill Village and Fowler Street Ext. There will be a bus stop enhancement done at this location as well.

**PVTA bus stops:** Commissioner Cressotti said the PVTA has updated the original list they submitted at the last meeting. They are looking to have the existing bus stop locations put into city ordinance. Commissioner Clark made a motion to have the current existing bus stops codified into a city ordinance. This includes the current bus stops at Court/Bates, Court/Cemetery, Court/Day, Court/High, Court/Mill, Court/Washington, Main/Cross, Main/Meadow, Main/Noble, N Elm/Harvard, North/Hampton Ponds (1), North/Hampton Ponds (2), Olver Transit Pavilion, Union/Lower Sandy Hill, Union/Springdale Ave, Western/Birth, Western/Highland, Western/Lathrop, Western/Westwood and Western/Woodward Center. Commissioner Gadbois seconded that motion. All in favor. Commissioner Cain made a motion to add the following new bus stops and have these bus stop locations codified into a city ordinance: Main/Taylor, Main/White, N Elm/Old Montgomery, N Elm/Columbia, Union/Woodmont and Union/Katherine. Commissioner Cain made a motion to amend the proposal presented by PVTA to add a stop at Meadow/William and Meadow/George. Commissioner Mejias seconded that motion. All in favor.

**Route 20 and East Mountain Rd intersection – Roy Dudley:** Commissioner Cressotti said he received a complaint from Mr. Dudley relative to the intersection at East Mountain Rd and Route 20. The Traffic Commission previously approved to have a “do not block” sign added to this underpass. There have since been violations. Mr. Dudley is looking for continued enhancements. Commissioner Cressotti said there has been talk of moving the stop light to prior to the underpass which would allow for only 1 car at a time in the underpass. This would however, eliminate the ability to take a right on red from East Mountain Rd to Route 20. Commissioner Clark asked if the Police Department could do more enforcement in this area. Commissioner Mejias said this is just an advisory and precautionary sign. It is not enforceable. Commissioner Cressotti said he recommends further study on this topic. Commissioner Cain made a motion to table this item. Commissioner Clark seconded that motion. All in favor.

**Notre Dame St speed study and sidewalk installation:** Commissioner Mejias said the Police Department did a speed study, as requested in the area that the residents had indicated they wanted it done in. The device was placed at 37 Notre Dame Street from August 18, 2021 to August 26, 2021. The study showed 23,388 vehicles that passed this location. The average speed was 31.1 MPH. The device showed approximately 21,000 of those

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vehicles were regular cars, SUV's or small trucks. Commissioner Mejias said the study did show the occasional speeder, as it would on any road, but the overall average speed was 31 MPH. Residents of Notre Dame and Mosely expressed that they still have concerns over speeders. They noted the speed limit is not posted on either Notre Dame or Mosely. They also expressed concern over vehicles failing to stop at the stop sign on the corner of Notre Dame and Mosely. They are urging the commission to review this further. They feel this is a major safety issue. They are requesting no truck signs, speed limit signs, speed bumps or raised cross walks and improvements to make the stop sign more visible. Commissioner Cressotti said the city is not in favor of adding speed bumps to any road as it can impend access for emergency vehicles. Commissioner Clark made a motion to add speed limit signs on each side of Mosley and Notre Dame approximately 1/3 of the way down on each side of both streets and to replace the current stop sign with an LED blinking light stop sign. Commissioner Gadbois seconded that motion. All in favor. Commissioner Cressotti said this item will stay on the agenda for the next meeting. The commission will look into the cost and possibility of adding a digital speed sign and will have an update at the next meeting. Commissioner Cressotti said he knows the residents held a meeting about adding sidewalks to this area. He had hoped to be present at this meeting, but was not. He asked what the outcome was. At the meeting, the residents were divided. Some wanted the sidewalks and others were opposed to it. They were afraid of liabilities and loss of land space. Commissioner Cressotti said he will not move forward on adding sidewalks at this time.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Truck traffic from Turnpike Industrial Rd to Lockhouse Rd – Request for Solar Stop Sign – Matt Lane –**

**Pioneer Valley Railroad:** Commissioner Cressotti said that this request was made by Matt Lane of Pioneer Valley Railroad. Commissioner Cain said he would like to look into this to see how many times the current sign has been hit. He doesn't want to put up a more costly sign and have it get hit. Commissioner Clark said he wants more clarification on why this is needed. Commissioner Cressotti said that Matt Lane did send out an email explaining his issues. In his email he states that trucks turning right from Turnpike Industrial Rd on to Lockhouse Rd are cutting the corner and damaging the guardrail that is protecting their equipment located at this corner. They are looking to have the guardrail repaired. He also states they are having issues with traffic not stopping at the RR crossing at Twiss St entering the transfer station. They would like a solar light-up stop sign at this location. Commissioner Cain said he will try and find out how many times the DPW has had to replace that sign. Commissioner Mejias said she will look into any issues that may have happened in this area as well. Commissioner Clark made a motion to table this item for the next meeting so that the commission can look further into it. Commissioner Mejias seconded that motion. All in favor.

**Request for stop sign on Country Club Dr east bound at Shaker Rd:** Commissioner Cain made a motion to add a crosswalk and a stop sign on Country Club Drive east bound at Shaker Road. Commissioner Gadbois seconded that motion. All in favor.

**Request for traffic light on corner of Orange St and Elm St:** Commissioner Cressotti said the commission has received this complaint a lot. He would like the commission to evaluate the traffic in this area and see if it warrants the need for a traffic light or any other possible solution. He requested this item be tabled and added to the agenda for the next meeting so that the commission can research it further. All in favor.

**Request for "One side of street parking" on Pearl Street:** Commissioner Gadbois made a motion to table this item for further evaluation. Commissioner Clark seconded that motion. All in favor.

**Request for "One side of street parking" on Linden Ave (near #8):** Commissioner Gadbois made a motion to table this item for further evaluation. Commissioner Clark seconded that motion. All in favor.

**Complaint of unnecessary truck traffic and tree line traffic on Root Rd and North Rd:** The residents of Root Road thanked the commission for their efforts of adding no parking signs and cement barricades along the

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road. It has helped, however they would like to see no parking signs on every telephone pole. They said vehicles are still parking along the road where it is not posted. The commission suggested when the residents see a violation to contact the police department for enforcement. They also want to know why there is no traffic light on Servistar Ind. Way. Commissioner Cressotti said this is being looked at already by the City. The last issue is truck traffic on Root Road and North Road. They would like to see North Road become a no thru truck way and at Root Rd coming from Servistar. Commissioner Cressotti said that the trucks have the right to use the road. The commission does not feel that this area qualifies for a no thru truck route. The police department will provide more enforcement for this area.


**Request to hold future traffic commission meetings via zoom:** Commissioner Mejias made a motion to hold all future traffic commission meetings via zoom. Commissioner Clark seconded that motion. All in favor.

Next Meeting – December 15, 2021

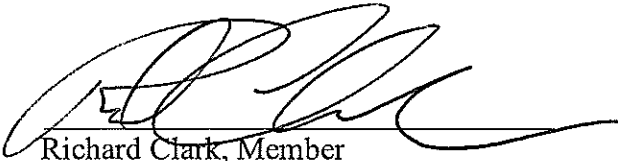
At 7:20 PM Commissioner Clark made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Cain seconded the motion. All in favor.



Mark Cressotti, Chairman



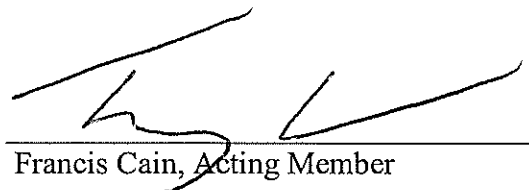
Juanita Mejias, Member



Richard Clark, Member



Joseph Gadbois, Member



Francis Cain, Acting Member

9/15/21  
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