MEETING OF THE
CITY OF WOBURN
TRAFFIC COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 18, 2025 – 4:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBER
WOBURN CITY HALL

Attending: Comm. John Cashell, Comm. Lou DiMambro, Comm. Alex Rozycki, , Comm. Peter Socorelis, Comm. Dana Gately, and Chair William Pappalardo.

Absent: Comm. John Duran, Comm. Mark Smith, Comm. Richard Jolly

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Motion made and 2nd to waive the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting and to accept, all in favor, 6-0-3 (Duran, Smith and Jolly Absent).

2025-06

On the request for flashing stop sign on Middle Street at the intersection with Mishawum Road, petitioner wasn't at the meet to speak on the matter, motion made and 2nd that the matter be continued to the next meeting, all in favor, 6-0-3 (Duran, Smith and Jolly Absent).

2025-07

On the request for traffic safety improvements at the intersection of Merrimac Street, North Maple Street, and East Dexter Avenue, Jennifer O'Doherty, 22 North Maple Street, stated she was looking for some safety improvements, that there was a stop sign at the end of East Dexter as well as one at the end of North Maple Street, but when you are coming off of Merrimac Street people just kind of drift on to East Dexter. Commissioner Rozycki stated this is now on the complete street list, which is a priority of our top twenty-five be it short term, medium term and long-term fixes. Commissioner Rozycki stated there is potential to bump out the curb, could do paint and stuff like that, but other than ripping up a new road that was recently paved there is not really a quick fix. That it is on a list of potential improvement that is keep relative and meet quarterly with our consultant, it is probably just not the most unsafe intersection. Commissioner Rozycki stated that if there is a short-term fix that the professionals can find, he is open to doing it. Commissioner Rozycki stated he doesn't have a timeline but thinks the petitioner raises a good point, it is on our list and it will be there for review and consideration moving forward. Commissioner Cashell stated that they were definitely working on the matter, but is not something that can be done overnight. Commissioner Cashell stated they are aware of the safety issues associated with it. Commissioner Rozycki stated if there was a potential for a sidewalk to go in on Merrimac Street, that would be the time to attack this problem. Commissioner

DiMambro stated painted lines don't seem to work to divert traffic, once they get used to seeing it they drive right over it. Commissioner DiMambro stated he realizes that there is a speed problem there, because people heading westerly on Merrimac Street shoot right up East Dexter and it a safety concern, but being that the area was freshly paved and that this intersection is on the complete streets list, plus with the possible of utility work coming down Merrimac Street in the future, that is probably when they are going to tie this all together and design it and do it right. Motion made and 2nd that the matter be placed on file, all in favor 6-0-3 (Duran, Smith and Jolly Absent).

2025-13

On the request for speed bump or one-way traffic on High Street, Commissioner Rozycki stated that they denied the one-way traffic request and public works is vehemently against the speed bump. Commissioner Gately stated in regards to the speed the average speed is 15 MPH, and also did selective enforcement up there with no results. Commissioner Cashell stated that speed bumps where discussed at other meetings, and doesn't think they come to a policy regarding them. Commissioner Cashell stated he believes the City wouldn't actually think about seriously implementing speed bumps unless it was absolutely needed and it was an emergency situation. Motion made and 2nd that the matter be placed on file, all in favor 6-0-3 (Duran, Smith and Jolly Absent).

2025-14

On the request for autistic child signage near 109 Green Street, petitioner Irish Jackson, 109 Green Street, stated she has triplets that has autism, that is a spectrum not a disability, she built a fence but the children climb the fence because of the speed on Green Street she has no safety for them. Commissioner Rozycki stated he felt that this wasn't a Traffic Commission decision, he doesn't think the Traffic Commission should be deciding the policy on signs like this one. Ms. Jackson stated is a legit sign for the road. Commissioner Pappalardo stated looking back at the minutes a communication was sent to the Commission on Disability to determine what the sign would say. Commission Pappalardo stated a motion was made to have a sign installed, but didn't agree to what the sign would say, and that is where the Commission on Disability would weigh in. Commissioner Pappalardo stated we haven't heard from the Commission on Disability yet. Commissioner Cashell stated to Ms. Jackson that the Commission on Disability is working on this request once we heard back from the Commission on Disability they will communication to her what is going to be done. Motion made and 2nd that a communication be sent to the Commission on Disability asking for the Commission's recommendation to slow autistic child at play signage as a whole, as well as a communication to Superintendent Duran review sign option for slow autistic child.

