

TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD AGENDA

April 15th, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.
Common Council Chambers
109 N. Main Street
Oneida, NY 13421

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Acceptance of previous meetings minutes

Old Business

•

Agenda Items:

1. Citizen Complaint – Parking on street in intersection Broad Street/Washington Avenue. (City Clerk Sandy LaPera)
2. Safety concern with parking spot on East Railroad Street – Request to remove the parking spot. (Common Councilor Andrea Hitchings)
3. Citizen Complaint – Request to install radar speed signs around heavy-traffic streets and schools.
4. Safety concern regarding pedestrians walking in Main Street during winter due to lack of plowing on sidewalks. (Board Member Michael Geer)

New Business

Hank's Post

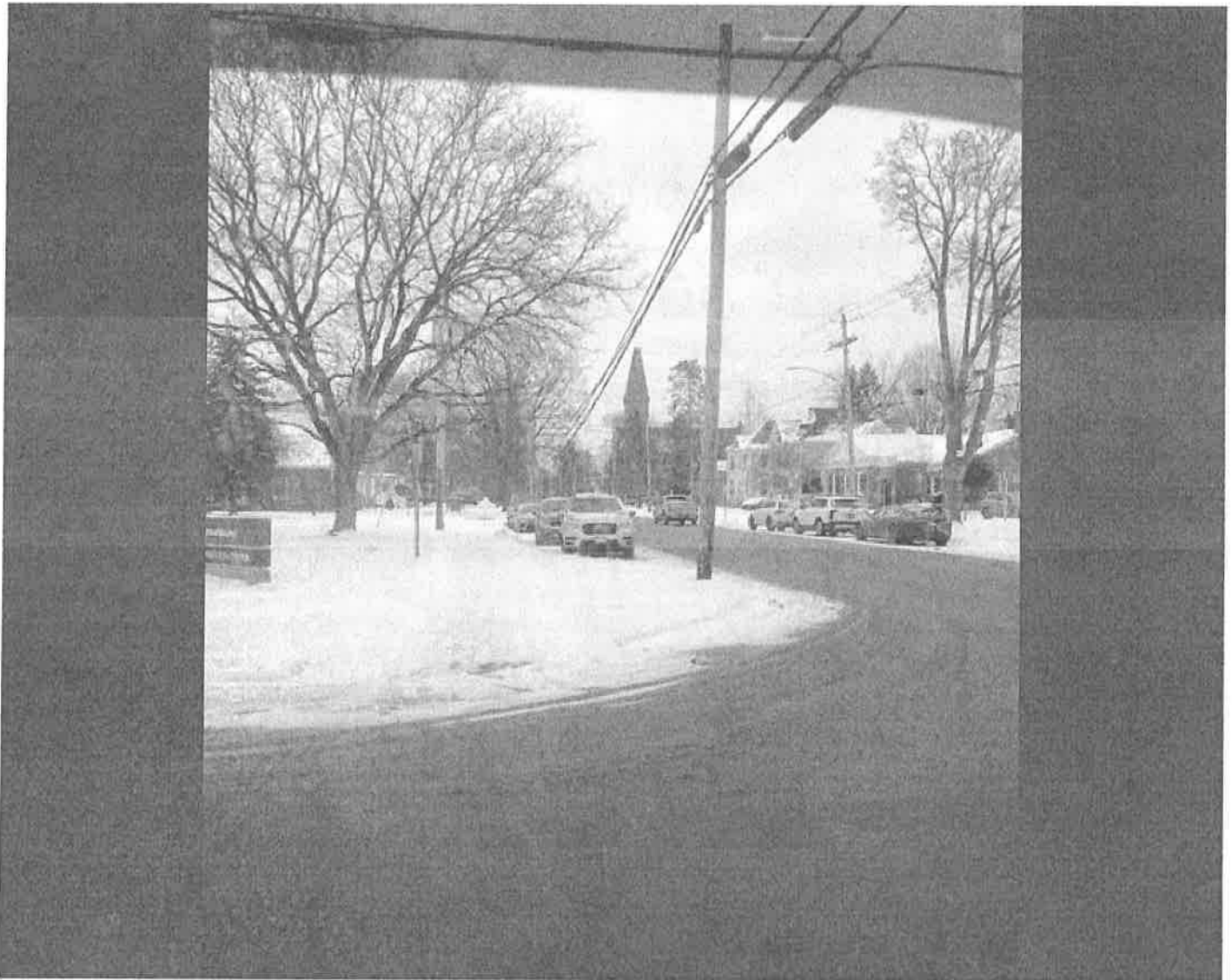


Oneida For Change

Hank Tornatore · January 9 · 🌐



So with all talk about the barber shop recently I figured I'd post about something that matters and is a huge safety hazard. The on street parking of the broad st and Washington Ave intersection. With the cars parked there trying to cross or turn from that side is rather difficult due to the cars parked where they are and not being able to see if anything is coming without creeping way out...



