

COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC/PUBLIC SAFETY

March 9, 2004 **Upon Conclusion of Cmte. on Bills on Second Reading**

Chairman Sysyn called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Sysyn, Guinta, Smith, Forest, O'Neil

Messrs.: Alderman Roy, Lt. Valenti, T. Lolicata

Chairman Sysyn addressed item 3 of the agenda:

Discussion regarding Stark Park requested by Alderman Roy.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated Alderman Roy is prepared to make a presentation.

Alderman Roy stated just a very brief discussion and a Powerpoint presentation...we have been working with the Police Department, Parks and Recreation and the Fire Department to alleviate some of the problems at Stark Park that I thought it was my duty to bring to this Board and the Public Safety Committee as well as the public's attention. Lt. Valenti will be answering questions and touching base on anything he feels is appropriate for the Committee. Very briefly, what I am proposing is a three-tier approach. Step 1 is to limit the vehicular access to the park. The behavior happening in the park is down in the wooded sections. This is not a new problem. It came about many years ago and different road closures have taken place on the old carriage roads throughout Stark Park. Step 2 would be working with the City departments, City groups and private organizations to encourage safe, legal use of the park. Step 3 would be upon their success working towards reopening and re-establishing a safe, legal use of the park. The next four slides you are going to see just give you a basic idea of what we have been dealing with. The existing conditions of the park...in green you will have all of the roadways leading through the park. This section is River Road – the most highly driven road in the ward. What we are finding is this lower section here and down into the woods here are the problem areas. What you are finding is cars park where they cannot be seen, therefore, the neighborhood and people driving by cannot do any self-policing. What we are finding is lewd behavior that is broadcast on websites and underground magazines with directions and meeting locations. By closing the previous roads, that moved the previous trouble zone, which was closer to the trail that runs between the YDC property and the group home down to the river giving easy access to the wooded area again to the lower section of the park, which is closer to the athletic fields. What our proposed

solution is to help the community police the area but limiting or eliminating the roadways from the southern side of the park, off of Park Avenue, through to the gravesite and up towards where the statue is now. That allows everyone driving by on River Road to see what goes on parking wise with vehicular traffic within the park. This is at the recommendation of the Police Department. The problem exists even though enforcement at the Police Department level has been fantastic. As the ward Alderman I can't speak highly enough as to the presence of the police in the park. My initial reaction was that we could solve this problem just by having either the mounted patrol, the bicycle patrol or the regular car patrol in the park on a regular basis. Unfortunately what is happening is they have to catch people in the act of lewd behavior in order to curb the problem. What ends up happening is people sit for hours in the park waiting and when an officer arrives they drive away and within an hour or two they are back. It has been a drain on the police force. I know they have been very responsive to me as a ward Alderman but in looking at curbing this problem it is not something we can do just by having police presence. It has been proven through their excellent presence that this will go on even when they are in and out of the park on an hourly basis. The Step 2 discussion once we close off the park would basically be to start having an interaction between departments, neighborhood organizations, and the Police Athletic League to get a good solid use of the park so people are no longer afraid of the woods and afraid of the park. Through doing so I think we can bring the park back to the point where its reputation becomes one that it is a family park. If you had seen the previous slides that are in your packet it is a residential park. There are houses on two sides of the park – YDC school and a group home to the north and the river to the west. It is a beautiful location and we would like to bring it back to its intended use. Step 3 would be my ultimate goal. If we could get here I would love to reopen the park with the reputation and the safe use that people can come and use the park and keep it from becoming what it is today – a meeting place for lewd and illicit illegal activity. I open it up for questions and I thank you for your time. We are working very hard with Parks & Recreation and the Police Department. I have met with the Fire Department as well. Chief Kane's opinion is if there are any problems that the Fire Department needs to respond to he can respond to them with the proposed closures in a time effective manner and I have his full support. I will now turn it over to Lt. Valenti and any questions the Committee may have.

Alderman Forest asked how do you propose to close these roads or these access roads.

