

MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMISSION
May 9, 2011

The regular monthly meeting of the Traffic and Parking Commission was held at 3:00 p.m. on Monday, May 9, 2011, at the M H Howard Conference Center. The following were present unless noted otherwise:

Commission Members

Gene Ward, Chairperson
Feller Brown
Breonus Mitchell Sr.
Richard Morin
Richard Fletcher

Council Member Carl Burch
Lt. Keith Stephens, MNP
John Green
Brenda Sanderson

Staff Members

Chip Knauf, Traffic Engineer
Theresa Costonis, Legal Advisor
Korby Bowden, Engineering Tech II

Benny Word, Collier Engineering
Diane Marshall, Parking Administrator
Julie Herring, CNT

Council Members

Council Member- At-Large Charlie Tygard

Guests

Russell Payne, NDP

Tamara Dickson, NDP

Chairperson Gene Ward called the meeting of May 9, 2011 to order at 3:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Gene Ward mentioned Ordinance No. BL2006-1050 regarding the appeals process of the Traffic and Parking Commission.

"If you are not satisfied with a decision made by the Traffic & Parking Commission, you may appeal the decision by filing for a writ of certiorari with the Davidson County Chancery or Circuit Court. Your appeal must be filed within 60 days of the date of the entry of the Commission's decision. We advise that you seek your own independent legal advice to ensure that your appeal is filed in a timely manner and that all procedural requirements have been met."

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Morin moved for **approval** of the Agenda, seconded by Rev. Mitchell and **approved with no opposition**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Rev. Mitchell moved for approval of the April 11, 2011 Minutes and seconded by Mr. Green and **approved by voice vote with no opposition.**

CONSENT AGENDA

Chairperson Ward read a list of items proposed for **approval** on consent agenda.

1. Resolution 11-05: consent agenda

- Authorize traffic signal on 21st Ave at Children's Way
- Modify Roundhill Dr. at Crestfield Dr. from yield intersection to stop intersection
- Authorize all way stop on Richland Ave. at Craighead Ave.
- Authorize NPOS on
 - 26th Ave S on the east side from Fairfax Ave. to Belcourt Ave. 7:30-8:30a & 2:30- 3:30p Mon-Fri
 - Meade Ave on the south side from Baptist World Center Dr. to 530 Meade Ave
 - Pine St on the east side from 12th Ave S to dead end (NPAT)
- Authorize residential permit parking on both sides of 18th Ave S and Portland Ave
- Install a passenger loading zone on 2nd Ave N at Broadway

REPORTS

1. Parking – *on consent agenda*
2. Engineering – *on consent agenda*

Mr. Green noted that there was another light on Children's Way. He asked Mr. Knauf what was the justification for another traffic signal that close. Mr. Knauf stated that this request is a state project coming from TDOT. He stated that TDOT conducts road safety audit reports and this intersection had enough accidents to warrant a traffic signal. Mr. Knauf stated that he reviewed the report and notes that there is a stipulation for TDOT to time the signal. Mr. Knauf stated that this is a TDOT funded project and Public Works is okay with the installation of this signal.

Rev. Mitchell asked Mr. Knauf what the issue was on Meade Ave. Mr. Knauf stated that there is a church across the street from this location and that the church parking interferes` with the residents driveway. He stated that Public Works would like to install 200 ft. of "No Parking or Standing" signs on Meade Ave next to the driveway.

Rev. Mitchell made a request to withdraw item from the consent agenda and discuss.

Mr. Green made a motion to approve seconded by Mr. Brown and **approved by a 9-0 vote.**

Mr. Word arrives.

Commissioner Ward opened up a discussion for the request for the installation of NPOS signs on the south side of Meade Ave from Baptist World Center Dr. to 530 Meade Ave.

Mr. Knauf stated that this request came from Council Member Frank Harrison, District 2, stating that the roadway is very narrow and parking at this location is a potential Hazard. Mr. Knauf noted that the engineering report stated the road is 29 ft wide, which allows us to prohibit parking on one side of the road. Rev. Mitchell clarified that it was not going all the way from Meade Ave. to Haynes. Mr. Knauf confirmed that it was from Baptist World Center Dr. to 175 ft east of Meade Ave.