Answer as Oneida City Police Department



Re: Traffic Safety Board Agenda Items 4/15/25

From michael67geer@gmail.com <michael67geer@gmail.com>

Date Thu 4/10/2025 12:39 PM

To Jaime Feith-Mallory <JFeith-Mallory@oneidacityny.gov>

Hello,

Unfortunately I cannot make the meeting next week.

I do have a point of discussion for the group and/or city officials. This winter I noticed a lot of pedestrians walking in the road (Main Street and 365A) during the day and evenings. This raises a serious safety concern for them and motorists. The sidewalks were not cleared expeditiously after winter storms and were impossible to walk on and I go for walks a lot. It seems most people were walking from downtown to price chopper and Walmart for their basic needs. Is there anything the city/the board can recommend to mitigate the risk in the winter, like provide a shuttle for lower income folks or being proactive in plowing and treating the high traffic pedestrian traffic areas? Maybe there is another solution. Point of discussion.

V/r,

Michael Geer

Sent from my iPad

On Apr 10, 2025, at 9:02 AM, Jaime Feith-Mallory <JFeith-Mallory@oneidacityny.gov> wrote:

Good morning all,

Please let me know if there are any agenda items that anybody would like to add to the upcoming Traffic Safety Board meeting scheduled for this upcoming Tuesday, April 15. I will be distributing the agenda tomorrow morning, so please let me know as soon as possible.

Current items for discussion:

Safety concerns from Kathy Uber regarding speeding throughout the city.

Safety concerns from Andrea Hitchings regarding a parking spot on East Railroad Street.

Safety concerns from Hank Tornatore (posted on Oneida For Change Facebook Page) regarding on-street parking on Broad Street and Washington Ave intersection.

Thank you!

Jaime Feith-Mallory

Senior Account Clerk

Secretary to the Traffic Safety Board

Oneida City Police Department



Outlook

RE: Traffic Safety Board Request

From Steve Lowell <slowell@oneidacityny.gov>

Date Tue 1/21/2025 4:41 PM

To Andrea Hitchings <ahitchings@oneidacityny.gov>

Cc dave_jones@fd.org <Dave_Jones@fd.org>; Jaime Feith-Mallory <JFeith-Mallory@oneidacityny.gov>; bburke81@twcnny.rr.com <bburke81@twcnny.rr.com>

Andrea, thank you for researching this. I thought it was much longer ago than it actually was.

In any event, we will add it to the agenda for the next TSB meeting in April.



Steven Lowell *Chief of Police*
City of Oneida Police Department
108 Main Street, Oneida NY 13421
315.363.9111

www.oneidacityny.gov/police



Legal Notice: This email, including any attachments, may contain highly sensitive and confidential information. It is intended only for the individual(s) named. If you received this email in error or from someone who was not authorized to send it to you, do not disseminate, copy or otherwise use this email or its attachments. Please notify the sender immediately by reply email and delete the e-mail from your system.

From: Andrea Hitchings <ahitchings@oneidacityny.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 4:35 PM

To: Steve Lowell <slowell@oneidacityny.gov>

Cc: dave_jones@fd.org; Jaime Feith-Mallory <JFeith-Mallory@oneidacityny.gov>; bburke81@twcnny.rr.com

Subject: Re: Traffic Safety Board Request

Good afternoon,

I wanted to provide you all with the 2017 TSB minutes regarding this "parking spot" along with a Traffic Order to change the signage to accommodate the food vendor. The spot in question was previously identified as a "No Standing" area with signage to indicate this. It seems; to accommodate the food truck vendor, the city compromised the safety of that area to allow for "seasonal" parking in that spot. We have not followed the traffic order either as signage is supposed to be replaced. I don't think this makes any sense, but all that is irrelevant at this point.

Now that we have new designated spots for the food truck vendors, with ample space, I propose that we once again designate that area as a "No Standing" zone with signage to indicate same.

Please let me know if you have any other questions.

Thank you!