Alderman Roy replied the previous plan which closed a number of the roads were closed off by boulders and reflective signs. The intention is to move two of those to basically right around the corners. One is very close to the...I will bring the slide up so I can show you. The boulder and sign in this location would swing into

the center of this road closing that off and this one here would swing into this corner. The one thing that could have a fiscal impact down the road that we would try to work through either the Athletic League or grants is making this entrance right here a keyed, gated entrance so someone could go to Parks & Recreation and fill out a permit or work with one of the athletic leagues and gain access to the lower part of the park for parking, as well as the athletic field.

Alderman Forest stated one of the problems I see with boulders and Parks & Recreation I know puts them all over the place because of dirt bikes, ATV's and all of that is police and emergency response. With the boulders on those roads, if somebody gets caught on one of those wooded trails you are not going to be bringing a stretcher in with a mounted patrol or a dirt bike so there is emergency access there and then the problem is the athletic field down there. I know that gets a lot of use in the summer time.

Alderman Roy stated right now there is no access beyond this road here and no access into the woods. Most of this area up above that is now being limited is grass area and I have been assured by the Fire Department and I will let Lt. Valenti discuss the Police Department's approach, but the Fire Department can get in there with their brush trucks and safety vehicles if they need to.

Lt. Valenti stated yes we would be able to drive up on the lawn and get around the boulders and get down to an area if need be in that park.

Alderman Guinta asked how do you get down to the field right now.

Alderman Roy answered this access road from where it is gated now, down the hill...this is a fairly steep incline. This section here is mostly poison ivy. This section here is steep so it is a walkway, which you would not be able to drive an ambulance down now. These roads were built as carriage roads for the north end of Manchester. People would ride their carriages up and park in different locations. With the topography sloping from high to the river there is an excellent sunset from this park and the carriage roads were designed so that you could have a winding experience within the park but they were not built to City specifications and not built to the demand of high traffic that they have today.

Alderman Guinta asked do people use the athletic field now.

Alderman Roy answered not to its full potential just because of the reputation, location and condition. It is not a very well maintained park. We find that it is an overflow park for some of the youth athletic leagues. There have been requests in the past but because of the reputation and ability to get down to it, it has a fairly limited use.

Alderman Guinta responded people are using it now though, right. In the warm months people are utilizing that field? Right now how does a fire truck go down there?

Alderman Roy replied it does not. Chief Kane assures me that a brush truck could get down to the field but an ambulance could not.

Alderman Guinta asked how does a brush truck get down there right now.

Alderman Roy answered this slope here is where he said he could drive a brush truck down to the field.

Alderman Guinta asked so the plan is to close everything off and essentially you are assuming that the lewd behavior will no longer occur because people can't park along the street.

Alderman Roy replied at the advice of the Police Department, I will let Lt. Valenti continue. This area through here is not visible from anywhere but very few spots in the park and that seems to be the congregation area.

Alderman Guinta stated my question is can't people just park on the side street and walk into the park. How does moving the boulders stop lewd behavior? You are trying to stop lewd behavior. I don't understand how stopping cars from getting inside the park stops lewd behavior.

Alderman Roy responded I have been informed by the Police Department that a lot of the people taking part in the lewd behavior seek out places where their vehicles and themselves cannot be seen. If they have to park up in the upper section of the park it allows not only the Police Department but the neighbors to see what is going on in the park. If you are there for a safe, legal use, you don't mind being seen in the park. If you are there for illegal activity, you do mind being seen in the park if you are there for those reasons. Today when I left the park there were two vehicles with children parked in this area well spaced apart and you could tell that they were there for recreational purposes. There were five vehicles parked down in this area almost behind the shrubs tucked into the woods in places where you knew there were not people out walking their dogs. They were out with no children. Just cars idling by themselves and from an enforcement standpoint we have to be sensitive to people's rights. They weren't doing anything illegal but they were in a section of the park where a large amount of illegal activity takes place.

Alderman Guinta asked have you had any input from any of the residential abutters.

Alderman Roy answered a very strong input. Since this was aired in Monday's City Hall column I have received calls from a number of abutters very favorable. They were somewhat happy when the previous Alderman worked with the departments and closed off where you see the current access and moved the trouble zone from this area but you have a situation now where it has just transported it from one closed off location of the park to another and I have gotten a very, very, very favorable response.

