

**VILLAGE OF MAMARONECK  
BOARD OF TRAFFIC COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
MINUTES FROM TUESDAY, JULY 12, 2022**

**PRESENT:** Chairman Brian Williams, Lou Young, Trustee Liaison to Traffic Commission, Commission Members Laura Abbate, Ryan Buck, Gary Kligman, Michael Star and Robert Stark, Police Department representative Dominic Falcone, Fire Department representative Andrew La Rocca, Dan Sarnoff, Assistant Village Manager

**ABSENT:** Commission Member Andres Garcia

In the temporary absence of Chairman Williams, member Robert Stark called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Michael Star made a motion to open the meeting, seconded by Laura Abbate and unanimously approved. After discussing two old business items, Chairman Williams appeared at 6:12 pm and chaired the rest of the meeting.

## **Old Business Items Discussed**

### **Drury Drive - Resident requires access for Emergency Vehicles**

- As per Dan Sarnoff, the requested No Parking signage has been approved and the location for the No Parking signs has been staked out. The signs will be installed shortly.

### **North Barry and Brook Street - Safety Issue of Kids Walking to School**

- On motion of Michael Star and seconded by Robert Stark, the Commission unanimously voted to establish an all-way stop on North Barry Avenue at Brook Street.
- Dan also discussed installing flashing pedestrian light signal at that location to improve safety. The flashing light signal works when a pedestrian presses a button which tells a driver that someone is in the crosswalk. The VOM BOT will consider funding a capital project to purchase and install this traffic control.
- The Commission will consider installing the flashing pedestrian light signal at North Barry and Brook at future meetings.
- According to Dan, other locations that may have this traffic control installed are:
  - Mamaroneck Avenue and Spencer
  - Mamaroneck Avenue and Palmer
  - North Barry and Brook
  - North Barry and Jefferson, and
  - Prospect and Fenimore.
- Dan is requesting updated information on the cost of this apparatus including solar cell batteries.
- Brian Williams stated he would follow up with residents on N. Barry.

### **Mt. Pleasant and Stanley**

- Dan discussed with Westchester County Planning Department about painting a crosswalk across Mt. Pleasant at Stanley Avenue. According to Dan, the cost of this work will be

covered by the Community Development Block Grant. The County Planning Department will design the crosswalk and the work is expected to be done next summer.

- The parking restrictions on the corners of Mt. Pleasant previously recommended by the Traffic Commission will be included in the design of the crosswalk across Mt. Pleasant.
- Dan will also look into the No Standing sign on Stanley Avenue.

### **1511 Mamaroneck Avenue – Resident Cannot See Oncoming Traffic When Exiting Driveway**

- The issue is whether or not to remove a parking space by the owner's driveway. The resident complained of a lack of visibility when exiting her driveway due to cars parked too close to her driveway. The Commission has not reached a consensus resolution and will continue to discuss at a subsequent meeting.

### **Harmon Drive – Truck Restrictions**

- According to Dan, The Town of Mamaroneck has harmonized its truck restriction with the Village, which restricts trucks altogether on Harmon Drive. The solution to the problem appears to come down to police enforcement. The VOM Police can only enforce violations in the VOM section of Harmon Drive.
- It does not appear that the Traffic Commission can improve the truck issue. The VOM Police Department needs to determine whether it wishes to devote more resources to enforcement.

### **Jefferson Avenue and North Barry Avenue - request for a 4-way stop - Safety Issue of Kids**

- The problem with installing a four-way stop sign at that location is that it would impede the movement of fire trucks out of the fire house. Therefore, the request for a four-way stop has been rejected.
- Brian stated that he will follow up with the resident.

### **Rockland Avenue from Waverly to the Start of the Rockland Avenue Bridge – Safety of Kids walking to School**

- Tina Maresca, Chair of the Safe Routes to School for Larchmont and Mamaroneck organization, participated in our discussion. She noted the dearth of sidewalk at that location, the large boulders on the north side of the street and that the road is very narrow and becomes more of a problem when cars are parked on Rockland. Question was raised whether it would be better to eliminate parking altogether at that location.
- Tina also suggested crosswalks be painted at all four locations at the intersection of Waverly, Rockland, and Harmon to provide more safety for school kids.
- Tina also recommended that the bushes at the corner of Waverly and Rockland be trimmed so that the Stop Sign is visible.
- Dan suggested that a dual recommendation from Safe Routes to School and the Traffic Commission asking the VOM to look at this stretch of road on Rockland from Waverly to the start of the Rockland Avenue Bridge.
- Ryan strongly recommended that the crosswalks be painted and the need for installing sidewalks at this location.

