



# Lowell City Council

## *Transportation SC Minutes*

Michael Q. Geary  
City Clerk

**Date:** February 19, 2020  
**Time:** 5:00 PM  
**Location:** City Council Chamber  
375 Merrimack Street, 2nd Floor, Lowell, MA

### **PRESENT:**

Present on Roll Call were Chairman Elliott, C. Conway. C. Samaras was absent. Also present City Councilor Drinkwater, Natasha Vance (Transportation Engineer), Christine Clancy (DPW Commissioner), John Gleason (Acting City Engineer), and Manager Donoghue.

### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

C. Elliott called the meeting to order in the Council Chamber.

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

C. Elliott said the meeting had been called to discuss the complete closure of the Pawtucket Street Bridge. C. Elliott noted that he had received numerous calls regarding traffic congestion. Manager Donoghue noted she has had daily conversations with MassDOT and that Ms. Clancy, DPW Commissioner is here to provide an update. Ms. Clancy outlined that there are 2 phases for bridge replacement. Ms. Clancy noted Phase 1 is being done now with anticipated completion of September 2020 and Phase 2 with an anticipated completion date of April 2022. Ms. Clancy explained that this project is complex because it requires moving utilities. C. Elliott noted that this project is a complete re-build of this bridge and there is construction in the water. Mr. Gleason provided information regarding the construction and the collapse of the bridge which prompted MassDOT emergency inspection which deemed that the bridge be closed to traffic. C. Conway questioned cause of the collapse and how often bridges are examined and inspected. Mr. Gleason noted bridges are inspected yearly. C. Conway questioned why this was not seen at the last inspection. Ms. Clancy explained that they are visual inspections. C. Conway noted he was very concerned with other bridges in the City. C. Elliott said this bridge has been neglected for years and would like to get the last bridge report inspection as that would be helpful to us. Ms. Vance, Transportation Engineer outlined the



detours as well as adjusting traffic signaling to help alleviate traffic congestion. Ms. Vance also noted that if anyone is experience issues with traffic congestion they can contact her through city website. C. Elliott thanked everyone for the update and would appreciate any updates regarding delays.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion** to adjourn by C. Conway, seconded by C. Elliott. So voted.

Meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM.

Angela Gitschier, Assistant City Clerk

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