Alderman Guinta asked are there any plans to make any improvements to this park.

Alderman Roy replied in discussing this with Parks and Recreation they have limbed out as part of the previous plan the upper trees in this area, as well as this area here so now the lowest limb level is about 8 or 10 feet of the trees. Unfortunately, this section...the northwest corner of the park that leads down to the river is very heavily wooded and it has an interesting topography so there are a number of sloped areas where you could be 30 feet way and you would have to climb over a small mountain to see into.

Alderman Lopez stated I know that I have had discussions with Alderman O'Neil and he can probably bring you up-to-date and Parks & Recreation. The Police Athletic League is interested in the ballpark down there to make it into a lacrosse field and the last thing I knew the Superintendent was going to come up with a figure and present it to the CIP Committee. Maybe Alderman O'Neil would like to speak to it but before he does...I am just curious as to why the Police Department can't solve some of the problems that they have down there as well as they did up at the Weston tower. They have sort of cleaned that up a little up there. Can you enlighten us a little bit as to why the Police can't go down there more often and do something?

Lt. Valenti responded what happened at Weston Towers was they put a gate across the road there so they are restricting vehicle access and that seemed to have worked and I think this would be a similar solution to the problem. Before we had vehicles driving up in that area and they are restricted now.

Alderman O'Neil stated I know that some time ago officers from the Community Policing Division approached Parks about what Alderman Lopez just talked about. They thought that this might be a very appropriate project for P.A.L. There is a need for additional recreation space and I think that site does need significant...it is not a great field to play on. Secondly, if it was involved with P.A.L. it would

get police officers up there on a more regular basis. It hasn't gone anywhere. I wasn't aware that there was supposed to be a budget number coming back but I was aware that P.A.L. is interested and is willing to move forward to help with the improvements.

Alderman Roy responded as I said in the past as a ward Alderman I would strongly support any usage of the field in a safe and legal manner and the Police Athletic League would definitely be something I would support.

Alderman O'Neil stated I am aware that people who live up on Chauncey Avenue and that, it would not be unusual for them to walk dogs along the railroad tracks on the backside of the park and they are flushing people out of the woods. It is a serious problem up there – a very serious problem.

Alderman Forest stated I don't...I want to say that yes maybe it is a serious problem but I don't believe that barricading the entrances is going to stop the problem. What I think is if a cruiser comes up North River Road and looks down there of course he is not going to see below the monument there and everything else but if he drives down Park Avenue he can see that ball field and you are limiting that police officer to two streets. I don't believe that blocking off the roads is going to solve your problem. They are still going to park down there by the river and they are still going to walk in and I can tell you one thing a police officer is going to tell you – not an average one but a police officer is going to come on your complaint and tell you that he can't get in there because it is blocked off. That is exactly what that officer is going to tell you and I don't think blocking off the problem will solve your problem and as far as Weston Tower it wasn't just putting a gate there. In the years that they were having problems they put some officers there in civilian clothes and patrolled that area. It was more than just putting a gate there. If you want this, you are the one who is going to answer the complaints when one of your constituent's kids are stuck in the woods here and an ambulance can't get to them. That is the problem that I see.

Alderman Roy responded I did review that with no only the Fire Department but the Police Department. They are fully aware that even now with the barrier structure that is there that getting to the woods...their feeling is it would pose no more of a problem getting in there now after this is put in place as it does with the changes that were made a number of years ago. To address one issue, Alderman, we have had an excellent and I don't want to be patting the Police Department too much on the back on this because the problem hasn't been solved but the presence between the horses, bicycles and patrol cars has been extraordinary. There has been two and three minute response times to calls from neighbors and myself when I have gone up to look at the situation that this is happening, can you get someone over here. There were times that they put in perspective the Bishop's

house, which sits right here at Stark Park. Looking out over the park an officer would be sitting in that driveway and cars would be collecting in that corner of the park. The Police Department faces very strict rules on protecting people's rights and in order to do this they feel that it has to be community policing. It has to be that the public can see what is going on and if someone wants to use the park for safe, legal activity then they can park in this 400+ feet of roadway, which provides quite a bit of parking or in front of the residences on one of the streets.