- On motion of Chair Williams and seconded by Laura, the Commission unanimously voted to paint crosswalks at each of the four corners of Waverly, Rockland and Harmon.
- The Commission also requested that Dan speak to Ben Carmody, the VOM Traffic Consultant, for suggestions on improving parking issues at this location.

### **Carpenter Place from Rockland Avenue to Fulton Road - Safety Issue of Kids Walking to School**

- On the recommendation of Tina Maresca of Safe Routes to School, a motion was made by Chair Williams, seconded by Michael and approved unanimously to amend the timed parking restriction on Carpenter Place from Rockland Avenue to Fulton Road, Monday through Friday on school days. Instead of from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm the new hours will be 7:30 am to 3:30 pm.

### **Fenimore Road and Prospect Avenue**

- Ryan commented on the transformational impact on traffic and pedestrian safety due to the recently completed Fenimore Project. All Commission members agreed and complimented the VOM for doing such a terrific job. The narrowing of the street on Fenimore at Prospect has made it safer for both vehicular traffic and pedestrians.
- Dan commented that making drivers uncomfortable and turning driving from an unconscious activity into a conscious activity promotes greater traffic safety.
- Dan also stated that when the \$4,000,000 Community Development Block Grant is implemented the safety for both pedestrians and vehicles throughout the VOM will be greatly improved.

### **Claflin Avenue - Parking Restriction Issue**

- Julian Buchbinder appeared before the Commission to discuss restricted parking on both sides of Claflin Avenue near Rushmore. This issue was first raised last year by another resident from Claflin who complained about cars parking on his lawn. As a result, the VOM implemented parking restrictions and installed a No Parking sign that covered a larger section of the street than just the home of the original complaining homeowner. Dan will investigate whether the No Parking sign was placed in the correct location. The current location of the No Parking sign impacts ten (10) homes on Claflin down to Rushmore.
- An additional issue is whether the road is wide enough to permit emergency vehicles to pass while vehicles are parked on the street. Fire Chief LaRocca will make a site visit with his fire truck and measure the width of the street.
- After considerable discussion, the Commission has not reached a consensus as to how to resolve the parking issue. Chief LaRocca will report to Dan after his site visit and the matter will be discussed at our next meeting.

### **Hawthorne Gardens – Parking Garage Issue**

- Traffic Commission previously approved removal of parking spaces on Boston Post Road next to entrance to the parking garage and No Parking signs to ensure vehicles can exit parking garage safely.
- As per Dan Sarnoff, the work order for the signage was requested in June and will be installed shortly.

### **South Barry Avenue and Guion Drive - Residents Cannot See Oncoming Traffic When Exiting Guion Drive**

- Mr. Trifiletti appeared before the Commission. He originally requested removing one parking space on Guion Drive and one on S. Barry Avenue. He withdrew the request for removing the space on Guion and now only requests removal of a space on S. Barry.
- On motion of Chair Williams and seconded by Robert, the Commission unanimously voted to restrict parking on South Barry Avenue from the driveway at 235 S. Barry to the corner of Guion Drive and install a No Parking Sign.

### **Mamaroneck Avenue School (MAS) and the French American School (FAS) – Safety/Gridlock During Dismissal Time**

- On the previous joint recommendation of the VOM Police Department and VOM Fire Department to effectively deal with a safety/grid lock situation during dismissal times at the MAS and FAS schools the VOM will expand a one-way street on Ralph Avenue Extension from Elliot Avenue to Gertrude Avenue to New Street to Gertrude Avenue. Dan will communicate with Lt. Gatta.
- Dan he will inform the officials of MAS and FAS of this change when he meets with them at the quarterly meeting, which will be held shortly.

