



CITY OF WATERTOWN

TRAFFIC COMMISSION



Mr. Robert Airasian, Chair
Justin Hanrahan, Police Chief
Ryan Nicholson, Fire Chief
Thomas Brady, Director of Public Works
Steven Magoon, Community Development and Planning
Tyler Glode, City Engineer
Ms. Kelly Gallagher
Mr. Daniel Grieneisen

December 3, 2025 Traffic Commission Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Robert Airasian, Ryan Nicholson, Tyler Glode, Kelly Gallagher, Daniel Grieneisen

The Traffic Commission addressed the following items:

Item 1 – Chief Nicholson made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 15, and November 18, 2025 Commission meetings; Mr. Grieneisen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 2 – The Commission continued its discussion regarding a request by Ms. Jessica Grimsby for the installation of a crosswalk spanning Galen Street at Maple Street.

Mr. Glode reviewed the data. The area does not meet warrants for a crosswalk but future improvements associated with another project could affect the area. How the area is modified could possibly include implementing crosswalk. Any action in the area is pending whether the development project moves forward.

Mr. Glode made a motion to deny the request for crosswalk due to not meeting the warrants at this time; Ms. Gallagher seconded the motion. The request for a crosswalk was unanimously denied.

Item 3 – The Commission addressed a request by Ms. Barbara Biancone of Myrtle Street for traffic calming on Myrtle Street.

Ms. Biancone has lived at 37 Myrtle St. since August, 2022. Ms. Biancone reported that there are several neighborhood concerns for children and pets. She reported that Myrtle Street is a busy street that provides access to both Pleasant Street and Main Street, and many students walk in this area. Ms. Biancone did not know what options were available but asked whether a speed hump or other measures could be considered.

In response to Chief Nicholson's question regarding future renovations, Mr. Glode stated that due to the current good condition of Myrtle Street, there are no future plans to renovate the roadway. Mr. Glode noted that the Myrtle Street speed data would justify considering a speed hump for the roadway when improvements are made. The street will not likely be improved for approximately five years. In the short term, signage could be considered.

Chief Nicholson made a motion to review opportunities to add signage to Myrtle Street for traffic calming; Mr. Glode seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 4 – The Commission reviewed a request by Mr. Thomas Vasquez of Irving Street for the installation of an isolated Stop sign on Irving Street for southbound traffic at Charles River Road.

Mr. Thomas Vasquez acknowledged the flashing red light at Irving Street, and Charles River Road. He reported that rush hour traffic volume on Irving Street is high and many motorists roll through the stop at Charles River Road. Mr. Vasquez was concerned for cyclists and inattentive drivers who continuously roll through stop area on Irving Street.

Chief Nicholson noted that there is no stop line or crosswalk on Irving Street at Charles River Road.

Mr. Airasian noted that there are no ADA ramps from the private road to Irving Street. Any signage on Charles River Road pertains to motor vehicles.

Mr. Glode noted that although Charles River Road is under DCR jurisdiction, Irving Street belongs to Watertown. He felt that adding a Stop line and Stop Ahead signage to Irving Street were viable options.

Sgt. Sampson suggested more enforcement during evening and morning peak hours.

Ms. Gallagher made a motion for continued enforcement, and the installation of a Stop line and Stop Ahead signage on Irving Street; Chief Nicholson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Item 5 – The Commission addressed a request by Vitaly Evdokimov, Manager of My Salon Suite at 150 Arsenal Street, for the installation of parking limitation signs in front of 150 Arsenal Street.

Mr. Evdokimov stated that the adjacent apartment building and businesses abuse the parking spaces on Arsenal Street. As a result, his customers do not have access to on-street parking outside of and adjacent to his business. Mr. Evdokimov requested parking limitation signage and increased parking enforcement in the area. There is no signage in the area currently.

Mr. Greiniesen asked about parking across street; this area is heavily congested with parking.

Mr. Airasian suggested that Mr. Evdokimov work with building management to use retail spaces in the parking garage adjacent to his business.

Sgt. Sampson stated that the Commission has had a long standing position against posting an inordinate number of signs in the City. Parking regulations are posted at the borders upon entry into the city. He also noted that there is a lot of competition for parking in this area.

Mr. Glode agreed that these situations are difficult; signage would have to be posted in many areas; he understood Mr. Evdokimov's frustration because it is a high traffic area.

Mr. Airasian suggested enforcement of the area. Sgt. Sampson agreed and noted that the City's Parking Enforcement officers have been monitoring the area; they report that overall vehicles are moving.

Ms. Gallagher felt that as the City continues to develop, perhaps commercial areas may have to be looked at differently. Due to the mixed use in this specific area, Ms. Gallagher supported enforcement in this area.

Ms. Gallagher made a motion to deny parking limitation signage in front of 150 Arsenal St; Mr. Glode seconded the motion. The request for parking limitation signage was unanimously denied.

Item 6 – Request by District A Councilor Nicole Gardner for the installation of pedestrian rectangular rapid flashing beacons for the crosswalk at 99 Grove Street.

Ms. Liza Ketchum of Coolidge Ave was concerned about the visibility of the crosswalk on Grove Street near Kondazian Street. She reported that Atrium School students often use this crosswalk, and the markings are faded.

District A Councilor Nicole Gardner reported that the new Mt. Auburn Cemetery gate on Grove Street has attracted more people to the area. She supported a rectangular rapid flashing beacon at the crosswalk and requested DPW to restripe the crosswalk.

Mr. Marshall Carter, head of Atrium School also requested a rapid flashing beacon due to weekly visits to the Mt. Auburn Cemetery for school projects.

Mr. Glode felt that this location would be ideal for a rapid flashing beacon. He noted that the lines of sight are difficult and vehicle speeds are a concern. There have been ongoing discussions regarding the possible construction of a mixed-use path that would further solidify installation of a flashing beacon. As coordination and design continue, it could include some of these improvements; Engineering will try to get a beacon installed in the interim. Mr. Glode felt that crosswalk restriping could occur in Spring, 2026.

Chief Nicholson made a motion to restripe crosswalk and install a rapid flashing beacon when practicable; Mr. Glode seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

New Business – Sgt. Sampson received a concern regarding speeding on Palfrey Street. This issue will be placed on the January, 2026 agenda.

The passing of former Traffic Commission member Mr. John S. Airasian was recognized.

Ms. Gallagher made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Glode seconded motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Sgt. David Sampson
Assistant to the Traffic Commission