

**CITY OF NORWALK  
TRAFFIC AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING  
BY VIDEO CONFERENCE AND TELECONFERENCE  
May 18, 2020**

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Members of the public who wish to view the meeting, but are not participating, can view a live stream on the City of Norwalk YouTube channel. This stream is delayed by approximately 20 seconds. Please find the information using the link above. The meeting recording and minutes will be posted on the City of Norwalk website within seven (7) days after the meeting.

Members of the public who wish to provide public comment are encouraged to submit those via e-mail in advance of the meeting. For these comments to be read into the record, they should be submitted at least three hours in advance of the meeting start time. Please email Michael Yeosock at [myeosock@norwalkct.org](mailto:myeosock@norwalkct.org) to provide written comment prior to the meeting.

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Harry Rilling, Commissioner Kelly Straniti; Commissioner Fran Collier-Clemmons

STAFF: Chief Thomas Kulhawik; Deputy Chief Susan Zecca; Deputy Chief James Walsh; Michael Yeosock, Asst. Director, TMP; Fred Eshraghi TMP; Kathryn Hebert, Director, TMP

## CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 4:07PM. A quorum was present.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms. Tracey Barclay read a letter into the record as follows:

We the undersigned (26 members of my immediate neighborhood) asked for immediate assistance with directional signage for the beach driving from the direction of South Norwalk. Drivers looking for the beach as they drive Seaview Avenue past Overton's and Mr. Frosty's often don't know how to get to Calf Pasture Beach. This is often visitors from outside Norwalk. These drivers naturally use Cove Avenue since it is the closest to the water and as we know the beach season traffic makes Cove Avenue from top to bottom treacherous for pedestrian, bicyclists and cars alike. Furthermore, once they get to the stop sign at Fifth Street they often don't know which way to turn, and there used to be a sign pointing to the beach which was knocked down year's ago and we have tried with no avail to have it replaced. Many of the drivers proceed down Cove Avenue even through it is marked with dead end signs and make dangerous U-turns out and our security cameras can corroborate this fact. We are asking the following: directional signs (ideally the blue beach access signs with an arrow directing traffic down First Street to Gregory Blvd on the southwest corner of the intersection with a stop sign); A second sign at the light of Gregory Blvd. directing drivers to turn right for the beach; directional signs for the beach with left arrow at the intersection of Cove and Fifth Street for southbound Cove Ave. traffic; replace dead end signs with no outlet signs and the removal of no beach access signs at both Fifth and Cove ends. These signs were put up without our request and seem to indicate that we do have a beach without access to it. With the increase of vehicular traffic and the current beach parking limitations we expect a significant upturn in the number of out of town cars parked on our street and using the public right of ways as water access which we don't mind, but we do mind the racing cars. We hope that you can support efforts to minimize negative impact of heavy usage on the resident during the summer season.

Mayor Rilling said there is no need to have Traffic Authority approval for this request and it is a reasonable request. He requested that a copy of the letter be sent to Traffic, Mobility and Parking.

Chief Kulhawik said he received a letter but that the request has already been responded to with a complaint regarding a concern for speeding in East Norwalk especially around beach season. He said he has responded via-email as to how the complaint will be addressed.

### **1. APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC AUTHORITY MEETING OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2020**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER STRANITI MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 24, 2020 AS SUBMITTED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**2. APPROVE THE ROUTE FOR THE RCA SANTA RUN ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020.**

Mr. Yeosock provided a brief overview of the event and said that it is typically held each year.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE RCA SANTA RUN ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANANIMOUSLY.**

**3. APPROVE THE ROAD CLOSURE OF NORTH WATER STREET FROM WASHINGTON STREET TO MARSHALL STREET WITH LIMITED ACCESS TO LOCAL DRIVEWAYS FOR THE WALK BRIDGE PROJECT. ANTICIPATED CLOSURE IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN MID-JUNE AND CONTINUE FOR APPROXIMATELY 30 DAYS.**

