City of Birmingham
A Walkable Community

MEMORANDUM

Police Department

DATE: **September 15, 2015**

TO: **Joseph A. Valentine, City Manager**

FROM: **Donald A. Studt, Police Chief**

SUBJECT: **Request for No Parking on the South Side of Cole, East of Commerce**

The Multi-Modal Transportation Board (MMTB) considered a petition circulated by the property owners/tenants of Cole Street, east of Commerce Street, to have no parking on the south side of Cole in that area (see attached petition). Mr. Terry Adams, of Bob Adams Towing (2499 Cole), presented the petition to the MMTB. Mr. Adams explained that he visited all of the property owners in the affected area and all were in agreement to institute the parking ban. Mr. Adams brought in photographs showing the affected area is full of parked cars by 8:00 in the morning while the rest of Cole St. west of Commerce is clear (see attached). The petitioners believe adding the no parking zone would decrease vehicle congestion, improve pedestrian safety for patrons of the businesses and allow access for larger delivery vehicles/trucks.

According to Police Department records, all on street parking on the south side of Cole St. was prohibited since 1962 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM, except Sundays.

In October of 2010, the City examined Cole St. for improvements that included the construction of a new sidewalk on the south side of Cole St. and a lack of parking for area businesses. The Police Department, in response to a large number of citizen complaints of speeding vehicles, reckless drivers and a concern for the safety of pedestrians, removed the no parking restrictions on a test basis. The signs were removed, but the posts remained. The belief was that by narrowing the street with parked cars on both sides, traffic speeds would fall and safety would be increased. Allowing parking on the south side of Cole St. also increased the availability of parking to constituents patronizing the area's businesses.

In 2011, new sidewalks were installed. When the sidewalks were installed, the former no parking sign posts were removed by the contractor. Parking on both sides of Cole Street has been permitted since the fall of 2010.

The MMTB discussed the request. It was determined that the vehicles parking on Cole St. were related to the businesses in the affected area (employees/service vehicles). Mr. Adams acknowledged this fact and agreed that individual businesses needed to do a better job of utilizing their available on-site parking. There was also discussion by the MMTB on whether the parking should be returned to no parking between 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM as it had been previously or whether to go with the petitioner's request for a parking ban for all hours. The

MMTB made a motion to approve the petitioner's request to remove parking on the south side of Cole St, east of Commerce at all times. The motion passed 7-0 (minutes pending).

RESOLUTION:
To approve the installation of no parking signs on the south side of Cole Street, east of Commerce at all times. Further, to direct the Chief of Police and the City Clerk to sign the traffic control order on behalf of the City establishing no parking on Cole Street, east of Commerce at all times.

City of Birmingham
A Walkable Community

MEMORANDUM

Police Department

DATE: **August 28, 2015**

TO: **Muti-Modal Transportation Board**

FROM: **Mark Clemence, Deputy Chief of Police**

SUBJECT: **Cole Street, East of Commerce Street, No Parking Petition**

The Police Department received a petition (see attached) signed by twenty (20) individuals, eighteen (18) of which listed a Cole Street address, requesting that one side of Cole Street east of Commerce Street become prohibited parking.

History
According to Police Department records, all on street parking on the south side of Cole St. was prohibited since 1962 between the hours of 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM, except Sundays.

In October of 2010, the City examined Cole St. for improvements that included the construction of a new sidewalk on the south side of Cole St. and a lack of parking for area businesses. The Police Department, in response to a large number of citizen complaints of speeding vehicles, reckless drivers and a concern for the safety of pedestrians, removed the no parking restrictions on a test basis. The signs were removed, but the posts remained. The belief was that by narrowing the street with parked cars on both sides, traffic speeds would fall and safety would be increased. Allowing parking on the south side of Cole St. also increased the availability of parking to constituents patronizing the area's businesses.

In 2011, new sidewalks were installed. When the sidewalks were installed, the former no parking sign posts were removed by the contractor. Parking on both sides of Cole Street has been permitted since the fall of 2010.

Accident History
The Police Department has no historical data on accident rates for Cole St., east of Commerce St. However, from January of 2012 to date there has been one (1) side swipe accident.

Speed History
The Police Department does not have any historical data speeds or traffic volumes for the area in question. However, the Police Department has ordered a speed/volume count for Cole St. between S. Eton St. and where Cole dead ends.

Petition
The petition submitted to the Police Department had twenty (20) signers. Two signers provided addresses not on Cole Street. Of the remaining eighteen (18) signers, there were seven (7) addresses represented.