2025-15

On the request to discuss automation and full self-drive, Ken Parlee, 5 Marion Street, stated he has a supervised self-driving vehicle and has had if for about 6 months. Mr. Parlee stated he can go miles without putting his foot on the gas or hands on the wheel. Mr. Parlee stated he is starting to realize what it is doing when pulling in to neighborhoods, you can set differentials, it does see the signs, he sees the automation come in, but he is consistently pulling into neighborhoods shutting down the technology interacting with signage & sometimes he sees a sign that say 20 MPH and sometimes it goes gray. Mr. Parlee stated he is bringing this to the commission's attention, this is coming and there is a solution, and he hopes as these people keep coming we will have a response. Motion made and 2nd to place the matter on file, all in favor, 6-0-3 (Duran, Smith and Jolly Absent).

2025-17

On the request for three-way stop sign at the intersection of Nashua Street and Draper Street, Carl Pascuito, 56 Tremont Street, owner of the Custom Group at 30 Nashua Street, Mr. Pascuito stated he has been running a business on Nashua Street since 1986 and is a long time Woburn resident. Mr. Pascuito stated about 20 years ago it used to be a quarry down there, and he had to deal with the dump trucks running up & down Nashua Street all the time. But since it has been developed there are gyms & Lord Hobo brewery down there, Nashua Street has become a drag strip. Mr. Pascuito stated his office is 20ft from the street and all day long there are speeding cars & motorcycles popping wheelies up and down the street, it has become a problem. Mr. Pascuito stated one of the business he has at 30 Nashua Street is expanding, the Navy has just issued a huge grant to expand their welding program at their school. There will be students in the parking lots those students commute back and forth, they come in out of the parking lot and a couple of them have almost gotten hit by cars speeding up and down the street. Mr. Pascuito stated he is not talking 20 or 30 MPH, they are going 50 to 60 MPH going up and down Nashua Street. Commissioner Pappalardo stated he is familiar with that road, and cars are definitely flying down that road, but he is not sure what the solution would be but there is a need. Mr. Pascuito stated on Nashua Street facing his building there is a stop sign, he is proposing that a stop sign at the end of Draper Street and one on Nashua Street on the other side, so it becomes a three way stop and forces people to slow down. Mr. Pascuito stated that they come speeding up the street especially at 3:30 p.m. in the afternoon when all of the employees down the end of Draper Street get out of work. Mr. Pascuito stated this summer there has been a couple of close calls with motorcycles on that street. Commissioner Gately stated he spoke with Sergeant Stokes, he is opposed to the stop signs, but he has no problem going over there and doing some enforcement. Commissioner Gately stated he has had that beat for years and he has never been to a crash at that intersection or haven't heard one over the air while he has been working. Mr. Pasciuto stated it is not about crashes, this is about the speed. Commissioner Gately stated they have had complaints of kids racing, and he can periodically get over there and do some enforcement. Mr. Pascuito stated they more then welcome to use his parking lot. Mr. Pascuito stated especially around 3:00 there is a

company down the end of the street and the staff must leave between 3:00 to 3:30 pm and they come speeding up the street. Commissioner Rozycki stated that typically don't install stop signs to stop traffic, gives people a false sense of security that someone may stop and they cross the road. Commissioner Rozycki stated there is really no sidewalks or heavy pedestrian area, so he would like to start with selective enforcement. Mr. Pascuito stated one of the issues is if you are coming towards his building on Nashua street, there is a house right on the corner, they typically park their cars along the hedge line, if you are coming out of Nashua street you can't see someone coming up Draper Street. Mr. Pascuito stated he is not objecting to people parking on the street, but it gets dangerous, especially in the morning with the school buses go by it is hard to see. Mr. Pascuito stated if there was a stop sign at the corner of 2 Draper Street at least the people coming up Draper St. going to Nashua St have to stop to let the traffic on Nashua St. go. Commissioner Rozycki stated part of the issue with Draper St. is they don't have a formal parking lot entrance or exit. Commissioner Rozycki stated if they were to formalize the parking lot and have an exit they could put up a stop sign so people can come out. Mr. Pascuito stated they wouldn't be able to do anything between 2 Draper St. and 30 Nashua St. because it is a paper street that is owned by the city. Commissioner Rosycki stated all the people using that parking lot came in and out of the same place, a stop sign would help people pull out, but it doesn't seem like that needs to be done because the whole parking lot is flush and level with the street. Commissioner Rozycki stated if the addition changes the way the parking lot flows that could be another potential reason to take further action, but at this point he would recommend selective enforcement. Commissioner Gately stated he will give it to his sergeant, run some numbers with the GPS tracking data collector. The GPS tracking system with tell him the average speed over there and it will either reinforce what Mr. Pasciuto is saying or it is going to debunk it. Commissioner Gately stated he is not doubting him, he has heard complaints of kids speeded up and down there. Motion made and 2nd to have the Woburn Police Department do some selective enforcement and place on file, all in favor, 6-0-3 (Duran, Smith and Jolly Absent).