All the best,
Andrea Hitchings
City of Oneida
Common Council
Ward 3

From: Steve Lowell <slowell@oneidacityny.gov>

Sent: Friday, January 17, 2025 1:15 PM

To: Andrea Hitchings <ahitchings@oneidacityny.gov>

Cc: dave_jones@fd.org <Dave_Jones@fd.org>; Jaime Feith-Mallory <JFeith-Mallory@oneidacityny.gov>;
bburke81@twcny.rr.com <bburke81@twcny.rr.com>

Subject: RE: Traffic Safety Board Request

Mrs. Hitchings,

Thank you very much for reaching out. I have copied our new account clerk who will be taking over as TSB Secretary, also TSB President Burke.

Your item will be included in the upcoming quarterly meeting which is scheduled for April.

Respectfully,



Steven Lowell *Chief of Police*

City of Oneida Police Department

108 Main Street, Oneida NY 13421

315.363.9111

www.oneidacityny.gov/police



Legal Notice: This email, including any attachments, may contain highly sensitive and confidential information. It is intended only for the individual(s) named. If you received this email in error or from someone who was not authorized to send it to you, do not disseminate, copy or otherwise use this email or its attachments. Please notify the sender immediately by reply email and delete the e-mail from your system.

From: Andrea Hitchings <ahitchings@oneidacityny.gov>

Sent: Friday, January 17, 2025 1:09 PM

To: Steve Lowell <slowell@oneidacityny.gov>

Cc: dave_jones@fd.org

Subject: Traffic Safety Board Request

Good afternoon Chief,

I hope this email finds you well.

I am writing to bring attention to a safety concern regarding the parking spot located on East Railroad Street. This particular parking space facing east, the only one on that side of the street, poses notable hazards to both drivers and pedestrians in the area. As you are aware, this spot was not designated as a "Mobile Food Vendor" spot due to the safety concerns. Now that we have designated it a safety concern for that purpose, it only makes sense that we remove it as a parking spot entirely. A safety concern is a safety concern regardless.

One of the primary issues with this parking spot is that it obstructs the view of traffic for vehicles attempting to navigate the area. The limited visibility creates a hazardous situation, especially for drivers entering or exiting the street. This obstruction increases the likelihood of accidents, as drivers are unable to see approaching vehicles or pedestrians clearly.

In addition to the risk for drivers, the parking spot presents a danger to pedestrians. The restricted line of sight makes it difficult for drivers to notice pedestrians crossing the street, particularly during peak hours. This increases the risk of potential accidents involving pedestrians, which is a serious concern for the community.

Being the only parking spot on that side of the street, it also disrupts the natural flow of traffic. Drivers often need to maneuver around the parked vehicle, which can lead to abrupt lane changes or other unpredictable driving behaviors. This further exacerbates the safety risks for everyone in the vicinity.

To address these concerns, I recommend the following potential solutions:

- Remove the parking spot entirely to ensure unobstructed views and smoother traffic flow.
- Conduct a traffic safety assessment to determine the full extent of the risk and explore alternative parking solutions.

- Consider implementing additional safety measures, such as improved signage or road markings, if the spot remains.

I strongly believe that taking action on this matter will significantly enhance the safety and well-being of both residents and visitors in the area. Thank you for your attention to this pressing issue. I am happy to provide further input or collaborate on potential solutions.

Thank you.

All the best,

Andrea Hitchings

City of Oneida

Common Council

Ward 3

CITY OF ONEIDA
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSIONER

MICHAEL WEST
Public Safety Commissioner



109 North Main Street
Oneida, New York 13421
Tel.: 315-363-4800
Fax: 315-363-9558

TRAFFIC ORDER

May 22, 2017

Pursuant to the authority vested in me by Article X of Charter of the City of Oneida, New York; I hereby declare, order and establish the following regulation/s regarding traffic control in/at:

N. MAIN STREET / E. RAILROAD ST. INTERSECTION:

- A "No Parking here to corner" sign will replace the existing no standing sign located _____ from Main Street in Clinch Park.
- A temporary "5-Minute parking only" sign will temporarily replace the existing no parking sign located in Clinch Park _____ from Main Street for the season. At the beginning/end of each spring/summer/fall food vendor season, the signs will switch accordingly.
- Two white lines with "No Parking" in the middle of the lines will be painted onto E. Railroad Street in front of the fire hydrant located Clinch Park closest to the Main Street intersection.

This Regulation to become effective upon proper signing.

