

# TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

**Minutes of Meeting of Thursday, February 18, 2016 – 11:00AM**

Volume 63

No. 3

Members Present: Thomas Soyk, Acting Chairman  
John P. Larson, Commissioner of Parking  
Gregory McCann, Engineer, DPW (For R. Hope)  
Eileen McClain, Sr. Planner, Planning Dept. (for C. Gomez)  
Arthur Gutekunst, Sr. Asst. Corporation Counsel (for J. Callahan)  
James R. Bradley, Deputy Commissioner of Public Safety (For D. Chong)

Staff Members Present: Nicholas Kralik, Capt.-Commander, Traffic Div.

Members Absent: Melissa Briggs  
Ken Burford

Staff Members Absent: Anthony Marena, Transportation Engineer

Others Present: Lucille Brady, Secretary to the Commissioner of Parking

## **I. Approval of Minutes**

**On a motion made, seconded and carried, the minutes of the January 20, 2016 meeting were approved.**

## **II. Old Business**

1. **Central Avenue at Tarrytown Road** - Request from John Baer to modify the lane use regulations to allow a “double right” from Central Avenue westbound onto Tarrytown Road northbound.

*The staff conducted peak hour observations and felt that this intersection, as well as the adjacent Bronx River Parkway signal, would operate more efficiently if the requested change was made. Based on this, the staff recommended a double right from Central Avenue westbound onto Tarrytown Road northbound.*

Acting Chairman Soyk clarified that this was simply a right from the second lane.

**On a motion made, seconded and carried, the Commission approved the staff recommendation.**

2. **Westchester Avenue** – Request from the Department of Parking Traffic Division to install a “No Turn on Red” on Westchester Avenue at South Broadway.

*The staff conducted peak hour observations and felt that, due to the numerous violations of the red indication, the “No Turn on Red” might be beneficial. However, some staff members still felt that this might increase accidents at the Armory Hill intersection due to the increased queue. Based on this, the staff recommended enforcement at this intersection.*

**On a motion made, seconded and carried, the Commission approved the staff recommendation.**

**III. New Business**

**1. Prospect Street at Winthrop Avenue** – Request from Steven Taft to create an all way stop at this intersection. He feels that, due to the parked cars, the visibility from Winthrop Avenue is limited.

*The field staff reviewed the location and reviewed the accident history. The accident history did not show a pattern of accidents correctable by the installation of all way stops. The sight lines are adequate for the speeds in the area. The federal warrants for an all way stop are not met at this intersection. Based on the warrants not being met, the staff did not recommend an all way stop at this intersection.*

**On a motion made, seconded and carried, the Commission approved the staff recommendation.**

**2. Sterling Avenue at Byron Avenue** - Request from Steven Taft to create an all way stop at this intersection. He feels that, due to the curvature of the roadway, making a left out onto Byron Avenue is difficult. He feels that an all way stop would be beneficial.

*The field staff reviewed this location and reviewed the accident history. The accident history did not show a pattern of accidents correctable by the installation of all way stops. The sight lines*

*are adequate for the speeds in the area. The federal warrants for an all way stop are not met at this intersection. Based on the warrants not being met, the staff did not recommend an all way stop at this intersection.*

**On a motion made, seconded and carried, the Commission approved the staff recommendation.**

#### **IV. COMMON COUNCIL REFERRALS**

- 1. 121 Westmoreland Avenue (Norden Lofts LLC) - Request for a special permit and site plan approval.**

*A review of the submitted plans did not show an area designated for garbage/recycling pick up. The plans should show an area for this, as well as turning movements for the garbage truck in the site. The plan also showed a “rolling gate” at both site driveways. The location of the gate is at the edge of the property line and vehicles would be obstructing the sidewalk or roadway when they are waiting for the gate to open. The gate should be relocated to allow storage for a vehicle.*

The question was raised as to whether a private carter would be used at this location, as well as why the gates were needed at all.

**On a motion made, seconded and carried, the Commission approved the staff recommendation.**

**2. White Plains City Center – Kite Realty Group – Request for a site plan amendment.**

*A review of the submitted drawing SP-4 shows a proposed five foot sidewalk with pedestrian crossing signs at the crosswalk. ADA compliant handicap ramps should be added to the sidewalks at the crosswalk. Page 7 and 7B of the “City Center Signage Package” shows a 41 inch wide, 78 inch tall, sign on the proposed sidewalk. This sign would only leave a 19 inch path for pedestrians. Depending on the exact location of the sign, visibility to pedestrians waiting to cross could be blocked by the sign. The staff suggests that this sign be relocated so that it does not obstruct the sidewalk and possibly pedestrian visibility. The sign should also be shown on drawing SP-4.*

Ms. McClain asked whether the signage complied with the sign ordinance or whether this group was exempt. Acting Chairman Soyk responded that the sign that is there now had been part of the original site plan. The new sign is simply an update.

**On a motion made, seconded and carried, the Commission approved the staff recommendation.**

**V. ADDENDUM**

## ADJOURNMENT

At the conclusion of this meeting, Commissioner Larson recognized Lucille Brady, his secretary, who was retiring at the end of February, for having taken the Transportation Commission, minutes for almost four years.

On a motion made, seconded and carried, the meeting adjourned at 11:46AM.

lfb