2025-18

On the request for flashing school zone sign at the corner of Central Street and Montvale Avenue, Robert Toro, 12 Frank St. Ct stated he was there today as a resident and one of the City Councilors, Councilor Toro stated heading west on Montvale Ave towards Main Street prior to the widening project there used to be a flashing school zone sign in the area of the TD Bank area. When the widening project took place, it was taken down and never put back. Councilor Toro stated being a parent that has children there and driving Montvale Ave all the time, speed there is an issue. Councilor Toro stated the police representative here on the commission can probably attest to it because he has seen him doing speed enforcement there. Councilor Toro stated with the merge right there, people are jockeying for position. It was there before the widen project and he isn't really sure why it wasn't put back after the widening. Commissioner Gately stated when the road was widened it was either knocked down or removed and it was never replaced. Councilor Toro stated he was there to request a review of that, and if it passed they would have to find the funding to have it installed. Commissioner Rozycki stated he would be in favor of the

sign being put back, he believes there should be one there, it will just be a matter of finding one, and proposed using the ones over at the Hurld school, the school in no longer there. They would have to coordinate it and find the funding to put it back. Commissioner DiMambro stated they should send a communication to the contractor to find out where the sign went and why it wasn't replaced. Commissioner Rozycki stated there may not have been money it the contract to relocate hardwired signs. Commissioner Socorelis asked if there was such a thing as a solar sign. Commissioner Rozycki stated in a school zone the new regulation requires hardwire signs. Motion made and 2nd to have the flashing school zone sign reinstalled as budgeted funds are available, as well as send a communication to the contractor asking where the sign went and why it wasn't replaced, all in favor 6-0-3 (Duran, Smith and Jolly Absent).

2025-19

On the request for signs, signals, stop lights, speed bumps, and speed traps at 113 and 115 Salem Street, Commissioner Gately stated they ran data in the area of 115 Salem Street, the speed limit is 35 MPH and 95% of the people are doing under 39 MPH and the average speed is 32 MPH. Commissioner Gately stated he has also done selective enforcement in that area and stated it was not very active. Commissioner Rozycki stated this is probably one of their top priorities for intersections and pedestrian improvements. Motion made and 2nd to place on file, they are aware of this intersection and potential improvements may be forth coming at a later date, all in favor, 6-0-3 (Duran, Smith and Jolly Absent).

2025-20

On the request for curb painting for no parking at 60 Salem Street, Commissioner Rozycki stated they should table the item until the next meeting because the petitioner is not here. Generally, they would like to hear from the petitioner as to why they think that particular house should have no parking. Commissioner Gately stated there has always been parking on Salem Street. Commissioner Gately stated they could be cited for blocking a driveway, they would call the police, who would go and put a ticket on the vehicle for blocking the driveway. If the vehicle was blocking the entire driveway they would tow the vehicle. But typically, they would assist the person with getting out of the driveway. Commissioner Rozycki stated he worries if they get in to the business of painting every curb to protect driveways the whole city is going to be yellow. Commissioner Rozycki stated he is in favor of denying the request. Commissioner DiMambro stated even if you were to paint it yellow and they still park there they are going to have to call the police department anyways. Motion made and 2nd to deny the request and put on file, all in favor, 6-0-3 (Duran, Smith and Jolly Absent).

2025-21

On the request for pedestrian-controlled flashing crosswalk signs or pedestrian crossing signs at the intersection of Winn Street and Franklin Street, Cheryl Stewart, 40 Franklin Street stated the crosswalk on Winn St. where Franklin St. intersects is very dangerous, lots of people from the neighborhood cross there. Ms. Stewart stated when she was crossing in July with her two grandchildren they were hit by a car. That was the first time getting hit, but there have been many close calls. Ms. Stewart stated she would like some kind of pedestrian sign on both sides of the sidewalk. Ms. Stewart stated when she comes out of Winn St. heading towards the fire station all the other crosswalks have signs. Even when cars stop sometimes cars will go around the car that stopped and come close to hitting you. Ms. Stewart asked if they could put something up to make people more aware of the crosswalk. Commissioner Rozycki stated they are putting many flashing crosswalk signs in, there is a certain amount of traffic and data they look at, they have identified a dozen or so spots already. Commissioner Cashell stated this isn't one of the spots, but a simple solution for the time being is to put a crosswalk sign. Commissioner DiMambro stated he believes all the crosswalks on Winn St deserve to have the ladder design just to make them more prevalent. Winn St. is another straight away and it holds a lot of traffic and speed can be a factor. Commissioner DiMambro stated if they could put a couple of crosswalk signs as well as put the ladder grid that would help the situation. Motion made and 2nd to install two pedestrian signs crossing Winn St. and increase the crosswalk painting impact, all in favor, 6-0-3 (Duran, Smith and Jolly Absent).

