

CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

TRAFFIC COUNCIL AGENDA

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2025

**7:00 PM**

Traffic Council will hold this meeting as a virtual meeting on Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. To view this meeting using Zoom use this link: <https://newtonma-gov.zoom.us/j/81064845105> or call 1-646-558-8656 and use the following Meeting ID: 810 6484 5105

The Council will be taking public comment on the following item. Please click the raise hand button on the bottom of your screen if you would like to speak. There is a 5 second delay in asking you to unmute your microphone. After you're done speaking, the clerk will mute your microphone.

**ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:**

- TC11-25      ADRIAN AYALA, CITY TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER, requesting to designate Linwood Avenue, from Crafts Street to Nevada Street, as a school zone for the Horace Mann School. (Ward 1) [02/13/25 @ 4:40 PM]
- TC6-25        COUNCILORS KELLEY, MALAKIE AND WRIGHT, requesting to add stop signs on River Street, eastbound and westbound, at the intersection of Auburndale Avenue, to create an all-way stop-controlled intersection. (Ward 3) [01/23/25 @ 2:45 PM]
- TC12-25      RHONDA FISCHMAN, 85 Norwood Avenue, requesting a change to the parking regulations on the block of Norwood Avenue between Parkview Avenue and Bridges Avenue. (Ward 2) [02/21/25 @ 2:48 PM]
- TC15-25      ADRIAN AYALA, CITY TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER, requesting to extend the parking zone on the north side of Beacon Street from Holly Road (where parking currently terminates) to a point further west, along a portion of the frontage of 1915 Beacon Street. (Ward 5) [03/07/25 @ 12:55 PM]

The location of this meeting is accessible and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities who require assistance. If you need a reasonable accommodation, please contact the city of Newton's ADA Coordinator, Jini Fairley, at least two business days in advance of the meeting: [jfairley@newtonma.gov](mailto:jfairley@newtonma.gov) or (617) 796-1253. The city's TTY/TDD direct line is: 617-796-1089. For the Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS), please dial 711.

- TC149-20 DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR, requesting to update the Traffic and Parking Regulations to reflect all of the changes associated with the reconstruction of Needham Street. (Wards 5 & 8) [09/01/20 @ 2:01 PM]  
**Held 5-0 on 01/28/21. Held for a long-term trial.**
- TC18-25 ADRIAN AYALA, TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER, requesting a “no turn on red” restriction on Walnut Street northbound at Commonwealth Avenue.
- TC19-25 ADRIAN AYALA, TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER, requesting “right lane must turn right” restriction on Commonwealth Avenue eastbound at Day Street and Fuller Street.

**ITEMS NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:**

- TC17-25 COUNCILOR OLVIER, TRAFFIC BUREAU CAPTAIN DANIEL DEVINE AND DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR, requesting to reexamine the need for the Horace Mann Parking District, and to consider removing it and possibly replacing it with a different parking restriction on Nevada Street (California Street to Churchill Street) and on Linwood Avenue (Crafts Street to Melville Avenue).
- TC16-25 SONYA KURZWEIL, 203 LAKE AVENUE, and DAN DEVILEGER, 7 NORMAN ROAD, requesting a change to the parking regulations on Norman Road, including restricted parking between Memorial Day and Labor Day on Norman Road, and a review and possible restrictions near the corner of Norman Road and Lakewood Road.
- TC9-25 TRAFFIC BUREAU CAPTAIN DANIEL DEVINE, DPW COMMISSIONER SHAWNA SULLIVAN, AND COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS JOSH MORSE, requesting a long-term trial to allow for temporary changes to certain parking regulations and traffic circulation on streets near the Franklin Elementary School in order to facilitate the reconstruction of the school. Once the project is complete, any change made will be rescinded and will revert to the official regulation, as listed in Newton’s Traffic and Parking Regulations. Any permanent changes to the Traffic and Parking Regulations will be made through separate Traffic Council items, to be docketed subsequently. (Ward 3) [02/12/25 @ 9:22 AM]  
**HELD 5-0 on 02/27/25. Held for a long-term trial.**
- TC8-25 MAYOR RUTHANNE FULLER AND DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT BARNEY HEATH, requesting a trial to remove a portion of the two westernmost rows of parking within the Langley Road (Triangle) Municipal Parking Lot in Newton Centre and relocate the twelve (12) reserved spots for employee parking, the two (2) reserved spots for Zip Car and the two (2) reserved spots for BlueBikes (for a net reduction of between five (5) and ten (10) Triangle

