

MINUTES
PRINCETON TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
June 15, 2015
Conference Room A
Witherspoon Municipal Building

Present: Robert Altman, Nat Bottigheimer, Sam Bunting, Jenny Crumiller (Council liaison), Pam Hersh, Robert Kiser (Engineering liaison), Marvin Reed (Planning Board liaison), Surinder Sharma, Jack West (Princeton Engineering), Deanna Stockton (Princeton Engineering), Sgt. Tom Murray (Police Department liaison), Ralph Widner. **Absent:** Kristin Appelget (Princeton University liaison), Amner Deleon. **Guests:** *Concerning Valley Road:* Thomas Hillman, Neil Melker,, Gaylord Olson, Valerie Werster, Eric Wood; *Concerning S-curve and bridge on Alexander:* Marty Lyons, Dale Meade. *Others:* Dan Rappaport.

1. Approval of Minutes of May 18, 2015 Meeting

Sam Bunting moved approval of the minutes of the May 18, 2015 meeting. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

2. Tour Bus Loading/Unloading and Parking

Chairman Altman presented the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on Tour Buses, which are attached to and made a part of these minutes.

He said that once the full committee has approved the recommendations they will be forwarded to Council. He reported that after legal counsel advised that tour buses are permitted under state law to load and unload at designated New Jersey Transit bus stops, the Ad Hoc Committee recommends that tour buses be required to use those designated stops on Nassau Street in the central business district and then be directed to park on Alexander until they return to pick up their passengers at the designated stops.

Bob Kiser reported that Chief Sutter wants a part-time officer to monitor drop-offs and pick-ups, and that he will request authority to hire an officer for that purpose. Jenny Crumiller asked why a sign that directs tour buses where to unload would not do the job rather than incur the added expense of hiring an officer. Sgt. Tom Murray responded that the Chief believes we will get better results and better protection of public safety if the loading and unloading is monitored. Posting a sign will require approval from the state

because Nassau Street is a state highway. Bob Kiser added that it will be necessary to mediate between drivers of New Jersey Transit buses, Suburban Coach buses, and the tour buses—all using the same stops.

Nat Bottigheimer asked whether the municipality has an anti-idling ordinance. Sgt. Murray said that it does.

Chairman Altman said that the challenge is to set a schedule for the officer and get the job done. He reminded the committee that this is a pilot effort and that the committee will work on a longer term solution over the summer. Jenny Crumiller suggested that page 4 be taken out of the presentation because it pre-judges any recommendations that may come from the work over the summer.

Surinder Sharma suggested that if the part-time officer costs about \$18 per day, it might be advisable to recruit two officers in order to provide more than three hours of coverage.

Ralph Widner moved and Sam Bunting seconded that the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee be approved and presented to Council. The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Comments from the Public

a. S-Curve and Canal Bridge on Alexander

Mr. Lyons reported that he had contacted West Windsor regarding the faulty design of the S-curve on Alexander on the approach to the D & R Canal bridge and received a response that there is no problem. He asked if representatives from the Princeton town government could contact the West Windsor officials directly and discuss the concerns. He suggested that the plans for construction of this section of the road be examined to determine whether the contractor did the work in accordance with the specifications, or whether the plans themselves were flawed. He said that he has videotapes of cars on the curve that clearly show it is dangerous and improperly designed. Surinder Sharma commented that the problem is on the approach coming into Princeton.

Mr. Meade said that he measured the Alexander bridge width and that the clearance for vehicles is just shy of 20 feet.

Bob Kiser said that Jack West will get in touch with the West Windsor engineers and to informally discuss these concerns.

b. Valley Road

Mr. Hillman is concerned about traffic volume and speed on Valley Road and current design alternatives for traffic calming. He said that he is supportive of bicycle and pedestrian safety. Mr. Olson said that he shares concerns about traffic on Valley Road and Terhune. Ms. Werstler said she is generally supportive of the proposed bicycle and pedestrian path and that this issue should be assessed together with the proposed traffic management changes on Valley Road and Terhune.

Mr. Melker said that he is concerned about plans for the traffic light at Valley Road and U.S. 206, as well as other proposed changes on Valley Road and closing Terhune.

