



CITY OF CONCORD

New Hampshire's Main Street™

City Manager's Office

City Hall • 41 Green Street • Concord, NH 03301 • (603) 225-8570
citymanager@concordnh.gov

Thomas J. Aspell, Jr.
City Manager

REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Matthew R. Walsh, Director of Redevelopment, Downtown Services,
& Special Projects

DATE: November 23, 2021

SUBJECT: Kennedy Lane – Removal of 20 Minute Parking Zone

Recommendation:

Set the attached ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances; Title II, Traffic Code; Chapter 18, Parking, Article 18-1, Stopping, Standing and Parking, Section 18-1-8 Parking Time Limited in Designated Places, Schedule III (20 Minutes between 7:00 a.m. and 12:01 a.m.), by amending Schedule III to remove the twenty minute parking zone located on Kennedy Lane, as well as Section 18-1-6, Parking Prohibited at All Times in Designated Places, Schedule I (Parking Prohibited at All Times), by amending Schedule I to establish a no parking zone on the west side of Kennedy Lane.

Background:

Kennedy Lane is a narrow street, approximately 16' wide, running between Depot Street and Pleasant Street Extension. Private parallel parking, owned by Capital Plaza Concord LLC, is located on the east side of the street. A twenty minute parking zone, approximately 40' long, is located on the west side of the alley near Depot Street. The twenty minute time zone was established by Ordinance 2026 on March 8, 1993.

In 2019, the Parking Committee, as part of its Narrow Streets project, considered removing the twenty minute parking zone. Initially, the Committee favored removing the twenty minute time zone due to very narrow wide of Kennedy Lane and related concerns about emergency vehicle access, snow removal, and challenges accessing the Downtown Solid Waste District dumpster located at the southerly end of the alley. However, the Committee ultimately decided against taking any action in 2019 as it desired to have additional discussions about potential changes with direct abutters.

An excerpt from the Parking Committee's September 17, 2019 Narrow Streets Presentation is attached which documents emergency vehicle and snow removal concerns.

Discussion:

On October 21, 2021 Gerry Carrier and Tressa Kosowicz, owners of Little River Oriental Rugs, submitted a letter to the Parking Committee asking that the City remove the 20 minute parking zone. Little River Oriental Rugs is located at 10 North Main Street, and has a garage fronting on Kennedy Lane. A copy of their request is attached.

The Parking Committee considered this request during its November 22, 2021 meeting. The meeting was attended by Gerry Carrier and Gerry Mark, owner of Caring Gifts. Caring Gifts is located at 18 North Main Street and also has a service entrance on Kennedy Lane.

Mr. Carrier and Mr. Mark both testified at the meeting.

During its deliberations, the Parking Committee noted its previous concerns about the narrowness of the roadway and associated emergency vehicle access, snow removal, and rubbish removal concerns. The Committee also noted that the twenty minute time limit is frequently abused by the public.

After review, the Parking Committee unanimously recommended the City Council adopt the attached ordinance 1) removing the twenty minute parking zone located on the west side of Kennedy Lane and 2) prohibiting parking on the west side of Kennedy Lane between Depot Street and Pleasant Street Extension.