

**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING
HELD: THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2026 AT 10:00 A.M.
WALTHAM CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL**

The Chair made a motion, and the minutes of the December meeting were accepted.

1. PETITIONED ITEMS:

A. 20 Williams Street, Traffic Assessment Memorandum

TEPP submitted a Traffic Assessment Memorandum for the proposed construction of four residential units at 20 Williams Street. Attorney Joseph Connors appeared on behalf of the petitioner to construct four townhouse residential units. It will replace a construction yard that includes heavy equipment storage. In each of the peak hours (AM peak and PM peak), the development is projected to generate only 2 vehicle trips. This will not have any noticeable impact on traffic volumes and operations. **Voted to accept the Traffic Assessment Memorandum, as prepared by TEPP, for the proposed residential development at 20 Williams Street, allowing the proponent to proceed to City Council seeking a Special Permit.**

B. Proposed Crosswalk on Linden Street

Bentley Police Chief Bourgeois requested a new crosswalk on Linden Street between the Bentley University exit and the new residential halls on Waverley Oaks Road. Members expressed concern with the location of the crosswalk and wanted to hear from the petitioner. Mr. John Allen and Mr. Saul Blumenthal both stated the location for the crosswalk is critical. **The Commission voted to table this item, so Bentley Chief Bourgeois can attend next month's meeting to discuss this matter in person.**

C. Car Charger Upgrades (Tim Kelly)

The Wires Department requested approval to install upgraded electric vehicle (EV) chargers in the municipal parking lots, which will require revisions to the Traffic Rules & Regulations. Mr. Kelly proposed the installation of new electric vehicle charging station locations throughout the City's municipal lots and the replacement of existing electric vehicle charging stations as well. Several changes will need to be made including updates in Schedule 8 (Parking Fees), Schedule 9 (Parking Fines), and Schedule 26 (Electric Car Charging Stations). The Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin, suggested the current two-hour parking limit should be retained (8am to 6pm). The Traffic Engineer agrees with all electric charging upgrades and alterations, with the exception of the Carter Street Lot. Because this lot is primarily used by Boston commuters, who park in the lot all day, it wouldn't make sense to replace one of the highly demanded regular spaces, with an electric vehicle space that has a two-hour parking limit. Furthermore, since the new electric car chargers will require separate payment at the machines, all electric spaces should be revised to \$1/hr, with a 2 hour limit. The Commission did not vote on the fees, fines, or maximum time, but did vote on the locations.

The Commission voted to approve the following electric vehicle spaces, and to amend Schedule 26 (Electric Car Charging Stations) as shown below, with the specifics of EV parking limits/cost to be discussed at a future meeting:

Ash Street Lot –	2 spaces (242 & 243)
Central Square Deck Upper Level –	6 spaces (756-761)
Chestnut St. Lot –	4 spaces (018-021)
Church St Lot –	1 space (585)
Crescent St Lot –	4 spaces (256-259)
Embassy Parking Deck –	6 spaces (1215-1220)
Railroad Lot –	2 spaces (477 & 478)
Spruce St. Lot –	2 spaces (194 & 195)

Walnut St Lot – 4 spaces (172-175)

D. Shifter's 5K Road Race, Saturday April 4, 2026

Approval was requested for the road race on Saturday, April 4th. The Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin, echoed accepting the Police Department's recommendation for approval. **Voted to approve the race and forward a recommendation for a Permit to Issue.**

E. 962 Main St, Supplemental Traffic Analysis for Proposed Seasons Corner Market

The applicants for the modifications to the gas station at Banks Square submitted a supplemental traffic analysis, which addressed the concerns that were brought up at a previous Traffic Commission meeting. VHB's supplemental traffic analysis argued that it would be preferable to allow vehicles on Weston Street eastbound to turn left into the facility at the westerly curb cut (as opposed to the easterly curb cut), which would require a center portion of the scored concrete median along Weston Street to be removed. This would ease potential traffic congestion and turning conflicts within the existing intersection at Weston Street and South Street. Left turns out of the driveway would still be prohibited. **Voted to accept the Supplemental Traffic Analysis, prepared by VHB, for the proposed Seasons Corner Market development at 962 Main Street. It was also voted to revise the previously approved turn restrictions for the westerly curb cut on Weston Street, to allow eastbound left turns into the driveway, but still restrict left turns out of the parking lot at that curb cut. In addition, a center portion of the existing scored concrete median will be removed, paid for by the applicants with the means and methods to be approved by the Waltham Department of Public Works. Lastly, the Traffic Engineer was directed to coordinate with the proponent to install visible pavement marking route shields on Main Street westbound adjacent to their site for Route 117 and Route 20 to make lane uses clearer to motorists.**

F. Middlesex County Corporate Fun Run 5K, Monday June 8, 2026

Approval was requested for the road race on Monday, June 8th. The Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin, echoed accepting the Police Department's recommendation for approval. **Voted to approve the race and forward a recommendation for a Permit to Issue.**