Mr. Wood added that he is worried that Valley Road will be used as a by-pass between U.S. 206 and Harrison, which the Master Plans says should be discouraged. He believes the truck traffic violates weight limits and that the traffic light change that has been requested is inconsistent with Valley Road's designation under the Master Plan.

Chairman Altman pointed out that all of these concerns can be aired and discussed at the public meeting about Valley Road chaired by Mayor Lempert immediately following this session.

4. Parking Task Force: Overnight Parking Ordinance

Nat Bottigheimer asked whether the current situation regarding overnight parking amounts to "Don't keep it the same; don't change it"? What are our prospects to develop a policy for the future? Decisions are not thought through. Are we prisoners of the old borough and township policies and unable to look ahead and develop appropriate policies for a consolidated municipality?

Jenny Crumiller responded that perhaps he should come to the Parking Task Force and recommend a policy he believes might be appropriate.

5. Updates from Traffic and Transportation Subcommittee

- (a) Deanna Stockton said that ordinances to implement the new traffic safety projects on **Edgehill Street** will be introduced in Council on July 14 for adoption on August 1.
- (b) Bob Kiser reported that the committee's recommendations concerning locations for **bus shelters at NJ Transit bus stops** were submitted to Council and approved. The task force will now proceed to implement the proposals.
- (c) Bob Kiser and Deanna Stockton reported that NJDOT has completed the design for the **traffic lights at Washington Road/Nassau Street/Vandeventer**, but he does not know when the new system will be installed.
- (d) Bob Kiser reported that the request for a **new traffic light at the Valley Road/U.S. 206** intersection has been submitted to NJDOT.
- (e) Jack West reported that the ordinance authorizing new **mid-block crosswalks on Edgehill and Alexander** will be submitted to Council on July 22.
- (f) Bob Kiser submitted plans for **sidewalk extensions on Shady Brook Lane** near Littlebrook School. He explained that these will promote improved safety for school children traversing that stretch of the road and recommended that they be approved. Approval was moved and seconded and approved unanimously.
- (g) Deanna Stockton reported that the **Hamilton Avenue construction project** will begin next week. Pre-construction work on Prospect will begin June 26. Poe Road and Mt. Lucas improvements are underway.
- (h) Bob Kiser said the staff met with residents two weeks ago concerning **Valley Road** projects and that tonight's meeting chaired by the Mayor will follow that up. The staff will recommend that sidewalks be created or improved on both sides of the street with sharrows for bicyclists designated on the roadway itself.

Sam Bunting said that he understood that sharrows were the least preferred option. A guest pointed out the conflict between the former borough and township ordinances regarding biking on the sidewalk. Sgt. Murray said that, in the interest of children's safety, bicycling on the sidewalk should be allowed, but riders should be educated about pedestrian safety. Another guest commented that, as a bicyclist, she welcomes the sharrows recommendation. Another asked whether there is an alternative rather than sharrows. Deanna Stockton said that the

town's arborist determined that a bike path would jeopardize many of the trees along Valley Road.

Nat Bottingheimer asked how many parking spaces are needed along Valley Road. Bob Kiser responded that parking is needed near the school district's buildings and that, at this point, no options other than on-street parking are available.

A guest pointed out that Valley Road narrows for a stretch and that it should be studied carefully from a safety point of view if sharrows are designated.

Another guest said that he thinks sharrows meets the concerns of many residents, but that the intersection at Harrison needs to be re-thought and that careful thought should be given to the question of how to discourage use of Valley Road as a by-pass.

Planning Traffic and Transportation

A guest asked: "Who is looking at the big picture regarding how we manage traffic and the role each of our streets should play? Is it the Planning Board? Or is it this committee?"

Marvin Reed responded that the Planning Board designates the categories of all arteries in the town and the role they should play, but monitoring the situation and dealing with the issues falls to this committee.

Chairman Altman said that this does not coincide with his understanding of the committee's responsibilities.

Ralph Widner answered that, for the record, he believes that Marvin Reed is correct. As is the case with a number of our citizen boards and commissions, their mission is not defined properly. As a result major functions fall through the cracks. The fact is that no one is overseeing the "big picture" in traffic and transportation and proper planning doesn't get done.

Surinder Sharma said that he agreed.

