

*(The following is not a verbatim transcript of comments or discussion that occurred during the meeting, but rather a summarization intended for general informational purposes. All motions and votes are the official records).*

## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Regular meeting of the Public Works Committee was held on Thursday, June 11, 2020 via Zoom.

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M. by the Chairman.

Present: Councilmember Lammis J. Vargas  
Councilmember John P. Donegan  
Councilmember Edward J. Brady  
Councilmember Christopher G. Paplauskas, Vice-Chair  
Councilmember Kenneth J. Hopkins, Chair  
Council President Michael J Farina

Also Present: Council Member Paul J. McAuley  
Council Member Steven A. Stycos  
Council Vice-President Michael W. Favicchio  
Daniel Parrillo, Director of Administration  
Kenneth Mason, Director of Public Works  
Leanne Zarrella, City Clerk  
Rosalba Zanni, Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees  
Heather Finger, Stenographer

### **MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING:**

On motion by Councilmember Hopkins, seconded by Council President Farina, it was voted to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and they stand approved as recorded. Motion passed unanimously.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

*Councilmember Vargas:*

- **Street sweeping schedule**
- **Tree cutting due to power line**
- **Pavement on Norwood Ave. and Broad St. and Wheeler Ave. and Broad St.**

**Councilmember Vargas** stated that she spoke to Director Mason regarding the above items and there is no need to address them this evening.

*Councilmember Stycos:*

- **Cross Cranston bus potential – Greg Nordin, RIPTA Planner**

**Councilmember Stycos** stated that he and Director Mason have asked Mr. Nordin from RIPTA to address the above item and about RIPTA services in general in Cranston.

**Greg Nordin** appeared to speak and stated that there are 360 bus stops in the City of Cranston today. On a normal day, RIPTA moves approximately 2,400 people in Cranston and these people are not necessarily all Cranston residents. Some of the things RIPTA would like to work with the City on is identifying where bus stops and shelters could be placed on Park Ave.

**Councilmember Stycos** asked Mr. Nordin what the cost for this would be. Mr. Nordin stated that for one vehicle that would operate approximately every 45 minutes to an hour, would cost approximately \$1 million per year and for full service, it would cost approximately \$3 million per year. There is a possibility of federal funds at a cost share of 80%.

**Councilmember Vargas** stated that there is definitely a need for this service in the City.

**Mr. Nordin** stated that as a pilot, RIPTA can make modifications anytime. Most pilot programs run for three years to start. For this type of program, there would need to be some sort of public process.

**Councilmember Vargas** asked where the start and end point would be on Park Ave. Mr. Nordin stated that they have looked at Pawtuxet Village all the way West to Atwood Ave.

**Councilmember Hopkins** stated that the majority of the people using this would be students going to Park View Middle School or Cranston High School East. He asked if there would be any reduced rates for kids being dropped off at the schools. Mr. Nordin stated that there is no Statewide program in the State. That is something that RIPTA would be willing to look into. Councilmember Hopkins asked where this fits into RIPTA's master plan. Mr. Nordin stated that most of the people are happy with the services that they have today, they just want to see more of it.

**Councilmember Stycos** asked what the next step would be to encourage the likelihood of cross Cranston. Mr. Nordin stated that it comes down to partnering and figuring out the resources to fund it.

***Councilmember Hopkins:***

- **Bike path concerns/Cars**

**Councilmember Hopkins** showed a picture of a car on the bike path on Park Ave. area. He stated that at the time, there were multiple people on the bike path. The person was identified and fined. He asked if anything can be done to secure the entrances to the bike path before anyone gets hurt. He spoke to the Parks and Recreation Director, Anthony Liberatore, today on this and he was hesitant to putting up any structure there because his staff has to enter the bike path and the Police and Fire uses the entrances. A collapsible structure could be installed at the entrances and more signage could also be added.

**Louis Petrucci** appeared to speak and stated that he has heard of situations where bike paths are crossing public roads. He indicated that we have four locations in Cranston. We have signage, but unfortunately, he does not see kids paying attention to those signs. He has found out that Ken Block has a product that can be placed at the entrance of a bike path with signage and warning lights and backup motion detection. He spoke to Ken Block via e-mail and if any Council Members would like, they are more than welcome to go to Mr. Block's facility to look at the product to see how it works.

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

**Council Vice-President Favicchio** asked if there is any list that can be circulated regarding street paving. Director Mason stated that they are just finalizing the end of the Fiscal Year. New rounds are starting July 13<sup>th</sup> and he can share that list with the Administration and they can forward that list to the City Council. He also stated that for this year, we have approximately twelve miles of roads that will be paved.

**Councilmember Brady** questioned School paving procedural and if the City does the paving for them. Director Mason stated that the School paving comes out of the Capital Budget. The City has helped them with small projects.

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Rosalba Zanni  
Assistant City Clerk/Clerk of Committees