2. TABLED ITEMS: (Only items in Bold and Highlighted will be discussed at this meeting)

A. Elson Rd. Parking Study (Councillor Durkee) (6/19) (9/19) (6/23) (3/24) (12/25)

B. MBTA Better Bus Project Update (1/23) (1/24) (1/25)

In January 2023, MBTA presented the Better Bus Project concept. Over the next few years, the bus routes will be completely redesigned, to improve the service across the network. In Waltham, a new High Frequency route will eventually be introduced along Main Street, and some of the existing bus routes will be altered or eliminated. MBTA will contact communities at least six months prior to any changes that will be implemented. It is anticipated that Waltham will be part of Phase 3, which is tentatively scheduled for the end of 2026. **For information only.**

C. Traffic Signal Inventory: Winter Street/First Avenue (1/24)

D. Traffic Signal Inventory: Winter Street/Second Avenue (1/24).

E. RRFB Request, Moody Street at Adams Avenue (9/24) (9/25)

F. Beaver Street Railroad Crossing Design Modification (10/24) (6/25)

G. Policy for Traffic Calming Requests (2/25) (3/25) (4/25)

H. Wellington Street Speed Bump (Councillor Durkee) (4/25)

I. Cedarwood Avenue/Villa Street Intersection Improvements (Councillor Katz) (6/25) (9/25) (11/25)

J. Crosswalk Across Gardner Street at Spray Park (Councillor Logan) (6/25) (9/25)

K. Potential Traffic Signal at Lexington St/Pond St (Mayor McCarthy) (10/25) (11/25)

L. West End Traffic Study Evaluation (Councillor Katz) (10/25) (11/25)

M. Southside Safety Plan, Lowell Street (Mayor McCarthy) (11/25)

N. RRFB Request at Main Street/Wellington Street (11/25)

Upon reviewing the crosswalk crossing Main Street at Wellington Street, Traffic Engineering determined that the available sight distance for eastbound traffic approaching the crosswalk is approximately 200 feet. The 85th percentile speed for Main Street eastbound (between Banks Square and Wellington Street) is 29 miles per hour. At that speed, the design stopping sight distance for a vehicle approaching the crosswalk is 191 feet. Even though the adequate sight distance exists, Mr. Garvin, through engineering judgement, still recommended that an RRFB be approved at this location, as Main Street is four lanes wide at this location, with heavy vehicular volumes and many distractions for drivers. This location is appropriate for enhanced safety measures for pedestrians looking to traverse Main Street. **Voted to approve installation of a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) on Main Street at Wellington Street. The Traffic Engineer is to seek funding for the purchase and installation of the RRFB.**

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

A. Parking Meter Report:

Parking collections through the end of December totaled approximately \$524,000. At the same time last year, parking collections total approximately \$514,000, showing a parking revenue increase of approximately \$10,000 from this time last year.

B. Traffic Commission Status Report:

List of completed items:

Winter St @ West St intersection improvements

Weston St @ Stow St (Daycare Request) - recommended new crosswalk & exclusive pedestrian phase

Weston St @ Cedarwood Ave – letter to MassDOT with recommendations for intersectional improvements

Weston St @ Stow St – letter to MassDOT to fix detection and implement optimized signal timings

C. Traffic Signal Inventory: South/Wheelock

- Traffic volume is slightly down
- Voted to update the signal timings, fix the detection, and request funding for the installation of two pedestrian heads at the northerly edge of the intersection

D. Traffic Signal Inventory: South/Highland

- Traffic volume is slightly down
- Voted to update the signal timings, confirm that the intersection isn't running on max recall in the PM peak hour for the South Street approaches, and fix the crosswalk pushbutton on Signal Head E (in the SW corner of the intersection)

E. Piety Corner Safety Analysis:

The Traffic Engineer, Mr. Garvin, presented a safety comparison of Piety Corner before and after the reconstruction of the intersection. The comparison showed how drastically the redesign of the intersection reduced the total number of crashes from 66 in 2019 (the last full year before construction), to 24 in 2025 (the first full year after construction). Traffic Commission deserves all credit due for this remarkably significant safety improvement. **For information only.**

LATE FILE ITEMS

4A: Traffic Signal - Beaver Street @ Waverley Oaks Road

Member Mr. Magno inquired on the status of the traffic signal at this location. The signal is not working as it should. Member Mr. Kelly explained the problem is being investigated and it appears to be moisture getting into the wiring. It is being reviewed to see what repairs can be done to make it fully functional. However, this intersection is recommended to be completely upgraded and redesigned, as stopgap solutions can only prevail for so long. Mr. Kelly stated that he will submit a request at the February Traffic Commission meeting for funding for upgrading this signal as well as other problem locations.

Adjourned @ 10:50 AM

Attendance: All members present

Respectfully Submitted,
Frank S. Lombardo, Clerk

WALTHAM TRAFFIC COMMISSION

Off Committee Speakers

Date of Meeting: January 15, 2026

Name of Speaker	Address	Item of Interest	Affiliation i.e. Attorney Abutter Traffic Engineer Petitioner
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Joe Connors	404 Main Street	20 Williams Street	Attorney
Kim Hazarvartian	TEPP LLC Salem, NH	20 Williams St	Traffic Engineer
Pat Dunfred	VHB 161 Walnut St	962 Main Street	Traffic Consultant
James Allen	7 University Park	Linden St	Resident