### **Knollwood and Crown Court – Stop Sign/Speed Bump - Safety Issue Kids Playing**

- At previous meetings, due to kids playing at the intersection of Knollwood and Crown Court, parents requested the installation of a Stop Sign on Knollwood at the top of the hill for cars coming off Mamaroneck Avenue. Tina commented that a Stop Sign would likely cause vehicles coming up Knollwood from Mamaroneck Avenue to be backed up.
- Dan recommended following the Manual of Uniform Traffic Code, which states that certain traffic signs are appropriate if there are five (5) crashes in a twelve (12) month period or if there is some visual obstruction. According to Dan, since there is no accident history at that intersection he does not believe installing a Stop Sign is warranted. Dan will check if there are any visual obstructions at Knollwood Avenue and Crown Court to warrant installing a Stop Sign. This issue will remain on our Old Business agenda.
- Brian suggested that the area be “cleaned up”.

### **Light at Palmer Avenue and Rockland Avenue – Request to Change Light Signal to Allow for Left Turn from Palmer on to Rockland**

- Dan explained that to add a dedicated turning phase to the traffic signal would require a hardware upgrade that would be very costly. Since there is no history of crashes/accidents at that intersection due to vehicles making the left turn, and based on a cost/benefit analysis, the Commission unanimously agreed that it was too expensive to change the light signal.
- Brian Williams stated he would follow up with the complaining resident.

### **Tompkins Avenue/Spruce Street – Crosswalk**

- According to Dan, this issue was raised by the former Chief Del Bianco and our Traffic Consultant will review it.

### **Taylors Lane/Boston Post Road- Safety Issue of Kids Walking to School**

- This location is in Rye Neck. It was suggested that the parents from that area should contact the Rye Neck PTA. Dan also stated that he would contact Judge Gallagher who was involved in the Safe Routes to School for that area.
- Dan Sarnoff will follow up to review the visual obstructions that make this road hazardous for children walking to and from school.

### **West Street – Speeding Issue/Request for Stop Sign**

- Resident had previously requested installation of a Stop Sign at the corner of West and Park. After considerable discussion, on motion of Michael Star and seconded by Chair Williams, the Commission unanimously voted to not recommend the installation of another Stop Sign at this location. It was recommended that more police enforcement was required.
- After considerable discussion, on motion of Michael and seconded by Chairman Williams, the Commission unanimously voted not to recommend the installation of a Stop Sign at this location.
- Brian Williams stated he would follow up with the complaining resident.

### **Mamaroneck Community Nursery School at Tompkins Avenue - Safety of Kids walking to School**

- Dan will speak with our traffic engineer on the formal recommendation to improve the signage by changing the color and size of the signs, adding striping and hatching at that location.
- On motion of Chair Williams and seconded by Michael, the Commission unanimously voted to recommend that Dan will follow up to implement improved high visibility signage, striping and hatching at that location.
- Brian Williams stated he would follow up with the administrators of the Nursery School.

### **Knollwood and Mamaroneck Avenue – No U-Turn Sign**

- According to Dan, on or about 2013 the VOM had installed the No U-turn sign on Mamaroneck Avenue at the intersection of Knollwood Avenue.
- Residents who resided across the street at the Heights complained that they had to travel all the way down into the village, make a U turn to go back up Mamaroneck Avenue and that's why it was rescinded.
- A resident appeared before the Commission earlier this year and stated that the No U-turn sign had been inadvertently knocked down and he requested that it be reinstalled.
- It was stated that it is hazardous for drivers traveling north on Mamaroneck Avenue who wish to turn left onto Knollwood Avenue due to vehicles waiting to make the U-turn.
- The question is whether to approve reinstating the No U-turn sign.

## **Old Business Items Not Discussed**

### **Mamaroneck Avenue at I95 Ramp exit – entrance to Mamaroneck Avenue south – Safety Issue of Kids Walking to School**

*(All comments below are from previous meetings)*

- This location was first brought up in January 2022 by parents who were concerned for the safety of their children walking to and from MAS school.
- In January, Robert Stark observed the following over a one hour period at the site:
  - There are 2 stop signs at the exit ramp before hitting Mamaroneck Avenue
  - After observing approximately 50 cars, 1 car stopped at the first Stop Sign, the others completely ignored the first Stop Sign and slowly rolled through the second Stop Sign
  - The second stop sign is after the crosswalk where the kids cross.
- P.O. Jaeger is unsure if the VOM has any jurisdiction to issue traffic tickets at the NYS intersection; violations may have to be issued by NY State Troopers.
- At a previous meeting a crossing guard was suggested – this idea was rejected as unsafe for the crossing guard.
- A stop light was suggested but Dan does not recall a stop light ever being put on a thruway exit.
- It was suggested to repaint the crosswalk and paint lines where cars should stop.
- Ryan suggested Rumble Strips as a possibility.