Lot public parking spaces), to allow for the creation of a temporary public plaza for gathering, arts, and play in the heart of Newton Centre. Substitute parking opportunities totaling approximately sixty-four (64) spaces will be examined in areas near the Triangle Lot during this trial period, such as the following: adding in additional proposed parking spaces along the southbound side of Centre Street near Willow Street; Converting Lyman Street into a one-way westbound circulation pattern and relocating the public parking spaces from the south side of Lyman Street to the north side of Lyman Street; Changing the parking regulations on Dalton Road with the goal of increasing daytime parking opportunities for the general public; Changing the parking regulations on Pelham Street with the goal of increasing parking opportunities for the general public; Changing the parking regulations on a portion of the south side of Pleasant Street with the goal of increasing parking opportunities for the general public; reducing the width of parking spaces along a portion of Beacon Street; and Changing the parking regulations on Braeland Avenue with the goal of increasing parking opportunities for the general public. The twelve (12) employee parking spots currently within the Triangle Lot are proposed to be relocated within the village center (either in other municipal lots or metered street parking). The two (2) Zip Car spaces currently within the Triangle Lot are proposed to be relocated to two (2) parking spaces within either the Cypress Street, Pleasant Street, or Pelham Street municipal lots. As a trial, none of these changes are permanent, and permanent changes could only occur through subsequent Traffic Council docket items and action. (Ward 6) [02/12/25 @ 9:22 AM]

**HELD 5-0 on 02/27/25. Held for a long-term trial.**

TC54-24 COUNCILORS DOWNS, GETZ, HUMPHREY, LOBOVITS, DANBERG AND BIXBY, requesting that Traffic Council vote to ask MassDOT to rescind the 35 MPH section of the Special Speed Regulation on Beacon Street from Chestnut to the entrance of Cold Spring Park in both directions. If approved by Traffic Council, the City Clerk's office would notify MassDOT of the official action taken, and MassDOT would subsequently issue a modified Special Speed Regulation to reflect these changes. If the existing 35 mph Special Speed Regulations are rescinded in this area, the statutory speed limit of 25 mph would be in effect. (Wards 5 & 6) [11/27/24 @ 1:09 PM]

**HELD 5-0 on 12-19-24 Staff will prepare a request for the Clerk's Office to forward to MassDOT to rescind a 35 MPH section of the Special Speed Regulation on Beacon Street, in both directions.**

TC52-24 COUNCILOR DOWNS AND LOBOVITS, requesting discussion and potential action to create a short-term parking space near Union Pharmacy in Newton Centre. (Ward 6) [11/21/24 @ 12:45 PM]

TC51-24 COUNCILOR DOWNS AND LOBOVITS, requesting discussion and potential action to create one or two combined parking areas/loading zones along Herrick Road and Union Street in Newton Centre. (Ward 6) [11/21/24 @ 12:45 PM]

- TC43-24 TRAFFIC BUREAU CAPTAIN DANIEL DEVINE, DPW COMMISSIONER JAMES MCGONAGLE, AND COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS JOSH MORSE, requesting a long-term trial to allow temporary changes to certain parking regulations and traffic circulation on streets near the Countryside Elementary School in order to facilitate the reconstruction of the school. *Once the construction project is complete, this trial will end. However, permanent changes to the Traffic and Parking Regulations (TPR) will be needed to reflect future conditions near the Countryside School, and different Traffic Council items will be docketed to handle these permanent changes to the TPR.* (Ward 8) [10/18/24 @ 9:21 AM] [Revised 10/29/24 @ 1:37 PM]  
**HELD 5-0 on 11-21-24. Held for a long-term trial.**
- TC41-24 TRAFFIC BUREAU CAPTAIN DANIEL DEVINE, DPW COMMISSIONER JAMES MCGONAGLE, AND COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS JOSH MORSE, requesting a trial which will allow for various changes to the parking and circulation on streets near the new Lincoln-Eliot School at 150 Jackson Road and the building at 191 Pearl Street, to be used as a swing space school. It is expected that various changes will be necessary on nearby neighborhood streets in order to facilitate the opening of these schools, which is currently scheduled for September 2025. Each trial will be examined, and specific docket items will subsequently be prepared, as needed, in order for Traffic Council to vote to make permanent changes to our City Ordinance Chapter 19 (Traffic and Parking Regulations). (Ward 1) [09/20/24 @ 1:47 PM]  
**HELD 4-0 on 10/17/24. Held for a long-term trial.**
- TC32-24 TRAFFIC BUREAU CAPTAIN DANIEL DEVINE, DPW COMMISSIONER JAMES MCGONAGLE DIRECTOR OF PLANNING BARNEY HEATH, PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY STEPHANIE GILMAN AND CO-DIRECTOR OF SUSTAINABILITY WILLIAM FERGUSON, requesting a trial to modify parking regulations on streets near the Brown and Oak Hill Middle Schools in order to facilitate solar canopy projects, including within the Wheeler Road and Winston Road parking areas. Changes to parking regulations may be needed for several months on certain streets within a 5-6 minute walk of either the Oak Hill or Brown Middle School. Once the project is complete, parking regulations will revert back to the official parking regulations, as listed in Newton's Traffic and Parking Regulations. (Ward 8) [06/27/24 @ 1:29 PM]  
**HELD 4-0 (Downs not voting) on 07/25/24. Held to allow various temporary administrative changes to the parking regulations on streets near the Brown and Oak Hill Middle Schools to facilitate the solar canopy projects.**
- TC31-24 TRAFFIC BUREAU CAPTAIN DANIEL DEVINE, DPW COMMISSIONER JAMES MCGONAGLE, DIRECTOR OF PLANNING BARNEY HEATH, PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY STEPHANIE GILMAN AND CO-DIRECTOR OF SUSTAINABILITY WILLIAM FERGUSON, requesting a trial to modify parking regulations on streets near the Education Center in order to facilitate the solar canopy project in the Education Center parking lot. Changes to parking regulations may be needed for several months on certain

streets within a 5-6 minute walk of the Education Center. Once the project is complete, parking regulations will revert back to the official parking regulations, as listed in Newton's Traffic and Parking Regulations. (Wards 1 & 2) [06/27/24 @ 1:29 PM]

**HELD 4-0 (Downs not voting) on 07/25/24. Held to allow various temporary administrative changes to the parking regulations on streets near the Education Center parking lot to facilitate the solar canopy project.**

TC30-24 TRAFFIC BUREAU CAPTAIN DANIEL DEVINE, DPW COMMISSIONER JAMES MCGONAGLE AND PLANNING DIRECTOR BARNEY HEATH, requesting that Traffic Council ask MassDOT to rescind the 35mph regulatory speed limit along the section of Washington Street between Lowell Avenue and Chestnut Street, in order to facilitate the Washington Street pilot project. (Wards 2 & 3) [06/27/24 @ 1:29 PM]

**HELD 5-0 on 07/25/24. Held to prepare a request to MassDOT to rescind a portion of the regulatory speed regulation along Washington Street.**

TC29-24 TRAFFIC BUREAU CAPTAIN DANIEL DEVINE, DPW COMMISSIONER JAMES MCGONAGLE AND PLANNING DIRECTOR BARNEY HEATH, requesting temporary and permanent changes in terms of the location and duration of public parking spaces, and other changes to the Traffic and Parking Regulations including changes to traffic circulation along the section of Washington Street between Lowell Avenue and Chestnut Street, to include abutting blocks of intersecting streets, in order to facilitate the Washington Street pilot project. (Wards 2 & 3) [06/27/24 @ 1:29 PM]

**HELD 5-0 on 07/25/24. Held for a long-term trial.**

TC17-24 ADRIAN AYALA, CITY TRANSPORTATION ENGINEER, requesting to reduce the number of public parking spaces in the Waltham Street Lot to accommodate changes in access to the police parking lot. (Ward 3) [05/02/24 @ 9:50 AM]

TC7-24 COUNCILORS DOWNS, GETZ, HUMPHREY, LOBOVITS, DANBERG AND BIXBY, requesting that Traffic Council vote to ask MassDOT to rescind the 35 MPH section of the Special Speed Regulation on Woodward Street, in both directions. If approved by Traffic Council, the City Clerk's office would notify MassDOT of the official action taken, and MassDOT would subsequently issue a modified Special Speed Regulation to reflect these changes. If the existing 35 mph Special Speed Regulations are rescinded in this area, the statutory speed limit of 25 mph would be in effect. (Wards 5 & 6) [02/21/24 @ 1:32 PM]

**HELD 5-0 on 03/14/24. Staff will prepare a request for the Clerk's Office to forward to MassDOT to rescind the 35 MPH section of the Special Speed Regulation on Woodward Street, in both directions.**

TC63-23 DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR, requesting to continue the Traffic Council trial which allows vehicles displaying TIGER permits to park in the Austin

Street Lot without requiring payment on school days. Traffic Council originally approved this trial in 2020 as part of TC115-20, which included various traffic and parking changes near school buildings to respond to safety concerns and changing conditions brought on by the Covid-19 Pandemic. On June 22, 2022 the Public Safety and Transportation and Finance Committees supported a continuation of the free parking for TIGER permit holders on school days until City Council determines whether to make this trial permanent. (Wards 2 & 3) [11/27/23 @ 2:00 PM]

**HELD 5-0 on 12/14/23. Held for a long-term trial.**

TC62-23 DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR, requesting to continue the Traffic Council trial which restricts access to Elm Road (from Lowell Avenue) to Elm Road residents, Newton North High School staff, school buses and bicyclists. Traffic Council originally approved this trial in 2020 as part of TC115-20, which included various traffic and parking changes near school buildings to respond to safety concerns and changing conditions brought on by the Covid-19 Pandemic. (Ward 2) [11/27/23 @ 2:00 PM]

**HELD 5-0 on 12/14/23. Held for a long-term trial.**

TC7-23 TRAFFIC BUREAU CAPTAIN DAMIEN DOUCETTE, DPW COMMISSIONER JAMES MCGONAGLE AND PLANNING DIRECTOR BARNEY HEATH, requesting temporary and permanent changes in terms of the location and duration of public parking spaces, location of traffic signals, and changes to traffic circulation within and proximate to Commonwealth Avenue in Auburndale, to include abutting blocks of intersecting streets, in order to facilitate the reconstruction of Commonwealth Avenue and the Commonwealth Avenue carriageway between Higgins Street and the Weston Line. (Ward 4) [02/27/23 @ 3:24 PM]

**HELD 5-0 on 03/23/23. Held for a long-term trial during roadway reconstruction to allow for changes to the signals, stop signs, parking regulations and other items included in the Traffic and Parking Regulations along Commonwealth Avenue between Higgins Street and the Weston Line.**

TC62-22 DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR, requesting a long-term trial to address the additional parking demand along Lincoln Street and abutting streets in Newton Highlands, resulting from the temporary Senior Center relocation. (Wards 5 & 6) [12/06/22 @ 2:24 PM]

**HELD 5-0 on 12/15/22. Held for a long-term trial. Traffic Bureau will distribute parking permits to Senior Center staff and volunteers, which will not decrease the number of parking permits available to other employees as part of the existing Newton Highlands Parking District.**

TC50-22 DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR, on behalf of Jayne Colino, Director of Senior Services, requesting a temporary pick-up / drop-off zone in front of the Brigham House on Hartford Street and in front of the Hyde Community Center on Lincoln Street, to help accommodate the temporary relocation of services

during the reconstruction of the Senior Center in Newtonville. (Ward 6) [09/23/22  
**HELD 5-0 on 10/27/22. Held for trial, which may continue until the Senior Center is relocated back to its renovated building in Newtonville.**

- TC57-21 DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR, requesting to continue an ongoing trial of the closure of Philip Bram Way at the intersection of Austin Street. Note that this item makes no change in the field and allows for a continuation of a trial first approved as part of TC50-18. (Ward 2) [08/09/21 @ 2:49 PM]  
**HELD 5-0 on 10/21/21. Held for a Trial.**
- TC6-21 COUNCILORS BOWMAN, DANBERG AND NOEL, requesting to change the distribution of time limits in the Hartford Street Public Parking Lot in Newton Highlands to install reserved spaces for EV Charging Stations and/or EV Shared Vehicles. (Ward 6) [02/01/21 @ 11:21 AM]  
**Held 4-0 (Councilor Downs not voting) on 02/25/21. Held for a trial to allow for the installation of 2 EV parking spaces in the Hartford Street Public Parking Lot.**
- TC20-20 COUNCILORS KRINTZMAN, MARKIEWICZ AND GENTILE, requesting the establishment of a resident parking program and accompanying map for the village of Lower Falls. The resident parking program should seek to prevent commuters from using the streets of Lower Falls as parking for the Riverside MBTA station. (Ward 4) [03/24/20 @ 12:50 PM]

Respectfully submitted,

David Koses, Transportation Coordinator  
Traffic Council Chair