



## CITY OF GARDNER POLICE DEPARTMENT

200 Main Street  
Gardner, Massachusetts 01440  
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### TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING NOTICE

Date: Thursday, September 1, 2022  
Time: 11 AM  
Location: Gardner Police Headquarters

RECEIVED  
2022 AUG 30 AM 8:15  
CITY OF GARDNER POLICE

ANNOUNCEMENT-Any person may make a video or audio recording of an open session of a meeting, or may transmit the meeting through any medium, subject to reasonable requirements of the chair as to the number, placement and operation of equipment used so as not to interfere with the conduct of the meeting. Any person intending to make such recording shall notify the Chair forthwith. All documents referenced or used during the meeting must be submitted in duplicate to the Clerk of the Traffic Commission, pursuant to the Open Meeting and Public Records Law. All documents shall become part of the official record of the meeting.

### AGENDA

1. Approval of the Meeting Minutes of July 17, 2022.
2. Proposed Bike Lane on Park Street
3. Law Review Update on Prohibiting Heavy Trucks on Certain Streets.
4. Various Project Updates, Intersection Changes and Parking Impacts of the Recent Pleasant Street Closure and Reopening.
5. New Business
6. Adjournment

**NOTICE:** *The listings of agenda items are those reasonably anticipated by the Chairman which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.*

*Eric McAvene*

CHIEF OF POLICE  
CITY OF GARDNER POLICE DEPARTMENT  
200 MAIN STREET  
GARDNER, MA 01440



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200 Main Street • Gardner, Massachusetts 01440

**Emergency-Dial 911**  
Main line: (978) 632-5600  
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## TRAFFIC COMMISSION - MEETING MINUTES

Date: Tuesday, July 12, 2022

Time: 11am

Location: Lobby Conference Room

Provided by: Det. Lt. Eric McAvene – Acting Police Department Commission Representative

1. Members in attendance: Call to Order: 11:02am by Det. Lt. Eric McAvene

Det. Lt. Eric McAvene  
Dane Arnold – Director of DPW  
Rob Oliva – City Engineer  
Josh Cormier – Director of Civil Enforcement  
Trevor Beauregard – Community Development Authority  
Craig Cormier – Councilor at large  
Meg Johnson – GPD Administrative Coordinator

2. Bike Path Addition – Trevor; Community Planning

- Bike path addition down Park Street to eventually connect with existing path to Rt 140
- Option A – Go behind the Elks. Elks not in favor of this. Also need easement from the State
- Option B – In front of the Elks with intent to make Park St a One-Way.  
This would eliminate all the parking spots on both sides of Park St.
- PRO's – Slow traffic speed on Park
- CON's – Traffic would have to do a go-around and use Central / Cottage streets
- Wiffle bat barriers or other kind to keep pedestrians safe from the traffic would be needed
- Additional signage or permanent curb re-assignment may be needed to ensure traffic stays in the proper direction; Line painting or other to show direction will be needed
- In response to where people would be able to park for Elks, Monument Park and Vet Rink events; plans would include a park at the former Park St Substation (with National Grid's approval) – approximately 40 spots that would include improvement to the Elks lot in conjunction with abutting their current lot
- Questions from Dane; What about handicapped spot – that would fall under ordinance and would have to go before the Council to either remove or add that type of spot  
Also noted was that the Elks is a Polling Facility – where parking (especially a handicapped spot would be needed
- Option C – take property behind Elks by eminent domain
- Dane made a motion to TABLE discussion as more planning and investigation need to be done. Lt. McAvene 2<sup>nd</sup> motion; All in favor – Unanimous

3. Removal of old crosswalk across from former Prospect Street school / East Broadway & Chelsea St
  - Matchshot Firearms has asked if the crosswalk could be removed thus creating an additional parking spot near his place of business
  - Feasibility of this needs to be measured, investigated and more closely examined
  - Would the removal of the crosswalk allow enough footage for an additional parking spot?
  - Consideration needs to be made in regard to the intersection, the telephone pole and the hydrant located within that section of road
  - Josh commented in regard to recent parking citations in that area and the appeals to those citations
  - There is parking in the rear of those businesses for parking
  - Dane made motion to go out and measure the area before making a determination on this item; Lt. McAvene 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion
  - All In Favor - Unanimous
  
4. Concerns about new traffic pattern at Robillard & Parker Streets
  - Councilor Boudreau expressed concern that the visibility backing out of his driveway is impaired by the new traffic pattern stating he was almost hit
  - Should there be more caution signs? Speed limit signs? Driveway alert sign?
  - Lt. McAvene made a motion to go with Dane to look at the area to see what may need to be done to keep traffic pattern safer in that area, Dane 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion
  - All In Favor – Unanimous
  
5. Green Street / Heywood Hospital Parking
  - Trevor – Does the Hospital have permission from the city/Police Dept to park in the grass along Green Street from Hospital entrance to / past the Radio Station? The concern is exiting the newer parking lot under the solar panels, it is a visibility issue trying to see around the parked cars
  - General consensus was during the last construction phase they (Hospital) had permission from former DC Trifiro; but when asked by Trevor this time, they said they had not asked for it
  - Trevor will email Win Brown (CEO of Hospital) about situation and ask how long they plan on doing this; then inform the Commission
  
6. Old Business:
  - Weight Restrictions / Truck Exclusions
    - Union, High, Lawrence, Conant Streets in particular
    - Also resident complaints from Stephanie Drive regarding trucks
    - Dane: Believe there is a Truck Exclusion Ordinance; need State MA DOT approval
    - There was a request to look into this, sent over a year ago sent to City Solicitor Flick regarding this issue, as of today, May 12, 2022, City Solicitor Flick hasn't responded to request
    - Is there an existing valid code that would allow or disallow a Truck Exclusion Ordinance on City roads?
    - At this time, Solicitor Flick still has not responded
  
  - PAVING SCHEDULE
    - Dane – This year Connors & Parker Street, probably 3<sup>rd</sup> week of August
    - Robillard / Douglas / Lake to be done this year along with new ramp & sidewalks
    - A St. & Jean St will not be done until next year
    - New School will be getting handicap access ramps and sidewalks

Conclusion: At 11:50am Dane made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Lt. McAvene

All in favor - Unanimous

Next Traffic Committee Meeting Schedule: TBD