6. Police Report for May 2015

Sgt. Murray submitted the Police Report for May 2015, which is attached to and made a part of these minutes. He reported 92 occurrences with nine injuries, including two involving pedestrians and two involving bicyclists.

Adjournment

Ralph Widner moved that the meeting adjourn at 6:58 p.m. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Attachments:

Recommendations of Ad Hoc Committee on Tour Buses
May 2015 Police Report



Princeton Police Department

Monthly Report For April 2015

69 Occurrences of the following:

| Case # | Date | Time | Location | Incident / Call Type |
|----------|----------|-------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 15-09954 | 04/01/15 | 11:03 | Alexander Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-09961 | 04/01/15 | 11:58 | Nassau Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-10051 | 04/02/15 | 09:14 | 59 Paul Robeson Place | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-10046 | 04/02/15 | 08:49 | South Harrison Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-10209 | 04/03/15 | 18:26 | Washington Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-10211 | 04/03/15 | 18:55 | North Harrison Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-10339 | 04/04/15 | 17:28 | Washington Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-10565 | 04/07/15 | 08:51 | 59 Paul Robeson Place | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-10578 | 04/07/15 | 11:06 | Wiggins Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-10627 | 04/07/15 | 17:41 | 190 Mercer Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-10646 | 04/08/15 | 00:28 | Wiggins Street | Driving While Intoxicated 39:4-50 |
| 15-10525 | 04/06/15 | 21:05 | Witherspoon Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-10763 | 04/08/15 | 16:29 | Jefferson Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-10771 | 04/08/15 | 17:31 | Stockton Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-10781 | 04/08/15 | 21:59 | Washington Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - Pedestrian |
| 15-10769 | 04/08/15 | 17:15 | Lawrenceville Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Report |
| 15-10819 | 04/09/15 | 08:24 | Alexander Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - Injury |
| 15-10872 | 04/09/15 | 17:44 | Paul Robeson Place | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-10885 | 04/09/15 | 20:16 | Nassau Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - Injury |
| 15-10880 | 04/09/15 | 20:05 | Nassau Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - Pedestrian |
| 15-10924 | 04/10/15 | 09:05 | Hodge Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11119 | 04/12/15 | 12:48 | 43 1/2 Birch Avenue | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11209 | 04/13/15 | 12:15 | 601 Ewing Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11216 | 04/13/15 | 13:09 | Great Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11232 | 04/13/15 | 14:12 | 53 Bayard Lane | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11239 | 04/13/15 | 15:49 | 10 Palmer Square West | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11260 | 04/13/15 | 20:23 | 518 Cherry Valley Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - Deer |
| 15-11255 | 04/13/15 | 18:42 | Mercer Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11291 | 04/14/15 | 07:50 | Mercer Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11195 | 04/13/15 | 10:59 | 875 State Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11336 | 04/14/15 | 12:23 | Nassau Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11337 | 04/14/15 | 12:29 | 601 Ewing Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11349 | 04/14/15 | 12:35 | 601 Ewing Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11353 | 04/14/15 | 15:28 | Nassau Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11416 | 04/15/15 | 07:27 | Cherry Valley Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11418 | 04/15/15 | 07:43 | 470 Quaker Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11500 | 04/15/15 | 14:59 | 137 Hickory Court | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |



Princeton Police Department

Monthly Report For April 2015

69 Occurrences of the following:

| Case # | Date | Time | Location | Incident / Call Type |
|----------|----------|-------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 15-11513 | 04/15/15 | 15:55 | Palmer Square West | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Report |
| 15-11594 | 04/16/15 | 13:26 | Nassau Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11621 | 04/16/15 | 17:41 | Great Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11713 | 04/17/15 | 16:11 | Hulfish Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Report |
| 15-11743 | 04/17/15 | 21:43 | 24 Spring Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11800 | 04/18/15 | 12:53 | 301 North Harrison Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-11873 | 04/18/15 | 23:28 | State Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - Injury |
| 15-12084 | 04/21/15 | 13:51 | 24 Spring Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-12095 | 04/21/15 | 16:01 | Elm Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-12093 | 04/21/15 | 15:36 | Bayard Lane | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-12142 | 04/22/15 | 09:00 | Elm Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-12194 | 04/22/15 | 15:05 | 21 Running Cedar Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-12216 | 04/22/15 | 18:13 | 4565 Province Line Road | Driving While Intoxicated 39:4-50 |
| 15-12251 | 04/23/15 | 10:03 | Nassau Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-12296 | 04/23/15 | 15:36 | Mercer Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-12314 | 04/23/15 | 18:49 | Nassau Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-12318 | 04/23/15 | 20:44 | Nassau Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-12418 | 04/24/15 | 17:31 | Alexander Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-12414 | 04/24/15 | 17:13 | Mercer Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - Injury |
| 15-12601 | 04/26/15 | 13:33 | 31 Alexander Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-12599 | 04/26/15 | 13:24 | Bayard Lane | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-12728 | 04/27/15 | 11:16 | 521 State Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - Deer |
| 15-12743 | 04/27/15 | 12:46 | Sylvia Beach Way | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-12745 | 04/27/15 | 12:55 | Wiggins Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-12767 | 04/27/15 | 17:31 | 25 Chambers Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-12614 | 04/26/15 | 15:32 | Valley Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-12988 | 04/29/15 | 11:52 | Mercer Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-13012 | 04/29/15 | 15:58 | Mount Lucas Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-13095 | 04/30/15 | 10:55 | North Harrison Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-12833 | 04/28/15 | 08:15 | Mercer Street | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-13146 | 04/30/15 | 16:35 | Bayard Lane | Motor Vehicle Crash - No Injury |
| 15-13160 | 04/30/15 | 20:22 | Valley Road | Motor Vehicle Crash - Injury |

PRINCETON POLICE DEPARTMENT

**1 Valley Road
Princeton, NJ 08540**

MVA W/PEDESTRIANS

April 2015

| CASE # | DATE | TIME | STREET | AGE | |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------|--------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| 15-10781 | 4/8/15 | 2159 | Washington Rd./Ivy Lane | 25 | Injury |
| 15-10880 | 4/9/15 | 2005 | Bayard Lane/Nassau St. | 71 | Injury |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

MVA W/BICYCLISTS

April 2015

| CASE # | DATE | TIME | STREET | AGE | |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|--|
| | | | NO REPORTS | | |
| | | | | | |

MVA W/DEER

April 2015

| CASE # | DATE | TIME | STREET | AGE | |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|------------|------------------|
| 15-11260 | 4/13/15 | 2023 | Cherry Valley Rd./Heather Lane | 22 | No Injury |
| 15-12728 | 4/27/15 | 1116 | State Rd./Arreton Rd. | 70 | No Injury |

PRINCETON POLICE DEPARTMENT
MONTHLY REPORT SUMMONSES
APRIL 2015

| | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| SPEEDING | 64 | 65 |
| UNREGISTERED VEHICLE | 91 | 63 |
| FAILURE TO INSPECT | 44 | 22 |
| CELL PHONE | 17 | 20 |
| CARELESS DRIVING | 36 | 27 |
| MAINTENANCE OF LAMPS | 24 | 4 |
| DRIVING WHILE SUSPENDED | 32 | 21 |
| FAILURE TO EXHIBIT DOCUMENTS | 19 | 10 |
| UNLICENSED DRIVER | 23 | 5 |
| UNINSURED MOTORIST | 12 | 13 |
| FAILURE TO WEAR SEATBELT | 13 | 6 |
| DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED | 8 | 0 |
| FAILURE TO YIELD TO PEDESTRIAN | 12 | 6 |
| ALL OTHER (ordinances and moving included in this total) | 180 | 103 |
| TOTAL | 575 | 365 |

PRINCETON POLICE DEPARTMENT
MONTHLY REPORT ORDINANCE ACTIVITY
April 2015

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Public Urination | 2 |
| Overweight Vehicle | 8 |
| Open Container | 1 |
| In Park After Dark | 4 |
| Alcoholic Beverages in Park | 1 |
| Disorderly Conduct | 2 |
| Abandoned Vehicle | 1 |
| No Left Turn Prohibited | 3 |
| | |
| Total | 22 |