### **Mamaroneck Avenue Bridge**

*(All comments below are from previous meetings)*

- Dan asked Traffic Engineer (Matt Carmody) to see how trucks approach Mamaroneck Avenue, Hoyt Avenue and Fenimore Rd. The engineer prepared a report for the Village - he suggested regulatory signage on the bridge itself and signage for vehicle height on Hoyt Avenue. Determine which signs could be produced in-house (within DPW) and which signs to be contracted out - Dan to follow up with traffic engineer after period of time on signage usage.
- Biggest issue are the truck operators (18 wheelers)
- Robert Stark inquired about an apparatus that identifies a truck's height before the truck reaches the bridge. Mr. LaRocca explained the technology of the apparatus, which already exists on the Hutchinson River Parkway.

## **New Business Items Discussed**

### **Pape Park – Remove Parking Spaces on Perimeter of Park**

- James Abbate, Tim O'Connor, Tina Maresca and Laura Abbate spoke in favor of removing parking spaces on the perimeter of Pape Park.
- Mr. Abbate stated that none of the parks in the VOM have cars parked in front of them and that vehicles parked in front of Pape Park should be removed and No Parking signs should be installed. He also stated that Pape Park was a known "trouble spot" and that the police should have access to see what is happening there at all times.
- Laura Abbate spoke as a resident and not in her capacity as a member of the Traffic Commission. She agreed that parking along the perimeter of the park should be removed.
- On motion of Chair Williams and seconded by Ryan, the Commission unanimously voted to recommend that the Board of Trustees remove up to four or five parking spaces on Madison Street starting at the corner of Madison and Old White Plains Road and remove

two parking spaces on Old White Plains Road starting at the corner of Madison and Old White Plains Road.

**Amendment to the July 12, 2022 Minutes as of: 9/13/2022:**

**Mrs. Maresca:** spoke regarding her recommendations and was recognized by Trustee Young and the Traffic Committee Chair.

**Tim O'Connor:** Sent an email to the Board of Traffic on 7/22/2022 with numerous photographs and videos with samples of the traffic issues and hazards this specific area endures on daily basis. This information was not recognized in Mr. Starks notes.

**James Abbate:** spoke at length in regard to the parking issue at an around Papes Park. Mr. Abbate spoke about the following:

1. Vehicles parking directly Infront of the park daily blocking the entrance to the park. Vehicles are parked from corner-to-corner barricading the residential park.
2. This area is a traffic hazard, streets are unsafe/parking on the perimeter of the park is dangerous. Police and Fire are unable to access the park freely.
3. Vehicles are parked on this one section of the road because (residential parking was overlooked in 2015). Vehicles Park and leave for days without moving causing vehicles to double park throughout the day over using valuable residential parking.
4. This area is a high traffic area that was not designed to withstand the amount of traffic and parking daily.
5. Delivery, Trucks, Gardeners, and vehicles double park making this area unpassable and unsafe
6. The park is blocked by vehicles making the park unsafe to sit in and to enter/quality of life.
7. Removing Spots will help and assist in the safety of the residents, Police, Fire Department and Parks and Recreation accessibility is vital.

Mr. Abbate also spoke in regard to the problematic issues of the park in depth with examples and times lines.

Mr. Abbate and Mr. O'Connor along with Dan Sarnoff and the Traffic Commission reviewed the parking issue on screen via google earth with examples and suggested removal of space to ensure safety for pedestrians and residents

Tim O'Connor spoke in regard to the quality of, Life Safety, Parking, Re-Zoning or Coding and the Environmental impact of vehicles parked near or around a residential parks.

- Several points Mr. O'Connor touch on where as follows:
- Removal of parking to ensure the safety of pedestrians walking in-between park vehicles. Children sitting walking or playing in the park are at risk.
- Rethinking and re-zoning parking on Old White Plains Road to free up space and to control Commercial vehicle parking abuse and daily parking.
- Parking should be revamped and controlled. Washingtonville was the hardest hit area in regard to flooding and "ground Zero in the flood Zone. Re-think and revamp parking structures to support safety.

Laura Abbate Spoke as a resident in regard to the same issues. She spoke in regard to parking

safety, quality of life and agreed that parking should be removed for all reasons stated.

