

**CITY OF NORWALK
TRAFFIC AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 21, 2025
BY ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING**

To allow public access, anyone may access a meeting by telephone and/or Zoom, or a recording in the City of Norwalk YouTube channel. Specific instructions and links can be found at norwalkct.gov/meetings.

Members of the public may call in to participate. Callers will not be able to see the meeting participants. All participants will be muted upon entering the meeting. To speak, dial *9 on the phone and you will be called on by the host of the meeting during the public comment section. All speakers must state their name and address. Comments must be on a topic on the agenda, and are limited to three minutes. Anyone disrupting the orderly conduct of the meeting, including by using threatening, hateful, or sexually-explicit language, will be removed. Please find the information using the link above.

Members of the public who wish to provide "live comments" may also use the Zoom meeting platform. All participants will be muted upon entering the meeting. To speak, click the "raise your hand indicator" and you will be called by the host of the meeting during the public comment section. All speakers must state their name and address. Comments must be on a topic on the agenda, and are limited to three minutes. Anyone disrupting the orderly conduct of the meeting, including by using threatening, hateful, or sexually-explicit language, will be removed. Please find the information using the link above.

Members of the public who wish to provide public comment are encouraged to submit those via email in advance of the meeting. For these comments to be included into the record, they must be submitted by 12:00 p.m. the day of the meeting. Please email Benjamin Yeung at byeung@norwalkct.gov with the subject line "Public Comment" to provide written public comment prior to the meeting.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rilling called the meeting to order at 4:01 PM.

II. ROLL CALL

Mayor Rilling called the roll, and all those listed in the attendance were present.

ATTENDANCE: Mayor Rilling; Commissioner Tony Lopez; Commissioner Ronald Paladino; Commissioner Fran Collier-Clemmons; Commissioner Nate Sumpter

STAFF: Chief James Walsh; Deputy Chief Blake;
Deputy Chief Joseph Dinho; Deputy Chief Melissa Lepore;

Nathan Fankhanel, Junior Engineer, Transportation, Mobility,
and Parking; Daniel Stanton, DPW Senior Engineer;
Drew Berndlmaier, DPW Senior Engineer

OTHERS: Jerry Toni; James Whipple; Justene Cyr

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation this evening.

IV. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM 6/16/25 TRAFFIC AUTHORITY

**** COMMISSIONER LOPEZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM 7/10/25 TRAFFIC AUTHORITY SPECIAL MEETING

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED.
** THE MOTION PASSED WITH THREE (3) IN FAVOR AND ONE (1) ABSTENTION-COMMISSIONER SUMPTER.**

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. OYSTER FEST

Mayor Rilling stated that this is an annual event that has been held since the 1970s, and that he does not believe there have been any changes from previous years. Mr. Toni said that is correct.

Mayor Rilling asked if the police department had any concerns. Chief Walsh said, "No, they do not."

**** COMMISSIONER LOPEZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. SONO HALF MARATHON & 5K

Mayor Rilling asked if there have been any changes over the past several years. Mr.

Whipple said, “No,” and added that this would be the 11th year the event had taken place. Everything went well last year, and we received no complaints. The courses will remain the same and will meet with DPW, the Police Department, and the DOT in August and early September to ensure that everything is as safe as possible. Mayor Rilling stated that his office did not receive any complaints last year and inquired with Chief Walsh whether the police department had received any. Chief Walsh said, “No,” they did not.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

C. EVERSOURCE PAVING WATER STREET & FORT POINT STREET

Ms. Cyr presented the traffic plan for the upcoming reconstruction work, which will be the final scope of work in Norwalk. The project will begin at 90 Water Street with sidewalk restoration, with all sidewalk work scheduled to take place from July 28th to August 1st. Once the sidewalk repairs have been completed, the project will proceed with road repairs, which will include milling and paving, curb-to-curb, and striping. The milling and paving will begin on August 4th and continue through August 7th. An additional work week will start on August 11th and continue through August 14th, as needed. Although they do not anticipate needing the second week, it is included in the case of adverse weather conditions or delays. The closures will take place from 7:00 PM to 5:00 AM.

Commissioner Paladino asked if the businesses that would be affected had been or would be notified. Ms. Cyr said, “Yes,” and added that a comprehensive outreach plan is currently being developed.

Commissioner Lopez asked if, in the event of inclement weather, these dates could be pushed back. Ms. Cyr said “Yes,” and that is why they are requesting the second week.

Mayor Rilling asked if the police department had received the plan and if they were comfortable with it. Chief Walsh said, “Yes,” and we meet with Ms. Cyr and her team once a week, and have reviewed the plans.

**** COMMISSIONER SUMPTER MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

D. GEORGE AVENUE

Mr. Stanton provided an overview of the project, stating that it is part of the Lockwood and Heather Lane drainage project, which has been ongoing since last summer. There are numerous activities still being performed on the project, and to restore the pavement in the area, the contractor is requesting road closures during this operation, which will divert traffic around their workers. The closures will only be during the day, and there will be no overnight closures. They will only close the area where they are working, and not all areas will be closed simultaneously. The same detour plan that the

commission previously approved will be used.

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

E. BERKELEY STREET AREA PAVING

Mr. Berndlmaier presented the plan submitted by Grasso Construction and requested that they phase their construction to allow people to continue parking in the neighborhood during the project. He provided an overview of the project and said they will be reclaiming and paving the roads in the area, and the curb and sidewalks have already been updated.

Commissioner Collier-Clemmons asked how much space would be needed to store the excess material. Mr. Berndlmaier said the material will be used as part of the roadway, as they are just altering the grade of the road.

Commissioner Lopez inquired whether there would be sufficient parking spaces or if overflow parking would be necessary on West Avenue. Mr. Berndlmaier said they have found that a lot of the parking in the area is being used by local construction workers working on other projects, and they intend to reach out to them for their cooperation in not parking in this area during the phased construction. He stated that notices were sent out last week to all residents and businesses in the area, requesting their cooperation in utilizing their on-site parking whenever possible.

**** COMMISSIONER PALADINO MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

VI. ADJOURNMENT

**** COMMISSIONER COLLIER-CLEMMONS MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dilene Byrd

UPCOMING MEETINGS

The next meeting is on Monday, August 18 , 2025 at 4:00PM.