

CITY OF NEWARK
Newark, Delaware

Traffic Committee Meeting
March 15, 2016
3:30 p.m.

Members Present: D/C Kevin Feeney, Andrew Haines, Sgt. Curtis Davis, Tim Filasky, Dave Gula, Tom Parkins

Absent: Tom Coleman
Marvin Howard
Lt. Fred Nelson

1. Request for a handicap parking space in front of 24 Tyre Avenue.

DC Feeney said this was received by Carol Houck. Andrew Haines said this item was discussed at a council meeting at the same time the special residential parking district was implemented. Andrew Haines said this request was initiated due to paratransit picking up and dropping off at this address. One option discussed was to implement a handicap parking space at the residence, however one drawback would be that anyone with a handicap placard could park in the space. City council recommended this go back to the Traffic Committee for further review and consideration.

DC Feeney said the resident states in his letter that paratransit picks up from his home 3 days a week. He said the paratransit driver parks in the middle of the road when picking up and dropping off and blocks traffic. The resident is looking for a reasonable solution for an accommodation.

Sgt. Davis suggested a loading zone, however the one drawback is that it may not be desirable in a residential area. Sgt. Davis said another option would be to make it no parking. Andrew Haines said by designating Tyre Avenue as a Special Residential Parking District has probably helped the parking situation.

Dave Gula said the committee hasn't received many requests for handicap spaces near this residence and more likely this would be the best solution.

DC Feeney said based on the location he feels the challenge is it could become an overflow for people patronizing area establishments. DC Feeney said he feels the best solution would be to keep it as no parking and allow paratransit to pick up and drop off, however realizes enforcement could be an issue.

Andrew Haines suggested communicating to the paratransit bus not to park in the middle of the road. Dave Gula said generally bus drivers don't like to get off the road if they don't have to. Dave Gula feels the easiest solution would be to make it a handicap parking space and for the driver to have in his notes for bus to get out of the travel lane. Dave Gula said he feels it would be best to communicate to the driver to move out of the travel lane. Dave Gula said at this location there is a space in the middle of two driveways where the paratransit bus could pull over and temporarily park for pickup and drop off.

Tim Filasky said this summer the Public Works Department will be painting yellow curb on Main Street. Tim Filasky said they could paint the curb in front of the resident's house. Andrew Haines recommended painting from the end of sidewalk to end to the driveway.

Motion by Andrew Haines, seconded Dave Gula, by to paint the curb on the west side of 24 Tyre Avenue from the north side of his sidewalk to the south side of his driveway.

Motion Passed. Vote: 6 to 0.

DC Feeney said he will follow up with the resident. Andrew Haines suggested communicating this to the Parking Division for notification to the parking ambassadors of the added yellow curb.

2. Request for a pedestrian walkway at 525 Bellevue Road just east of the railroad tracks.

DC Feeney said this item was discussed at a previous Traffic Committee meeting that was received by Tom Coleman through DOW.

Tim Filasky said DOW is requesting a pedestrian walkway across the street on the other side, however it is unknown whether DOW or DelDOT own the property across the street. Sgt. Davis asked if DOW owns the second building. Tim Filasky said he doesn't believe they own the second building. Sgt. Davis questioned if this walkway is even necessary at this location.

Andrew Haines asked if Tom Coleman said the city could perform the survey work for DOW and they would be responsible for the sidewalk improvement installation. Andrew Haines said if an improvement is made to make a designated sidewalk more than likely the parking restriction could be lifted.

DC Feeney suggested tabling the request until more research or information is obtained.

Motion by Andrew Haines, seconded by Dave Gula, to table the request for a pedestrian walkway at 525 Bellevue Road just east of the railroad tracks.

Motion Passed. Vote: 6 to 0.

Old Business:

McKees Lane – Parking Restriction

DC Feeney asked if notification was to be sent to Cleveland Avenue regarding the No Parking on McKees Lane. Alicia Cash said the motion was to restrict parking on McKees Lane to a point 15' north of Terrace Drive to Cleveland Avenue for accessibility and safety.

Cleveland Avenue Sub-Committee

DC Feeney said a meeting was held with Cleveland Avenue businesses mainly car dealerships and it went well. DC Feeney said the first public meeting will be held tomorrow, Wednesday, March 16th at 7:00 p.m. at the Newark Senior Center. Dave Gula said he was asked if Cleveland Avenue public meetings could be held somewhere along the Cleveland Avenue corridor. Andrew Haines said Alder Creek has a meeting room. DC Feeney said he would relay this information to Lt. Fred Nelson.

New Business:

Andrew Haines asked if there is any further information regarding the bicycle law. DC Feeney said the law specifically states you can't ride on the sidewalk on Main Street. DC Feeney said the improper signage has been removed and replaced. DC Feeney said Delaware law states that you can't ride on the sidewalk if a bicycle path has been provided. DC Feeney said Special Operations Unit is working on conducting enforcement surrounding the bicycle law. DC Feeney said the sign board will be installed tomorrow. DC Feeney said Officer Shannon Craig will be working with SWITCH skateboard shop on the educational aspect.



Kevin Feeney, Chairman