Michael West
Commissioner of Public Safety

Filed/Sealed by the Oneida City Clerk this _____ day of _____, 20_____

Susan Pulverenti
City Clerk

Cc: Police Dept
City Engineer



Outlook

Safety concerns

From Kathy Uber <kathyuber@yahoo.com>

Date Sun 3/23/2025 11:57 AM

To Traffic Safety Board <tsb@oneidacityny.gov>

Hello,

Thank you for your efforts to improve the safety of our city streets. I own a home and live on Bates Avenue. I was born and raised in Oneida and have recently moved back in retirement from areas up and down the Atlantic coastline.

I have been HORRIFIED to see the speeders and reckless drivers all over within the city of Oneida! I see no law enforcement whatsoever. I have literally been PASSED illegally on BROAD Street for going the speed limit! Apparently no one feels they will get caught and drive like fools.

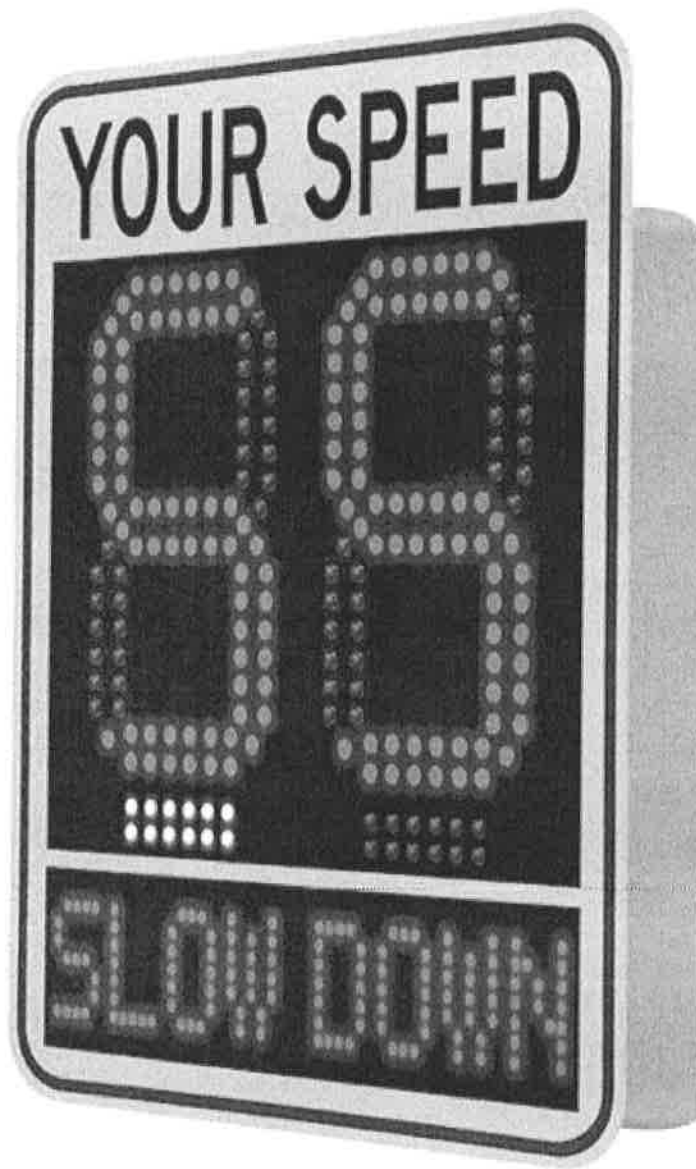
Bates Ave is used as a cut-through from the west side of the city to Broad Street and heavily used, just like Walnut Street. As you are well aware Seneca Street Elementary is right at one end of Bates with many daily walkers in the vicinity.

I called the the police department this past spring/summer and spoke to a sergeant about my frustrations and fears, asking if they could please monitor Bates Avenue. I told him of numerous incidents of speeding vehicles all day and all night (you can hear them gunning their engines from corner to corner) and even a tractor trailer that was not making a delivery on Bates, just passing through -- illegal!

I even suggested they could set up a nice spot on South Ave and see for themselves and raise some revenue for the city! I've never seen any police presence. (I do understand the police department has been understaffed of late and hopefully that will change for the better in the coming year.)

I do believe their presence in the city and their enforcement of speed limits is VITAL for a change and for the safety of all citizens, especially our children and pedestrians.

I appreciate your time and maybe we could take some steps to raise awareness? Maybe installing those radar speed devices telling them their speed & to SLOW DOWN around heavy-traffic streets & schools?



Let's do something before we have tragedies.
Thanks,
Kathy Uber
235 Bates Ave
919-815-7921