**Tina Maresca:** Spoke in regard to supporting the removal of parking spots on the perimeter of Papes Park on Old White Plains Road and Madison Street. After reviewing the parking at all VOM Parks for Safety, Fire, and Emergency Services she has sent an email in support of this recommendation. After reviewing parking at similar parks village wide, the Parks and Rec Committee found that the parking in front of Papes Park is not in line with the balance of the park's village wide in regard to Parks and Rec.

**Mrs. Maresca:** spoke in regard to the parking issue in Washingtonville, specifically this area that is plagued by out-of-town vehicles parking and using valuable street parking to park for free and utilize the Mamaroneck Train Station. (Ms. Maresca has witness this firsthand).

**Trustee Young:** agreed to and asked Ms. Maresca to forward her recommendations to the BOT for their review. Trustee Young agreed that there is basis to the issue to move forward with the BOT for resolve.

Trustee Young stated visible issues regarding the park. He was unaware of its presence as it is hard to visually see due to the parking covering and blocking the view of the park.

Lieutenant Falcone: agreed with the removal of parking spots on the perimeters of Papes Park on both Madison and Old White Plains Road.

After listening to the Zoom Video, there is at least 40 Minutes of dialog. Ryan Buck, Brain Williams, Laura Abbate and the Traffic Committee along with Lieutenant Falcone, Ex-Chief La Rocco after several minutes of dialogue agreed to the removal of 2 space bordering Papes Park on Old White Plains Road and 5 Spots in front of Papes Park on Madison Street. Freeing of Space for the safety of Residents, Fire, Rescue and Police.

## **Mamaroneck Avenue School – Kids Safety Issues**

- Ann Goode, representing the MAS School, appeared and requested a more thorough review of the streets along Mamaroneck Avenue that impact on the safe passage of children walking to and from the MAS School. In May she sent the Traffic Commission a list of prioritized hazardous traffic and pedestrian locations on Mamaroneck Avenue.
- According to Dan, the first phase of the Community Development Block Grant project will include MAS pedestrian improvements that were recommended as part of the MAS Walking Assessment done in 2019.
- According to Ms. Goode, in 2017 approximately 25,000 vehicles were driven along Mamaroneck Avenue in an average week. That number is probably greater now.
- MAS is the largest school in the community and has the most students. Most student walk to school.
- Ms. Goode cited the following pedestrian and traffic intersections on Mamaroneck Avenue that need to be addressed:
  - Off-center cut at North Shore Farms has created a pedestrian and traffic hazard
  - Mamaroneck Avenue and Old White Plains Road
  - Flashing red light stop
  - Hoyt and Mamaroneck Avenue



- Depot Plaza and Mamaroneck Avenue
- Mamaroneck Avenue and Mt. Pleasant
- Mamaroneck Avenue and Halstead Avenue
- Triangle at Mamaroneck Avenue and Old White Plains Road near Juarez Bakery
- Ms. Goode stated that there is not enough pedestrian signage to safely guide school children along Mamaroneck Avenue and that basic safety principles for kids are missing.
- Ms. Goode commented that the Walking Assessment done in 2019 only covered the immediate perimeter around MAS and did not cover the larger area of Washingtonville.
- Ms. Goode complained about busy driveways along Mamaroneck Avenue with inadequate visual instructions for pedestrians or drivers. She also stated that the traffic flow on Mamaroneck Avenue is a problem.
- Ms. Goode cited six (6) hazardous left turn intersections from the I-95 exit on to Mamaroneck Avenue to Waverly Avenue.

## **New Business Items Not Discussed** **(To Be Added to Next Month's Agenda as New Business)**

- **Jefferson Avenue – Excessive Speeding**
- **Beeline Bus 70 Route to School**  
**Grand Street – speeding**
- **439 Center Avenue – Sidewalks/Parking**
- **412 N. Barry Avenue -Request to Install Safety Mirror 745**  
**River Street – No Parking Request**

The Traffic Commission agreed to discontinue use of the group email  
Traffic\_Commission@VOMNY.org and only use the VOM designated group email  
BofTraffic@VOMNY.org.

Minutes of May 10, 2022 to be approved at the next meeting

Next Traffic Meeting – in person on Tuesday, August 9, 2022 at 7:00 pm. Meeting

Adjourned at 9:30 pm

Prepared by  
Robert Stark

Respectfully Submitted by Clerk-Treasurer  
Agostino Fusco