We the undersigned support a proposal to remove street parking on one side of Cole Street, east of Commerce, to facilitate and allow fluid traffic flow to the current business. Two way traffic, as it stands, is hindered when both sides of Cole Street are lined with parked cars. Limiting the street parking to one side would alleviate all current traffic problems.

	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
* 1.	Byrne Alywood	2400 Cole	248 642 8800	
2.	Richard Erikson	2388 Cole st.	248.396.8434	
3.	Brent Wolgast	2388 Cole St. upper Unit	248 792 3644	
4.	Cece Lawton	2388 Cole St.	248-645-2653	
5.	AARON KOSIBA	2388 COLE ST	248-392-0363	
6.	Angela Shamany	2388 Cole St upper level	248 645 2653	

7. PAT GATES 2425 Cole St. 248-647-0220. [illegible]

8. JERRY Kozlowski 2425 COLE ST 248-828-0220 [illegible]

* 9. TERRY ADAMS 2499 COLE 248-644-5000 [illegible]

10. Tracey Authier 2388 upper level. Cole St. 248 645-2653 Tracey Authier

11. Ann Namen 2388 Upper Cole St. (248)645-2653 Ann Namen

12. Virginia VanderPutten 2388 Cole St Upper (248)645-2653 Virginia VanderPutten

13. Adrienne Sewell 2388 Cole St. (2)258-8283 [illegible]

Name	Address	Phone	Signature
14. Laura A Force	2757 Coventry Dr, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48009	248-335-4461	Laura A Force
15. RHONDA HOOL	11157 RIVERVIEW DR.	8108143156	GRANDBLANC MI
16. KEITH ALBRITTIE	2499 COLE ST.	248-854-8300	
17. WARREN R. MATICE JR	2499 Cole St.	248-318-1972	
18 Ray Bazzi	2330 Cole		248 258-7000
19. Warren R Matice III	2425 Cole St.	248-860-6624	
20. Coleskeet Collision	2340 Cole	248 709 1836	

	Name	Address	Phone	Signature
21.	Lisa Obee	2333 Cole St.	248-792-5774	Lisa M. Obee
22.				
23.				
24.				
25.				
26.				
27.				

DRAFT
CITY OF BIRMINGHAM
MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION BOARD
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2015
City Commission Room
151 Martin Street, Birmingham, Michigan

Minutes of the regular meeting of the City of Birmingham Multi-Modal Transportation Board held Thursday, September 3, 2015. Vice-Chairperson Andy Lawson convened the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Present: Chairperson Johanna Slanga (arrived at 6:08 p.m. at which time she took over the gavel); Board Members Vionna Adams, Stuart Bordman, Lara Edwards, Andy Lawson, Michael Surnow, Amanda Warner; Student Representative Daniel Evans

Absent: Student Representative Rebecca Mendel

Administration: Lauren Chapman, Asst. City Planner
Mark Clemence, Deputy Chief of Police
Commander Scott Drewery, Police Dept.
Austin Fletcher, Asst. City Engineer
Paul O'Meara, City Engineer
Carole Salutes, Recording Secretary

Also Present: Mike Labadie from Fleis & Vandenbrink ("F&V"), Transportation Engineering Consultants

B. INTRODUCTIONS (none)

C. REVIEW AGENDA (no change)

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, MEETING OF AUGUST 6, 2015

Moved and seconded to approve the Minutes of August 6, 2015 as presented.

Motion carried, 6-0.

E. COLE ST. PARKING

Mr. Clemence advised the Police Dept. received a petition signed by twenty (20) individuals, eighteen (18) of whom listed a Cole St. address, requesting that one side of Cole St. east of Commerce St. become prohibited parking. The petition was signed by all of the businesses that front on Cole St.

According to Police Dept. records, all on-street parking on the south side of Cole St. was prohibited since 1962 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. except Sundays. In 2011, new sidewalks were installed. When the sidewalks were installed, the former no parking sign posts were removed by the contractor. Parking on both sides of Cole St. has been permitted since the fall of 2010. The area being considered is very small, just between Commerce St. and the end of Cole St., so it doesn't have a long-reaching effect on the rest of the street.

Since January of 2012 to date there has been one (1) side swipe accident on Cole St. east of Commerce St. The Police Dept. has ordered a speed/volume count for Cole St. between S. Eton and where Cole St. dead ends. There has never been an official traffic order for the removal of the signs. Therefore, if the board feels the no parking signs should be put back up in that small section it doesn't even have to go to the City Commission.