2025-22

On the request for sign restriction on Burlington Street for northbound vehicles no right turn at the intersection with Thistle Road between 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 a.m. and between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, Efthimios Bousios, 6 Thistle Road, Burlington, MA stated he requested the restriction in light of safety consideration and other concerns in the neighborhood. Mr. Bousios stated the Town of Burlington is installing a new traffic signal, and he feels will allow for the traffic if the restriction is permitted, to continue northbound on Burlington Street and then take a right onto Mountain Street in Burlington to ending up at Winn St. Mr. Bousios stated currently there are backups using that route which causes vehicles to come through on Thistle Rd in an effort to hurry through to Winn Street. Mr. Bousios stated the people on the west end of Thistle Rd who would be most impacted by this restriction are in support of it. Mr. Bousios stated that Thistle Rd is not a collector road, a road that brings you from one place to another to a main feeder road. Mr. Bousios stated is not equipped for the inflex of vehicles that they see, particularly between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. during the week. Mr. Bousios stated he would like this to be taken under serious consideration, perhaps using the technology the Woburn Police Department has for traffic volumes and average speeds, Mr. Bousios stated that road was not equipped or designed to handle the volume. Mr. Bousios stated the sign he requested is found in the manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and that is why that particular sign was included in the petition. Mr. Bousios stated the nearby street of Colonial Rd has a Do Not Enter Sign between the hours of 7:00 am to 9:00 am and 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm, which he was told these signs where not enforceable, he believes it falls under Chapter 90 Sec.

16 under the police department spectrum, he was also told that the Woburn District Court doesn't appreciate when they come in for citation appeals, that is why he is not asking for one of those signs because they're obsolete and outdated. Mr. Bousios stated he is petitioning for the sign that falls under Chapter 90 sec. 14, which is an easier section to reference and the court wouldn't have a difficult time interpreting the elements of that statute. Mr. Bousios stated if the 20-hour restriction across the 5-day week might be to much then he is willing to compromise and focus on the 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm time frame, because that is when they are seeing the most problematic influx of traffic. Commissioner Gately stated there was a similar issue on Salem Ave which is off Washington St. all the neighbors were on board, and when they did enforcement it was mostly the neighbors violating the sign law, they went to their councilor to have the sign removed. Commissioner Gately stated that is just one of the issues, the other is they would be pushing traffic on to Quimby Ave and Sheridan Street, because Waze is telling them to go down Thistle Rd, and when they get caught up to the sign change Waze will tell them to go down Quimby Ave. Then the residents on Quimby Ave are going to ask for the same thing then it is going to go down to Sheridan St. Commissioner Gately stated if the signs do go up, there will be enforcement and everyone will be held accountable. Commissioner Rozycki stated they are just pushing the issue off to a different road. Commissioner Rozycki stated they spoke, and thought it was a very thorough presentation, he doesn't want to necessarily vote on this today, and understands there are a lot of signatures and a lot of the signatures are not from Woburn, they are Burlington residents. Commissioner Rozycki stated they would be taken Burlington residents and pushing them onto Woburn streets potentially. Commissioner Rozycki stated if Burlington is going forward with the traffic signal at Winn St. & Mountain St., it may not be a shorter shortcut to go through Thistle St. anymore, once there is an appropriate traffic light and timing installed. The issue may get better. Commissioner Rozycki stated they typically don't start making things one way, because then that affects other people adversely. Commissioner Rozycki stated currently he doesn't feel strongly for or against. Councilor Cashell stated the traffic signal that going to be placed on Mountain St. is going to make traffic better for that intersection, you are going to be able to take that left going towards the highway easier and safer. Commissioner Cashell stated when you start closing off one road for the benefit of one group, you exacerbate the traffic problem for another. Commissioner Cashell stated he believes the solution is going to be the traffic signal being put in at Mountain St. and Winn St. Commissioner Cashell stated unless it is absolutely necessary he is never in favor of closing down a roadway network. Commissioner Rozycki stated if anyone else has any comments he is more than willing to hear them, and wants to reiterate that no one signed this petition from the two abutting streets that would take all the traffic. Mr. Bousios stated the traffic is coming toward the intersection of Willow St & Burlington St and taking the right turn onto Thistle Road to hurry to Winn St. Mr. Bousios stated Willow St. is handling most of the traffic coming from four corners and Cambridge Road. Mr. Bousios stated that it is anecdotal to say the traffic is going to flush over to Quimby Ave and Sheridan St. Those streets are narrow and it not easy to navigate. Mr. Bousios stated Thistle Rd is different in its dynamic and design, it is a S curve road and there are blind driveways, there are other roadways like Randall, they may be in Burlington but they are being fed in from Woburn, the issue rest with the City of Woburn. Mr. Bousios stated he believes everyone that lives on Thistle Road also receives a tax statement from the City of Woburn. Mr. Bousios stated that he understands that this is a blanket restriction if awarded, and he was very clear about that with everyone he spoke to. Mr. Bousios stated what he repeatedly heard was the benefit out weights the cost. Commissioner Gately stated he wonders if it is best to see how the