Mr. Yeosock said the road closure is due to part of the Walk Bridge project. Mayor Rilling asked if all of the affected people been notified. Mr. Yeosock said the state will be doing that if they haven't already done so.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ROAD CLOSURE OF NORTH WATER STREET FROM WASHINGTON STREET TO MARSHALL STREET WITH LIMITED ACCESS TO LOCAL DRIVEWAYS FOR THE WALK BRIDGE PROJECT. ANTICIPATED CLOSURE IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN MID-JUNE AND CONTINUE FOR APPROXIMATELY 30 DAYS.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**4. APPROVE THE ROAD CLOSURE OF GOLDSTEIN PLACE BEHIND LIBERTY SQUARE FOR THE WALK BRIDGE PROJECT. ANTICIPATED CLOSURE IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN APRIL 2020 AND WILL LAST FOR APPROXIMATELY 5 YEARS.**

Mayor Rilling asked if the road is currently closed Mr. Yeosock said "yes".

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ROAD CLOSURE OF GOLDSTEIN PLACE BEHIND LIBERTY SQUARE FOR THE WALK BRIDGE PROJECT. ANTICIPATED CLOSURE IS EXPECTED TO BEGIN IN APRIL 2020 AND WILL LAST FOR APPROXIMATELY 5 YEARS.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**5. APPROVE THE ROAD CLOSURE OF OSBORNE AVENUE FROM ROWAN STREET TO FORT POINT STREET WITH LIMITED ACCESS TO LOCAL DRIVEWAYS FOR THE WALK BRIDGE PROJECT. ANTICIPATED CLOSURE WILL BEGIN IN JULY 2020 OR AUGUST 2020 AND LAST APPROXIMATELY 30 DAYS.**

Mr. Yeosock said this is so that the underground work for the sanitary and storm sewers can be done and he does not foresee any issues. He also said they will be notifying the residents and will also reach out to the East Norwalk Association to make them aware. Commissioner Straniti said that she is surprised that no one from the public is here to comment and asked if anyone has reached out to the departments with comments or questions. Mr. Yeosock said “yes” and they have been working with the various departments.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER STRANITI MOVED TO APPROVE THE ROAD CLOSURE OF OSBORNE AVENUE FROM ROWAN STREET TO FORT POINT STREET WITH LIMITED ACCESS TO LOCAL DRIVEWAYS FOR THE WALK BRIDGE PROJECT. ANTICIPATED CLOSURE WILL BEGIN IN JULY 2020 OR AUGUST 2020 AND LAST APPROXIMATELY 30 DAYS.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**6. APPROVE A ONE-WAY ALTERNATING ROAD PATTERN DURING ACTIVE CONSTRUCTION WORK ON STRAWBERRY HILL OVER I-95 AS PART OF STATE PROJECT 102-363 BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 9:00AM TO 2:00PM. FROM MID-APRIL 2020 TO DECEMBER 1, 2021**

Mayor Rilling asked if this is already in place. Mr. Yeosock said “yes”. Mayor Rilling asked if there is adequate traffic control and signage. Mr. Yeosock said “yes” with police officers. Mayor Rilling asked what happens after 2:00PM. Mr. Yeosock said the road is open to two way traffic.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE A ONE-WAY ALTERNATING ROAD PATTERN DURING ACTIVE CONSTRUCTION WORK ON STRAWBERRY HILL OVER I-95 AS PART OF STATE PROJECT 102-363 BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 9:00AM TO 2:00PM. FROM MID-APRIL 2020 TO DECEMBER 1, 2021.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**7. APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF NO PARKING SIGNS ALONG THE INTERIOR OF THE CUL-DE-SAC ON KELLEE COURT.**

Mr. Eshraghi provided a brief overview and said a letter has been sent to the residents and they have received no comments back.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER STRANITI MOVED TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF NO PARKING SIGNS ALONG THE INTERIOR OF THE CUL-DE-SAC ON KELLEE COURT.  
\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**8. APPROVE AND RECOMMEND TO OSTA A REDUCTION IN THE SPEED LIMIT ON LLOYD ROAD FROM 30 MPH TO 25 MPH.**