Ms. Theresa Cosstonis from Legal arrived.

Rev. Mitchell stated that his concern is that the school uses this road and questioned why the NOPS would not be installed all the way down to Haynes. Mr. Knauf suggested that this item be deferred so he can get more information and get a report together.

Rev. Mitchell made a motion to **defer for one month**, seconded by Mr. Morin and **approved by a 9-0 voice vote**

OLD BUSINESS

1. Ordinance NO. BL2010-825- Request to provide free parking for vehicle owners that purchase carbon offsets. Sponsored by Council Member Charlie Tygard, deferred from the March 14, 2011 meeting.

Council Member Charlie Tygard stated that this was deferred in order to provide an amendment to mirror the previously approved Hybrid Parking bill. Council Member Tygard stated that this bill will provide parking to any citizen registered in the carbon offset program. He noted that the two primary sources of the fund will go to wet land mitigation and trees as recommended by the Mayors "Green Ribbon Committee". Council Member Tygard stated that his concern was that the Hybrid Parking bill was for relatively high end vehicles and this Bill would allow for any citizen in Davidson county to participate as long as they contributed to the Carbon Offset fund.

Mr. Morin asked if this has to be a hybrid engine.

Council Member Tygard confirmed that it does not have to be a hybrid. He stated that there are guidelines for how much carbon any particular vehicle produces. He stated that this is how the fee will be determined.

Mr. Ward stated that this is going to be hard for our officers to enforce. He said that we need to really educate the public on time limits make sure they understand the violations.

Rev. Mitchell asked what was the reason for deferral. Mr. Knauf stated that the commission requested this so Council Member Tygard could amend this bill to mirror the Hybrid Vehicle bill so we could use the same administration and enforcement strategies.

Mrs. Sanderson asked since they do not mark vehicles how will they manage the time limit.

Mr. Knauf stated that it was going to be a tedious job, and that the parking administration will have to come up with a plan that coincides with the MPD enforcement.

Ms. Marshall explained the current enforcement process.

Commissioner Ward stated that this was going to be tough to enforce with the limited number of parking enforcement staff at Public Works.

Mr. Brown asked what the enforced time limit was. Commissioner Ward stated that is would be the time limit on that particular meter. Mr. Brown asked how the officers would be able to tell when a vehicle arrived. Ms. Marshall stated that this was an issue they would have to work out.

Council Member Burch stated that all the discussed issues were also the same problem with the Hybrid Bill. He stated if we can get past the enforcement issue he thinks the bill is very beneficial.

Mr. Mitchell stated that he agreed but he asked how metro would handle the enforcement. Council Member Tygard stated that it would be exactly how it would be right now. He stated that there would be a sunset provision to try out this program and come back in two years and review it.

Mr. Ward stated that we are not against the concept but we do need to figure out the enforcement issues.

Ms. Sanderson asked if there was a way to determine the legitimacy of the Carbon Fund where you purchase your Carbon Offset and bring your certificate back to ensure that is a legitimate entity. Mr. Knauf stated that is why we are letting the County Clerk's office administer and regulate the stickers. He stated that the county clerk would have to sign off on the Carbon Offset certificate.

Council member Burch made a motion for **approval**, seconded by Rev. Mitchell and **approved with no opposition**.

2. Request to extend the agreement with the Nashville Downtown Partnership to manage the designated spaces for the We Car Program for one year. Requested by Russell Payne, NDP, deferred from the April 11, 2011 meeting.

Mr. Russell Payne stated he was with Vice President of Operations with NDP, and introduced Tamara Dickson who is the Vice President of Economic Development. He noted that he was there to request a one year extension of the current agreement which allows us to use metered spaces for our car share program which was originally approved in November of 2009 and the program began in April of 2010.

Ms. Dickson stated that NDP believes that the car sharing program provides transportation alternatives, especially to downtown employees and residents. She stated that they have had a total of 90 members join this year, 71 retail members and 19 business members. Ms.

Dickson said the total usage of the vehicles is over 2000 hours in the last year which averages 44 hours per month per vehicle. She stated that the headquarters for the WE Car in St. Louis said the Nashville's WE Car program is right on track. She noted because of the May flood last year which happened one week after the launch of WE car, and some water main issues downtown, the program got off to a slow start and NDP looks forward to a strong second year.

Ms. Dickson stated that they would like to request the 4 on street parking locations, and requesting to relocate the WE Car parking space in Cummings Station to a metered space on 5th and church.

Mr. Russell Payne stated that the reason for moving was due to the lack of use at the current location.

Mr. Ward asked where the current WE Car Locations are now. Mr. Payne stated the locations are at: 211 Union Street in front of the Stahlman Building, the intersection of 11th and 12th Ave in The Gulch, 4th Ave and Commerce St, and Cummings Station.

Mr. Green asked what kind of growth projection is anticipated. Ms. Dickerson stated that this program is not intended to make money. She stated that it is hard to predict right now, but potentially will be able to add a 5th car in the 3rd year.

Ms. Sanderson stated that she was a member of the WE Car and that it was very beneficial.

Mr. Knauf stated that Public Works is okay with the relocation of the WE Car to 5th Ave and Church St.

Rev. Mitchell stated that he would recommend approval to relocate the WE Car to 5th Ave and extend the agreement for one more year.

Rev. Mitchell recommended **approval**, seconded by Council Member Burch and **approved with no opposition**.

New Business

Traffic and Parking Commission Resolution No. 11-05 authorized by Chapter 9 of the Charter of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee as amended

BE IT RESOLVED by the Traffic and Parking Commission of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee as follows:

SECTION I: That Chapter 12 of said Metropolitan Code, said Chapter being entitled 'Vehicles and Traffic' is amended as follows:

1. Schedule I, 'Traffic Control Signals'

ADD:

21st Ave S and Children's Way .

6. Schedule VI, 'Stop and Yield Intersections'

DELETE:

Yield on Roundhill Dr at Crestfield Dr

ADD:

Authorize stop on Hunley Dr. at Oakview Dr.

Authorize stop on Hunley Dr. at Vailview Dr.

All way stop on Richland at Craighead

Stop on Roundhill Dr. at Crestfield Dr.

7. Schedule VII, 'Parking Restrictions'

Section A: Stopping, Standing, or Parking Prohibited

ADD:

24th Ave S, west side from Acklen Ave to Belcourt Ave, NPOS/ No Parking to Corner 2 hr parking 8a-4p

26th Ave S, east side from Fairfax Ave to Belcourt, NPOS 7:30-8:30A & 2:30-3:30 Mon-Fri

Meade Ave, south side from Baptist World Center Dr. to 530 Meade Ave, NPOS

Pine St, east side from 12th Ave S to Dead-end, NPAT

Section C: Curb Parking

ADD:

18th Ave S, both sides from Portland to Compton, Residential Permit Parking

10. Schedule X, 'Loading Zones'

Section A: Commercial

ADD:

2nd Ave N, east side (Hard Rock Gift Shop), Passenger Loading Zone (Broadway)

SECTION II. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be published in a daily newspaper in Metropolitan Nashville/Davidson County, Tennessee and that a certified copy be filed with the Chief of Police of the Metropolitan Police Department, and that a certified copy be filed with the Metropolitan clerk, and that said Resolution take effect five (5) days thereafter.

APPROVED: May 9, 2011

EFFECTIVE: May 14, 2011

The above mentioned Resolution items were previously approved under the Consent Agenda.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Lt. Spencer moved to ***adjourn***, seconded by Rev. Mitchell and ***approved by voice vote with no opposition***. The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Approved on this the 13th day of June, 2011.

Director
Department of Public Works

Chairperson
Traffic and Parking Commission