Mr. Terry Adams from Bob Adams Towing, 2499 Cole St., said this is starting to become a very upscale area for commercial businesses. One of the biggest issues today is the increase in traffic on Cole St. He passed around pictures depicting the parking between Commerce and the end of the block. He indicated the spaces are full every day, all day long. When a 53 ft. truck trailer makes deliveries to Boar's Head twice a week, as many as 20 cars can become lined up trying to get through. Pedestrians must cross Cole St. between parked cars and their safety is important to the business owners. Another issue for his company is that in the wintertime when the snow builds up and cars are unable to get up to the curb there are evenings that their tractor trailers cannot get back to their facility. It was noted eight (8) parking places will be given up if parking is restricted to one side of Cole St.

Mr. Adams said they would be more than happy to adhere to the no parking 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. hours as stated on the signs that were removed. They can give that a try and if there are still issues they will have to come back.

Motion by Ms. Warner
Seconded by Mr. Lawson to recommend to the City Commission to ban parking on the south side of Cole St. between Commerce and the end, per the petition.

Motion carried, 7-0.

VOICE VOTE
Yeas: Warner, Lawson, Adams, Bordman, Edwards, Slanga, Surnow
Nays: None
Absent: None

F. S. ETON - HAZEL TO HAYNES NO PARKING AREAS

Mr. O'Meara recalled that at the July meeting, the Multi-Modal Transportation Board ("MMTB") passed a recommendation that included several suggested changes. One topic was to lengthen the yellow curbed no parking zones for parts of three intersections (Hazel St., Bowers St., and Haynes St.). Staff had made a recommendation to clear the first 40 ft. of curb at four particular corners along the corridor, basically losing one (1) car space at each corner. Consultant Mike Labadie suggested they may want to apply American Assoc. of State Highway and Transportation Officials ("AASHTO") standards to this. The board recommended that this be researched, and that the AASHTO standards apply as appropriate.

After further review, it was determined that the AASHTO standards would result in clearing the majority parking spaces, leaving only two (2) spaces on each block. This issue was reviewed with the MMTB at their August meeting. The board was then presented with making the original modification, which would help but not completely resolve the problem, or to move in the very conservative direction based on AASHTO, which would introduce other unintended problems (loss of several parking places, and potentially increased speeds on S. Eton Rd. due to the resulting wide open pavement areas).

It was acknowledged that the AASHTO standards are not being followed on most intersections in the City where parking is allowed. To further explore this issue, the MMTB asked staff to research the crash history for this area to see how serious of an issue the sight distance is and to make sure they are not ignoring a problem that exists.

Staff had all crashes that occurred over the past few years reviewed. Interestingly, none of the four locations of concern (where parking demand is greatest near Griffin Claw) have recorded any incidents over the most recent three years. Most other intersections have not had any incidents either. It would appear that clearing the subject corners to meet AASHTO standards may be excessive. It is recommended that the MMTB move back to the original staff proposal to:
1. Expand the yellow curbed zones to 40 ft. long at the four (4) subject locations.
2. Mark these particular corners with No Parking Here to Corner signs for better clarity during winter weather conditions.

It appears that the modification relative to the AASHTO standards came up late in the discussion, and was not officially acknowledged in the motion. Given the above findings, staff recommends that the board not make any changes to the motion, but rather concur that this can now move to the City Commission for final review and approval.

Mr. Labadie advised if there are problems, the board is obligated to follow AASHTO standards. However, since there have been no problems they are allowed to exercise their own judgment.

Board members thought by keeping the motion the way it is, which is the 40 ft., it is a conservative balance between parking and visibility. It does improve the current situation. If over time the Police Dept. sees that the number of crashes have increased, then the board can re-examine the site distance issue. Mr. Labadie agreed that it makes good sense to revisit this matter in a year to see if there have been accidents.

Chairperson Slanga noted if the parking is a problem then the board needs to be extreme in their response to the City Commission and tell them to fix the parking problem because it is frustrating to see people trying to find parking spots.

Mr. Clemence agreed the Police Dept. will add this item to their calendar to be taken up again in a year. He noted that when he presented the Bowers Residential Parking Permit to the Commission he told them on the board's behalf that they feel there is a parking problem that needs to be addressed.

The chairperson summed up the discussion. The board is staying with their original recommendation and they will revisit this matter in a year when more businesses have come into that area.

G. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

(no public was present)

H. MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. O'Meara updated the group on when W. Maple Rd. will transition to three lanes. In early October they will start to measure all the traffic in the current four lane situation. Then in the middle of October they hope to switch to three lanes.

I. ADJOURNMENT

No further business being evident, the chairperson adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Jana Ecker, Planning Director

Paul O'Meara, City Engineer