Alderman Forest asked don't we have a curfew in this City for parks if there is no playground equipment. Isn't it 8 PM or 9 PM? They don't have to be in there in cars...

Alderman Roy interjected this is not a nighttime activity. This is a 10AM until 3PM or 4 PM. This is a broad daylight issue.

Alderman Forest asked how many cars can park in that proposed new area that you are planning.

Alderman Roy answered according to the Highway Department we measured it off on a scaled model and it is a little over 400 feet. They estimated curb side parking and it has not curbs but is grass, but it is 22' per car so you are putting just under 20 cars in there.

Alderman Lopez asked how many people have been arrested in that area.

Lt. Valenti answered I couldn't tell you right now. I would have to research that but I know that we have made arrests in that area and we will continue to make arrests.

Alderman Roy stated just to elaborate a little bit on the Lieutenant's answer. One of the reasons why we are asking for this proposal is so that they can put their manpower in the most effective places. By making it so that you are parking in the upper section of the park, it will limit their ability to get down to the lower part of the park, as it will the criminals so we feel that no only will the Police have to work a little bit harder to make the rare arrest but it will also make the criminals work that much harder to be concealed.

Alderman Guinta asked do you have a plan at some point to remove the boulders all together.

Alderman Roy answered yes. Presenting this plan to you tonight saddens me that we have not been able to fix or address this problem. I don't want to put timeframes on it but depending on what can be worked out with the Police

Athletic League, the local neighborhood watch, and determining how soon we can get a good, safe and legal use of the park I would love to have this reopened to the families of Ward 1 and throughout the City.

Alderman O'Neil stated I am not sure what the appropriate motion would be. Just to support Alderman Roy in his efforts? If that is the appropriate motion, I will support that. I don't think he is looking for any other specific action from us.

Alderman Roy responded no other action. There should be no fiscal impact to the taxpayer whatsoever.

Alderman Smith asked if you block that off, Victoria Street leads right in to where you have it blocked off am I correct.

Alderman Roy answered no. Park Avenue comes down on the lower side. Riverview comes down to where the I is on the slide and Victoria Street is in this area so you would have access down Victoria to the back side of Colonial Village off of not only Park Avenue, which would remain open but down to Cloyde Street, which is on the other side of Riverview. There should be no impact to the homeowners whatsoever.

Alderman Smith responded I am just saying that you might want to move them down the street. I am familiar with the area a little bit and it is highly residential as you well know. Anything traveling north is a dead end so I am wondering if...there is Riverview that you said and that is the street I was thinking of which is right by where you are going to block it off. Do you think that it will stop people from parking there and participating in their so-called actions?

Alderman Roy stated what I have been told by the Police Department is once we bring the criminal activity out into the daylight or if there is parking around residential houses that that would be quite a bit of deterrent on its own.

Chairman Sysyn asked is everyone in agreement that we should support Alderman Roy's proposal. Everyone was in agreement.

Chairman Sysyn addressed item 4 of the agenda:

Discussion regarding Old Wellington Road signalization.

Mr. Robert MacKenzie stated just to refresh the Board's memory, they did ask us to sell a portion of land on Old Wellington Road – 9.6 acres for a housing development. That project hasn't been consummated but the plans are coming to the Planning Board, I believe, at their next meeting. As part of that process I met

with different neighborhood residents and I met with a group as a whole at one point. They did have some concerns about the proposal. Virtually all of those revolved around traffic issues. How do we get people in and out of the neighborhood safely? I did put together a map. It is a quick map. The streets came out a little pinker than I was hoping but you can see that I-93 is the thicker lines on the bottom. Wellington Road comes up and it is currently a signalized intersection where the yellow circle is. That is a signalized intersection with Edward Roy Drive. The neighbors have a concern because there is only one way to get into this area. There are a lot of units up on Eastern Avenue/Sunset Ridge project. There is a mosque being proposed to be developed and there are 90 units as part of this Old Wellington Road. One of the things that the neighbors did mention to me was whether Old Wellington Road could be continued and connected into this existing signalized intersection. We did indicate to the neighbors that we would explore that. The Highway Department did indicate that it was feasible from a design standpoint and gave us cost estimates that ranged roughly \$100,000. This would provide two access points to this particular neighborhood and more importantly it would provide signalized access for this neighborhood. Right now they come out on Eastern Avenue and sometimes have a lot of trouble getting out heading towards the downtown area on Wellington Road. This would allow gaps in traffic at the signal so the neighborhood could get in and out. I believe this has been concurrently submitted to the CIP Committee. At some point if this Committee recommends approval of these changes then there is a need to allocate about \$100,000 in funds to do this. As I have suggested previously to the Board, that amount of money could come out of the proceeds that we are getting from the project. We are getting about \$1.2 million.

Chairman Sysyn stated that is how we voted on it.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated it has only been sent here at this point so you would have to approve it and refer it to the CIP Committee for appropriation.

Alderman O'Neil asked, Bob, has there been any kind of traffic study done there at all.

Mr. MacKenzie answered there has not been any new traffic study done. There have been a couple of studies done when Sunset Ridge was developed, which is a major project. We do have data from that project and we have data from when the Hitchcock Clinic was built and when a couple of other projects on Edward Roy Drive were built. We do have data from roughly three projects.

Alderman O'Neil asked and the proposed extension of Old Wellington Road would meet up right opposite of Edward Roy Drive.

Mr. MacKenzie answered yes it would.

Alderman O'Neil asked who owns that land now.

Mr. MacKenzie answered it is within the City right-of-way so it could be connected.

Alderman O'Neil asked curving back towards Edward J. Roy because I think it used to go straight out.

Mr. MacKenzie answered yes you would have to turn it slightly.

Alderman O'Neil asked and there is no problem with that to the best of your knowledge.

Mr. MacKenzie answered no. The Highway Department has said that it is fairly feasible.

Alderman O'Neil stated my only concern is...it does give a second point of access, which is important. I just see that they are going to grab the shortest route, which can be Eastern Avenue and not wait for the lights and all of that stuff. Are we really...I guess my point is without having any numbers on traffic flowing at what are we really accomplishing there other than a second point...

Mr. MacKenzie interjected I really think it would help a lot because right now you have no choice particularly during peak hour periods when you can't turn left out of Eastern Avenue easily and cars start to stack up. People know when those peak hours are and when there is going to be difficulty and they will know when to gravitate towards the signals to get out. There is no problem during off-hours. People can come in and out of Eastern Avenue but this would provide that safety valve for when it does get very congested.

Alderman O'Neil asked and that is congested with traffic heading westerly on Wellington Road.

Mr. MacKenzie answered actually there is traffic in both directions.

Alderman O'Neil asked it stacks up now from the light all the way to Eastern Avenue heading easterly. I don't see an issue eastbound. I see the issue westbound.

Mr. MacKenzie answered there is an issue both ways. If you are trying to turn left out of Eastern Avenue right now on to Wellington Road you are fighting both

directions. There are two lanes coming at you from the west and then you are trying to merge into traffic that is turning into two lanes heading westbound. You have two places to watch out for.

Lt. Valenti stated I do have some pictures of the area that I could show you, Alderman. You can pass them around so you can see what he is talking about. I do have some information for the Board in reference to how many accidents have occurred up in that area. In the year 2002 there were six accidents at Wellington and Eastern Avenue. In 2003 we had seven accidents at Wellington and Eastern Avenue. In the year 2004 so far we have had one accident up in that area.

Alderman O'Neil moved to approve the request and refer it to the Committee on Community Improvement recommending that the financing come from the proceeds of the project. Alderman Guinta duly seconded the motion. Chairman Sysyn called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Alderman O'Neil asked is this a project...sometimes I know that we have done some intersections in-house between Highway and Traffic or is this something that we are going to put out to bid.

Mr. MacKenzie responded I haven't spoken with Frank directly about it. I think it could be something down in-house between both the Highway Department and the Traffic Department. It is pretty straightforward although they will have to purchase some additional signal equipment but much of it perhaps could be done in-house.

Alderman O'Neil asked Mr. Lolicata is that something that realistically Traffic and Highway could do in-house.

Mr. Lolicata answered yes.

Chairman Sysyn addressed item 5 of the agenda:

Communication from Robin Bonneau requesting the use of Arms Park for the 13th Annual WGIR/FM Memorial Weekend fireworks display on Sunday, May 30, 2004 with a rain date of Monday, May 31, 2004.

On motion of Alderman Forest, duly seconded by Alderman O'Neil it was voted to approve the request under the direct supervision of the City Clerk, Fire, Highway, Police, Traffic and Risk Departments.

Chairman Sysyn addressed item 6 of the agenda:

Copy of a communication from Dr. William Kirmes addressed to Alderman Lopez relative to the parking situation that currently exists on High Street especially during the winter months.

Alderman Lopez stated I have corresponded with Alderman Guinta in Ward 3 in reference to this. This gentleman has had a major problem in that particular area for a long time and on the south side of the street there are meters and on the north side there are no meters and a lot of unauthorized people park over there and they have to have cars towed and unregistered cars and abandoned cars and he is recommending that he would like to have meters on that street on the north side. I will let Alderman Guinta speak to this as he is the ward Alderman.

Alderman Guinta stated I think this is really...I mean we would like to do whatever we can for Dr. Kirmes but I think what we are really looking to do is make it equal on both sides. I would be in favor of that.

Alderman O'Neil asked the south side of High Street has meters and the north side does not or do I have it the other way around.

Chairman Sysyn stated that is right.

Alderman O'Neil asked what is the time on the south side on the meters.

Mr. Lolicata answered they are two hours.

Alderman O'Neil asked on the north side is there any timed parking or is it just you get there and you are there for the duration.

Mr. Lolicata answered at one time we had parking meters all around the park and you know what we went through so we took them out. I think this man has a really good idea because he has seen this for awhile. I would like to think about putting those meters back in all the way around, including the north side and give tickets or decals to those teachers at St. Joseph's so they would be exempt because we notice a lot of cars park there when they are on vacation so you have a good mixture up there in the whole area.

Alderman O'Neil asked, Mr. Lolicata, are you suggesting...I can't say that I drive down High Street regularly but is there an issue on Pine Street. That seems to be pretty fairly open.

Mr. Lolicata answered Pine Street is open.

Alderman O'Neil asked so when you say put meters all the way around...

Mr. Lolicata interjected we had them before on Bridge and on High.

Alderman O'Neil asked there are no meters on Bridge right now.

Mr. Lolicata answered we removed them all except for the ones in front of the doctor's office. They have been there for years.

Alderman O'Neil stated I am confused here looking at these pictures. Never mind. One of them was missing a meter.

Mr. Lolicata stated I would at least recommend putting them in on High Street.

Alderman Forest stated I have a little problem with the teacher decals. I think if we do it for St. Joe's we are going to end up doing it for all of the other schools in the City that have parking lots around them and there are a couple – Central High is one that I can think of. I think the idea of putting the meters back is a good idea. There is a lot of other parking north of Bridge Street and St. Joe's teachers could park there. I think the meter choice is pretty good but I am not sure about the decals.

Mr. Lolicata stated right now they are granted free parking. This goes back to the Board a few years back. We took the meters out and they were granted free parking. I am saying if you put the meters back in at least give them decals so they won't get tagged and other people can utilize the meters. I believe that is in his letter. I am just going along with his letter.

Chairman Sysyn asked Alderman Guinta how do you feel about putting meters around that park.

Alderman Guinta responded I am okay with the meters. I do share the same concerns about the decals. What did the teachers at St. Joe's used to do?

Mr. Lolicata stated they are parking all along the park right now. There is nothing there. The only meters are in front of the doctor's office on High Street.

Alderman Guinta asked if we put the meters in where are the teachers going to park.

Mr. Lolicata answered they can park right at the meters but they would have a decal so they wouldn't be touched. It would be like your personal decals for permit parking because they have already been granted free parking because of the situation they are in over there.

Alderman Smith asked, Mr. Lolicata, what if we just put the meters on the north side from Union to Pine and that would alleviate the doctor's problem.

Mr. Lolicata answered I agree. I am just hoping that nothing comes out of it once they see that.