PRINCETON POLICE DEPARTMENT
MONTHLY REPORT OF PARKING ORDINANCE ACTIVITY
APRIL 2015

| | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| BUS ZONE | 4 | 1 |
| LOADING ZONE | 34 | 22 |
| PARKING w/DESIGN PARK STALLS | 47 | 35 |
| NO PARKING ZONES/ANYTIME | 74 | 26 |
| PARKING BET 2A & 6A LIMIT 1 HR | 141 | 126 |
| PARK LIMIT 2 HRS BET 8A & 6P | 182 | 60 |
| PARK BET 2A & 6A IN MUNICIPAL YARD | 3 | 8 |
| METERS | 2244 | 1124 |
| METER FEEDING | 14 | 8 |
| PARK IN HANDICAP SPACE | 3 | 1 |
| ALL OTHERS | 146 | 95 |
| | | |
| TOTALS | 2892 | 1506 |

Parking Authority Ticketing System
PRINCETON
Tickets by Location Report
From 04/01/2015 To 04/30/2015

| Location | Total Tickets | Percentage of Total |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| AIKEN AVE | 3 | 0% |
| ALEXANDER ST | 17 | 1% |
| BANK ST | 9 | 0% |
| BAYARD LN | 2 | 0% |
| BIRCH AVE | 1 | 0% |
| BOUDINOT ST | 4 | 0% |
| CEDAR LN | 1 | 0% |
| CHAMBERS ST | 67 | 2% |
| CHARLETON ST | 17 | 1% |
| CHESTNUT ST | 5 | 0% |
| CLAY ST | 2 | 0% |
| COLLEGE RD | 7 | 0% |
| DICKINSON ST | 17 | 1% |
| EDWARDS PL | 2 | 0% |
| FRANKLIN AVE | 4 | 0% |
| GREEN ST | 9 | 0% |
| GREENVIEW AVE | 11 | 0% |
| GRIGGS CORNER LOT | 68 | 3% |
| HAMILTON AVE | 5 | 0% |
| HARRISON ST | 1 | 0% |
| HOUGHTON RD | 3 | 0% |
| HULFISH ST | 80 | 3% |
| HUMBERT ST | 6 | 0% |
| JOHN ST | 26 | 1% |
| LEIGH AVE | 6 | 0% |
| LIBRARY PL | 5 | 0% |
| LINCOLN CT | 1 | 0% |
| MACLEAN ST | 6 | 0% |
| MADISON ST | 14 | 1% |
| MAPLE ST | 3 | 0% |
| MERCER EXTENSION | 14 | 1% |
| MERCER ST | 15 | 1% |
| MOORE ST | 39 | 1% |
| MORAN AVE | 2 | 0% |
| MORVEN PL | 5 | 0% |
| MURRAY PL | 15 | 1% |

**Parking Authority Ticketing System
PRINCETON
Tickets by Location Report
From 04/01/2015 To 04/30/2015**

| Location | Total Tickets | Percentage of Total |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|
| N TULANE ST | 23 | 1% |
| NASSAU ST | 809 | 30% |
| OLDEN ST | 87 | 3% |
| PALMER SQUARE E | 117 | 4% |
| PALMER SQUARE W | 111 | 4% |
| PARK PL | 19 | 1% |
| PARK PLACE EAST YARD | 5 | 0% |
| PARK PLACE WEST YARD | 58 | 2% |
| PATTON AVE | 16 | 1% |
| PAUL ROBESON PL | 30 | 1% |
| PINE ST | 16 | 1% |
| PRINCETON SHOPPING CENTER | 2 | 0% |
| PRINCETON STATION LOT | 51 | 2% |
| PROSPECT AVE | 174 | 6% |
| QUARRY ST | 10 | 0% |
| S TULANE ST | 27 | 1% |
| SPRING ST | 80 | 3% |
| SPRING ST PARKING GARAGE | 1 | 0% |
| SPRUCE ST | 13 | 0% |
| SYLVIA BEACH WAY | 1 | 0% |
| TRINITY CHURCH LOT | 24 | 1% |
| TULANE EAST LOT | 4 | 0% |
| TULANE WEST LOT | 82 | 3% |
| UNIVERSITY PL | 150 | 6% |
| UNIVERSITY PLACE LOT | 16 | 1% |
| VANDEVENTER AVE | 33 | 1% |
| WALNUT LN | 2 | 0% |
| WIGGINS ST | 7 | 0% |
| WILLIAM ST | 86 | 3% |
| WITHERSPOON ST | 153 | 6% |
| Totals | 2,699 | 100% |