Mr. Eshraghi said this is a cut through between New Cannan Avenue and Ponus Avenue and they have received requests over the past few years to reduce the speed limit. He said that staff is recommending changing the speed limit from 30 MPH to 25 MPH. Commissioner Straniti asked if the state needs to approve all speed limit changes. Mr. Eshraghi said “yes”.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER STRANITI MOVED TO APPROVE AND RECOMMEND TO OSTA A REDUCTION IN THE SPEED LIMIT ON LLOYD ROAD FROM 30 MPH TO 25 MPH.  
\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**9. APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF NO PARKING SIGNS ON KNIGHT STREET NEAR 15 KNIGHT STREET.**

Mr. Yeosock said that new sidewalks and curbing were installed on Knight Street and people now do not park on the sidewalks so it now makes the street narrower. He said there is a driveway at 15 Knight Street and it is difficult for people to get in and out, so they would like to install no parking across the street so they can turn their vehicles which would be a big improvement operationally and for safety.

Mr. Yeosock read a letter into the record from Megan and Mike Lang as follows:

We are a swimming pool company on Knight Street and the street is too narrow with the sidewalks on both sides of the street. Cars park right up to our gate and we cannot pull in and out without hitting the curb and damaging our wheels. Our delivery trucks, garbage trucks and other trucks will not come in when other vehicles are parked at the gate. Not only are we not getting our garbage picked up some weeks, delivery trucks are parking in the middle of the road and blocking traffic to make the deliveries. It is costing us money when we don't get garbage pickups and our garbage trucks have to leave. There is

also a safety hazard because we cannot see up the road when cars are parked right up to the gate. We need at least 8 to 10 feet on each side of the gate to safely pull in and out and allow for trucks to come in and out with ease. We have been trying since September to go outside to tell people not to park but they are not listening. We really need this addressed because it is harming our business.

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF NO PARKING SIGNS ON KNIGHT STREET NEAR 15 KNIGHT STREET.**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

**1. STATE HAS RESPONDED TO THE CITY’S SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION REQUEST ON ROUTE 136 WINFIELD STREET AND HAS AGREED TO REDUCE THE 30 MPH. THEY WILL ALSO CONSIDER INSTALLING NARROWER TRAVEL LANES IN THE FUTURE BUT HAVE NOT AGREED TO HARDER SPEED REDUCTION TECHNIQUES LIKE SPEED BUMPS, ETC.**

Mr. Yeosock said staff had requested that the state look at the speed limits on Winfield Street and they have agreed to reduce it from 35MPH for 30MPH and will also consider installing narrower travel lanes in the future, but have not agreed to implement harder speed reduction techniques such as speed bumps.

**2. STATE IS PROPOSING SOME ROAD DIET IMPROVEMENTS ON ROUTE 1 EAST OF STRAWBERRY HILL AVENUE.**

Mr. Yeosock said the state is proposing some road diet improvements on Route 1 east of Strawberry Hill Avenue and would like to know if the city is interested in pursuing a draft concept plan to possibly present it to the city in the future for discussion. Commissioner Straniti said she is personally not interested in it because part of the area especially near the Taco Bell is narrow as it is. Mr. Yeosock where they are proposing is up the road a ways. Mayor Rilling suggested that it would not hurt to look at what they propose and traffic does travel fast in that area and if any road diet improvements can slow traffic down and make it safer we should at least take a look at it and we can comment later if we have any concerns. Mr. Yeosock said that staff will arrange for them to do the work.

**3. THE STATE HAS CHANGED THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL PHASING AT MAIN AVENUE AND GLOVER AVENUE AND CREEPING HEMLOCK.**

Mr. Yeosock said the state has changed the traffic signal phasing at Main Avenue and Glover Avenue and on Creeping Hemlock to improve the intersection when making a left turn.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO ADJOURN.  
\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:37PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd