



# Lowell City Council

## *Transportation SC Minutes*

Michael Q. Geary  
City Clerk

**Date:** June 2, 2020  
**Time:** 5:30 PM  
**Location:** Zoom/Remote Participation

### **PRESENT:**

Present on Roll Call were Chairman Elliott, C. Conway and C. Samaras. Also present C. Drinkwater, Natasha Vance (Transportation Engineer), Manager Donoghue, C. Chau and Supt. Richardson (LPD).

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

C. Elliott called the meeting to order.

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

C. Elliott noted the support of the delegation in support of changes on the Pawtucket Boulevard. Manager Donoghue commented on that support and noted the formal request to MassDOT for assessments and recommendations concerning that road and that findings could come before the subcommittee. C. Elliott noted that immediate measures must be taken before long term solutions. Ms. Vance noted that MassDOT must study the issue for long term solutions which would take an extended time. Supt. Richardson noted the number of tickets issued and the use of the STEP program regarding traffic monitoring. Supt. Richardson noted the Pawtucket Boulevard contained three dangerous intersections on the route and that the Mass State Police have assisted with monitoring that area. C. Samaras noted the need for immediate action and questioned how that could be done. Supt. Richardson noted the need for structural change and that his department would continue with presence on the street. C. Samaras questioned possible changes to the physical street. Ms. Vance noted that pedestrian safety is critical and that speed has increased during this pandemic and that possible narrowing of lanes could be a solution. C. Conway noted the need for continued police presence had speeds increase and questioned if prior studies had been done on that road. Ms. Vance noted prior studies at certain locations but not of the entire stretch and that there have been some discussions regarding narrowing of the street. C. Conway noted use of flashing speed signs to



slow down traffic. Ms. Vance said that posting was effective early on but loses some of that over time. C. Chau commented on identifying dangerous areas and what should be covered. Supt. Richardson noted a whole approach which include neighboring towns should be done. C. Chau noted neighborhood concerns with speeding throughout City. C. Elliott noted that larger discussion could be done with neighborhood groups. Ms. Vance provided summary regarding issue on the Pawtucket Boulevard noting speed issues; traffic amounts; MassDOT involvement; dangerous intersections; existing programs that could address needs; and short term solutions which include flashing speed indicators and flexible narrowing posts. C. Elliott questioned the use of cameras at dangerous intersections. Supt. Richardson note the advantages of them and the limits under the law. Manager Donoghue noted the court decisions regarding use of cameras. Ms. Vance noted that MassDOT would be installing cameras on that roadway and that they are valuable to track traffic impact.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:17 PM.

Michael Q. Geary, City Clerk

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