On motion of Alderman Guinta, duly seconded by Alderman Forest, it was voted to approve two-hour metered parking on High Street, north side, from Pine Street to Union Street.

Chairman Sysyn addressed item 7 of the agenda:

Copy of a communication from Dr. Karol LaCroix, Dean of UNH Manchester, to Ms. Denise Boutilier thanking her and other Traffic Department personnel for assistance and quick response when requested.

On motion of Alderman Forest, duly seconded by Alderman O'Neil it was voted to receive and file this item.

Chairman Sysyn addressed item 8 of the agenda:

Report of the Committee on Traffic/Public Safety recommending that all metered parking be changed from Monday-Friday, 8AM-8PM to Monday-Friday, 8AM-6PM.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated this item was referred back by the Board but also there was supposed to be a report from the Finance Officer. I know that we distributed a communication from him and the Planning Director. Basically it reads that the Planning Director and the Finance Officer are in the process of refining a draft request for proposal for study of the City's downtown parking program and related policies and also in the process of identifying a source of funding for the study and will be making recommendations to this Committee and the CIP Committee and expect to have it completed with the recommendation by April 1.

On motion of Alderman Forest, duly seconded by Alderman Guinta it was voted to table this item.

Chairman Sysyn advised that the Traffic Department has submitted an agenda, which needs to be addressed as follows:

STOP SIGNS:

On Oakland Avenue at Highland Park Avenue (NEC, SWC)
Aldermen Osborne and Shea

NO PARKING:

On Lake Avenue, north side, from Belmont Street to a point 75 feet easterly
(Emergency Act)
Alderman Osborne

On Boynton Street, west side, from Glenwood Avenue to a point 200 feet
northerly
Alderman Smith

AUDIBLE PEDESTRIAN SIGNAL:

Beech Street and Webster Street
Aldermen Roy and Gatsas

On motion of Alderman O'Neil, duly seconded by Alderman Smith it was voted to accept the traffic agenda.

TABLED ITEMS

10. Portion of report of Traffic Committee referred back to Committee
04/08/2003 regarding the adoption of regulations:
One-Way Streets
Hollis Street
Kidder Street

This item remained tabled.

11. Report, if available, from the Building Commissioner and City Solicitor regarding speeding up the demolition process.

This item remained tabled.

12. Report regarding parking garage contract RFP's.
(Tabled: 08/12/2003.)

This item remained tabled.

13. Communication from Alderman Forest requesting that the City Clerk be allowed to study the parking control issue and report back to the Committee with recommendations.
(Note: This was approved on 2/10/2004; awaiting report from City Clerk.)

This item remained tabled.

On motion of Alderman Forest, duly seconded by Alderman O'Neil, it was voted to remove item 14 from the table for discussion.

14. Communication from Jean "John" Lemire requesting the installation of 15 signs with the Lions International logo throughout the City.

Mr. Lolicata stated I have been in contact with Jean. He came down to my office and we sat down together and came up with the locations for him. Some of them go back to the old ones actually. What we did with these is he is going to supply the signs and we will install them. I gave him the locations. I don't have them with me here but I can give you an idea. Coming in from all angles of the City – from Route 3A on Hanover Street, coming off Bridge Street, from the north you have Mammoth Road, from the south you have Mammoth Road, you have both ends of South Willow Street. I am going in the general direction of each one. These are not location signs. It is just to show that there is a Lion's Club in Manchester. I came up with the 15 locations and he was satisfied. Right now between the both of us we are waiting for him to supply the signs so I can take care of him. That is where we are at right now.

On motion of Alderman Forest, duly seconded by Alderman Guinta, it was voted to approve a request for the installation of 15 signs with the Lions International logo, under grandfathering provisions, subject to the review and approval of the Traffic Director regarding locations, size, and design.

15. **STOP SIGNS:**
On Belmont Street at Sagamore Street (NWC, SEC/4-Way School Zone)
Alderman Gatsas
(Tabled: February 10, 2004 pending further review of school route by Mr. Lolicata.)

This item remained tabled.

There being no further business to come before the committee, on motion of Alderman Smith, duly seconded by Alderman O'Neil, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee