

**City of Kalamazoo
TRAFFIC BOARD
Minutes
November 14, 2019**

Stockbridge Main Conference Room, 1st Floor
415 E. Stockbridge, Kalamazoo, MI 49001

Traffic Board

Members Present: Christina Anderson, City Planner, CP&D
Orrin Dorr, Public Works Manager
Matt Huber, Public Safety
Anthony Ladd, Assistant City Engineer and City Traffic Engineer

Members Excused: Jeff Chamberlain, Deputy City Manager
Jim Ritsema, City Manager

City Staff: Karen Rutherford, Recording Secretary

Guests: Sonya VanderVeen, Central City Parking
Curt Aardema, AVB

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Anthony Ladd called the meeting to order at 2:00p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Chairman Anthony Ladd conducted roll call and determined the aforementioned members were present, and quorum existed.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were no changes to the November 14, 2019 Agenda. Committee Member Christina Anderson supported by Committee Member Matt Huber, made a motion to approve the November 14, 2019 Agenda. With a voice vote, the motion was carried.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (September 12, 2019)

There were no changes to the September 12, 2019 Traffic Board Minutes. Committee Member Christina Anderson supported by Committee Member Matt Huber, made a motion to approve the September 12, 2019 Traffic Board Minutes. With a voice vote, the motion was carried.

5. NEW BUSINESS

400 S. Rose St. – Loading Zone Request - AVB

Chairman Anthony Ladd opened discussion for the loading zone request by AVB at 400 S. Rose St. A map of the area of 400 S. Rose St. was presented and it was displayed on the wall monitor.

Mr. Curt Aardema stated they have been under construction since August 2018. It includes a 135-unit apartment building with 9,000 square feet of commercial/retail space on W. Lovell St. They are wanting to provide public parking and provide a buffer between the road and the building for the commercial and residential space on the first floor. He stated he is asking for approval of three loading zone spaces, one on W. Lovell St., one on S. Rose St. and one on W. Cedar St. He noted Central City Parking is asking to have the loading zones moved to where there is a single meter spot rather than a double meter. A discussion followed.

Committee Member Matt Huber asked what the purpose of the loading zone is. Mr. Aardema responded the residents are asking for the loading zones for uber drivers, grocery deliveries/pick-ups, and for realtors to show the buildings.

Chairman Anthony Ladd noted there is a fire hydrant on W. Lovell St. and one on S. Rose St. and stated you cannot put a loading zone in front of the hydrants. Ms. Sonya VanderVeen stated they can be flexible with the placement of the loading zones.

Committee Member Christina Anderson asked if they could get away with two loading zones, one on W. Cedar St. and one on W. Lovell St. because she is not in favor of losing more parking than need be. Mr. Aardema stated if W. Lovell St. and W. Cedar St. were the only options than that's what they would need to do. A discussion followed.

Chairman Anthony Ladd asked where the parking meter were placed. Ms. Sonya VanderVeen stated the meters have been set on S. Rose St. Chairman Anthony Ladd stated he was in favor of allowing two loading zones. Chairman Anthony Ladd stated they could meet with them on site to check dimensions. Mr. Aardema agreed to meeting on site.

Chairman Anthony Ladd, supported by Committee Member Christina Anderson, made a motion to approve two loading zone spaces with location to be determined in conjunction with the City Traffic Engineer and choosing the spaces with the least amount of parking space loss. With a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

Vine Neighborhood Parking

Chairman Anthony Ladd opened discussion for the Vine Neighborhood Parking Plan. He stated the plan was organized by Community Planning and the Neighborhood Association.

Committee Member Christian Anderson explained the first meeting with the Neighborhood Association was held to discuss parking in the Vine Neighborhood. The biggest issues that were presented was the various parking changes from block to block, how confusing it is, and how difficult it is to follow. They felt the space was not being used efficiently because of all the varied regulations. There was also an interest to allow on street overnight parking where

geometry allowed. A Neighborhood Plan was approved as part of the Master Plan and was reviewed by all relevant departments and then approved by the City Commission.

A small focus group was put together to confirm some of the conversations that were had and the direction of the changes they were wanting to take. Public Services created a parking analysis for the neighborhood. Specific areas of concern were discussed with Director James Baker including the schools and bus drop off. Committee Member Christina Anderson presented a map with color coded parking changes to the committee. She stated she is requesting the Committee to approve the changes as illustrated on the map and set an appropriate period to change the signage.

Mr. Curt Aardema stated the map shows no parking on S. Rose St. which was the case before the project. Committee Member Christina Anderson stated he was correct, and it will be corrected.

Committee Member Orrin Dorr asked if there was a map of the existing parking to have something to compare the changes to and to provide clarification of what is being asked. Committee Chairman Anthony Ladd retrieved a copy of the existing parking analysis and shared it with the Committee.

Committee Member Christina Anderson noted the people who were in support were homeowners, renters, and landlords. They did not have 100% agreement, but much of the people were in favor.

Committee Member Christina Anderson stated there will be 2-3 meetings in 2020 to discuss street redesign.

A discussion followed regarding some of the parking changes. Committee Member Christina Anderson noted Director James Baker stated El Sol Academy and KAMSC area is to be determined later because he is working with them to create a better busing plan.

Committee Member Orrin Dorr asked if it was possible to put the street information on a spreadsheet, i.e. block to block, the existing information, the changes that are being proposed. Committee Member Christina Anderson asked him if he needs this information to decide. Committee Member Orrin Dorr stated he needs this for documentation and to make a decision. She responded they could create this information.

Chairman Anthony Ladd stated having the street widths and information documented for future use is essential. A discussion followed.

Committee Member Matt Huber made a motion to approve the parking as noted on the map with the correction of S. Rose St. as discussed.

Chairman Anthony Ladd, supported by Committee Member Christina Anderson, made a motion to approve the proposed parking for the Vine Neighborhood with the condition if a road width is out of compliance with the AASHTO Highway and Street Design Manual it can be re-evaluated. With a voice vote, the motion was carried.

Chairman Anthony Ladd stated as the work orders allow, the signage will be changed to reflect the new parking.

6. OLD BUSINESS

Committee Member Christina Anderson asked if Chairman Anthony Ladd had a chance to look at the parking on Chevy Chase in front of Kleinstuck Preserve. Chairman Anthony Ladd stated he was going to meet with Wastewater to see what their plans are. Committee Member Christina Anderson stated people are still parking in the north right-of-way area. She stated we were going to look to see if this area could be stripped for parking.

7. MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS OR CONCERNS

None.

8. NEXT MEETING

- Date: Thursday, December 12, 2019 at 2:00 P.M, 415 E. Stockbridge, Kalamazoo, Stockbridge Main Conference Room, 1st Floor
- Agenda items submitted to Karen Rutherford (rutherfordk@kalamazocity.org) by December 4, 2019.

9. ADJOURN

- The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Submitted by: 
Recording Secretary

Date: 3-12-20

Approved by: 
Staff Liaison

Date: 3/12/20