

**CITY OF ALEXANDRIA
TRAFFIC AND PARKING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING
MONDAY, MARCH 24, 2025 7 P.M.
IN-PERSON AND VIRTUAL MEETING**

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair James Lewis, Vice Chair Ann Tucker, Annie Ebbers, Lavonda Bonnard, Casey Kane, Ashley Mihalik, and Kursten Phelps.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: T&ES Katye North, Division Chief; Max Devilliers, Urban Planner III; and Sara Brandt-Vorel, Capital Project Manager.

1. Announcement of deferrals and withdrawals: None.
2. Special Staff Announcement
 - In recognition of Chairman Lewis' ten years of service as a member of the Traffic and Parking Board, Ms. North shared a letter from City Manager Parajon thanking Mr. Lewis for his service. Mr. Lewis was presented with a commemorative sign by staff.
3. Approval of the February 24, 2025, Traffic and Parking Board meeting minutes:
 - Mr. Kane requested a correction to the previous meeting minutes to clarify his comments on Item #8.

BOARD ACTION: Ms. Ebbers made a motion, seconded by Ms. Mihalik to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2025, Traffic and Parking Board meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

4. **PUBLIC DISCUSSION PERIOD**
No attendees requested to speak during the public discussion period.

5. **WRITTEN STAFF UPDATES:** The Board received written staff updates on:
 - West End High Crash Intersection Audit Update
 - 200 Block of King Street Walk Zone Pilot Phase Two Update
 - Capital Bikeshare Follow Up
 - Mr. Kane inquired about the proposed timing for improvements to the bikeshare stations and if staff assessed station utilization during the replacement process to optimize overall system usage.
 - Stop Sign – Emerson and John Carlyle Follow Up
 - Mr. Kane inquired about the timing for implementation and an update on timing for the adjacent Holland Lane project. Chairman Lewis inquired about the ownership of the roadway.

CONSENT ITEMS

6. **ISSUE:** City Code Amendment – Residential Permit Parking Fee Increase

DISCUSSION: The Board did not request a presentation on the item. Mr. Kane indicated his support to increase the residential parking fees and encouraged City staff to study the City of Annapolis' approach to valuing residential parking fees, indicating the City could have increased the proposed parking fee further. Ms. Ebbers agreed with Mr. Kane's statements and encouraged the permit fees to be examined each year to allow for gradual fee increases.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: None.

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Kane requested the item be removed from Consent.

Mr. Kane made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ebbers to recommend that the Board recommend the City Council approve the amendment to the City Code to increase the Residential Permit Parking (RPP) Fees. The motion carried unanimously.

7. **ISSUE:** Residential Permit Parking – 800 Block of North Columbus Street

DISCUSSION: The Board did not request a presentation on the item. Mr. Kane requested clarification on the City Policy allowing the new development to obtain residential parking permits. Mr. Devilliers responded that the applicant completed an on-street parking utilization study and demonstrated the project met the City's Policy requirements allowing for residential parking permits. Ms. North confirmed the analysis and clarified the building use was residential. Ms. Malik inquired if adjacent retail uses would change the application of the City's Policy to which Ms. North responded the Policy is applied solely to the building.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: None.

BOARD ACTION: Mr. Kane requested the item be removed from Consent.

Ms. Ebbers made a motion, seconded by Ms. Phelps to recommend that the Board recommend the Director of T&ES install 2-hour parking restrictions from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, Residential Permit Parking District (RPPD) 3 permitholders exempt on the 800 block of North Columbus Street. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

8. **ISSUE:** Parklet Application – 220 North Lee Street (Mystic Bar & Grill)

DISCUSSION: Mr. Devilliers presented the item to the Board. Mr. Kane requested clarification on the location of the on-street loading zone. Mr. Devilliers responded that the loading zone is located to the south of the requested parklet.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY:

Mr. Richard Dezio testified in opposition to the request.

Mr. John Seravalli testified in support.

Mr. Ralph Davis testified in support.

BOARD ACTION: Ms. Mihalik made a motion, seconded by Ms. Bonnard that the Board recommend the Director of T&ES approve a commercial parklet for Mystic Bar & Grill on the 200 block of North Lee Street. The motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

9. **STAFF UPDATES:** Mr. Devilliers provided the Board with an update regarding potential updates to the City's Food Truck Policy. The presentation outlined engagement, timing and potential revisions. Staff sought feedback from the Board regarding options for identifying vending locations for food trucks, noise considerations, fines and vending duration.

Vice Chair Tucker inquired how nearby jurisdictions regulate food trucks to which Mr. Devilliers responded that Arlington allows food trucks anywhere as long as they followed posted parking signs. Vice Chair Tucker found this to be a reasonable approach and encouraged staff to include that as an option for food truck locations.

Ms. Ebbers seconded Vice Chair Tucker's suggestion that food trucks could vend anywhere as long as they followed posted parking signs and asked if food trucks would be subject to the current commercial vehicle parking fines. Mr. Devilliers confirmed that food trucks would be added to the existing regulations for commercial vehicles with an escalating fine.

Mr. Kane echoed support to allow food trucks to vend anywhere as long as they followed existing parking regulations and encouraged deregulation. Mr. Kane also encouraged the City to identify potential off-street parking solutions for food trucks and a limited approach to regulate amplified noise from food trucks.

Ms. Bonnard inquired about food truck regulation and fines and if there were opportunities to regulate the number of food trucks within a specific area, Mr. Devilliers responded that regulation was not feasible without an online reservation system.

Ms. Mihalik inquired how proposed regulations would align with RPCA's existing policies within parks and Mr. Devilliers indicated that the policy would be for the public right of way and would not impact RPCA's policy. Ms. Mihalik voiced concern that there be enough enforcement that food trucks do not impact roadway safety.

Chair Lewis supported decreased regulation for food trucks but found a buffer of 200 feet from existing restaurants would be a reasonable vending location. He also inquired about upcoming opportunities for public feedback and engagement on the topic.

10. **COMMISSIONER UPDATES:** Mr. Kane provided the Board with the following updates:
- Budget discussions are ongoing, and the overall budget is tight however it currently appears that the budget for transportation needs may remain stable; however future budgets may be more difficult to maintain.
 - Key performance indicators for the Alexandria Mobility Plan were released and look great. Mr. Kane would be interested in obtaining more detailed information.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Lewis moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Tucker. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.