light will work out, and revisit the matter. Commissioner Rozycki stated after the traffic light is installed they can watch and see if that helps, maybe increase selective enforcement if it is a speed issue. Commissioner DiMambro stated he agrees with the Engineer, they need to see how that light works out, because that will be a safer left-hand turn coming out of Mountain St once the light is installed. Commissioner DiMambro stated that if people or speeding up and down Thistle Rd and it is a Burlington St, he would ask for patrol car over there during the peak hours. Motion made and 2nd to table to the October meeting, all in favor, 6-0-3 (Duran, Smith and Jolly Absent).

2025-23

On the request for traffic signage as required by the Zoning Board of Appeals for 57 Mill Street on Mill Street, Attorney Jessie Schomer stated he represents the Mill Street Development LLC the owner and developer of the Mill Street apartment development project at 57 Mill St and was there to request the placement of four Not a Thru Way sings at locations that were specified in the comprehensive permit issued by the Zoning Board of Appeals at specific locations, as well as 4 No Parking signs along the frontage of Mill St, two on each side of the road in front of the proposed project site. Mr. Schomer stated the reason why the Zoning Board of Appeals requested the signs be placed is concern that vehicles and neighbors in the area would use Mill St as a cut through to get to Washington St. to Salem St, which is currently possible, it is possible to go from Mill St through the apartment complex parking lot to get out to Salem St. Attorney Schumer state the Zoning Board of Appeals were particular concerned that the new residents of the building, which is near completion, was to avoid all those new vehicles using this as cut through to go between Mill St and Salem St. Attorney Schomer stated that a secondary measure that was agreed to was to place a gate at the Mill Street Gardens property to prevent the through way access. Attorney Schomer stated the specific locations for the Not a Thru Way signs are at the corner of Washington St. and Mill St., the next one is at Washington Terrace and Mill St, the next one at the corner of Salem St and the entrance to Mill St Gardens apartment complex and Salem Ave and the entrance to Mill St Gardens apartment complex. Commissioner Rozycki stated there will not be the ability to go through anymore because of the gate, and it is a request from the Zoning Board of Appeals and the developer will be paying for the signage install, this is just a procedural issue for the Traffic Commission. Motion made and 2nd to approve signage per plans dated September 13, 2025, as well as the following two orders for a first reading, all in favor, 6-0-3 (Duran, Smith and Jolly Absent).

ORDERED Be it ordered that Schedule 1 Parking Restrictions of the 2017 Woburn Traffic Code, as amended, be further amended by adding the following:

MILL STREET – No parking on the northerly side from a point 116 feet north of Washington Terrace to a point 330 feet north of Washington Terrace.

MILL STREET – No parking on the southerly side from a point 450 feet north of Washington Terrace to a point 187 feet north of Washington Terrace.

ORDERED Be it ordered that Schedule 2 Turning and Moving Restrictions of the 2017 Woburn Traffic Code, as amended, be further amended by adding the following:

MILL STREET – No through traffic easterly from the intersection with Washington Street.

MILL STREET – No through traffic northerly form the intersection with Washington Terrace.

Motion made and 2nd to adjourn, all in favor, 8-0-1 (Smith Absent). Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:

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Diane J. Stiffler
Assistant City Clerk