



City of Kingston Public Safety/General Government Committee
Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, August 28, 2019
6:30 PM

1 CONSERVATION ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE

2 NEW BUSINESS

- 2.a. Stop Signs Lincoln & Grant Sts.
[20190822085347.pdf](#)
- 2.b. Stop Sign Winchell & S. Wall St
[20190822085602.pdf](#)
- 2.c. Handicap Parking 60 VanBuren St.
[20190822085752.pdf](#)
- 2.d. No Parking Kingston Point Rail Trail
[20190822090627.pdf](#)
[20190827081318.pdf](#)

3 OLD BUSINESS

- 3.a. 2 Hour Parking Sign
[20190617104819.pdf](#)
- 3.b. Handicap Parking 38 VanDeusen
[20190603101703.pdf](#)
- 3.c. No Parking request Smith & Ardsley
[20190402080230.pdf](#)
- 3.d. Memorializing Resolution
[20190507095026.pdf](#)
- 3.e. Removal Handicap Parking 193 Clinton Ave.
[20190822092102.pdf](#)
- 3.f. 25 Mile Per Hour Request
[20190822092707.pdf](#)

Public Safety/General Government Committee Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: August 28, 2019

Submitted by: Dee Sills

Submitting Department: Common Council

Item Type: Proposed Resolution

Agenda Section:

Subject:

Stop Signs Lincoln & Grant Sts.

Suggested Action:

Attachments:

[20190822085347.pdf](#)

Tinti, Elisa

From: Noble, James
Sent: Wednesday, July 24, 2019 9:50 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: Fwd: Stop Sign in Ward 7

Hi Elisa

Please forward this communication to the PS Committee. Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "O'Reilly, Patrick" <ward7@kingston-ny.gov>
Date: July 22, 2019 at 10:55:22 PM EDT
To: "Noble, James" <jnoble@kingston-ny.gov>
Cc: "Tinti, Elisa" <emtinti@kingston-ny.gov>, "Sills, Dee" <dsills@kingston-ny.gov>, "Schabot, Steven" <sschabot@kingston-ny.gov>
Subject: Stop Sign in Ward 7

Dear President Noble,

I am requesting that stop signs be placed on the corner of Lincoln street and Grant street. This intersection is on top of a hill that blocks the oncoming drivers view of pedestrians walking up the hill. During the morning drivers are blinded at this corner by the sunrise. This corner is located one block from Hutton park and gets foot traffic from the park. Please forward this request to the appropriate committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick O'Reilly

Alderman #7

Public Safety/General Government Committee Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: August 28, 2019

Submitted by: Dee Sills

Submitting Department: Common Council

Item Type: Proposed Resolution

Agenda Section:

Subject:

Stop Sign Winchell & S. Wall St

Suggested Action:

Attachments:

[20190822085602.pdf](#)

Sills, Dee

From: Carey, Bill
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2019 2:05 PM
To: Sills, Dee
Subject: Fwd: Stop sign communication

Dee

I got Elisa's out of office message so am forwarding this to you in case. I will send two more requests as well that I sent earlier.

Thanks

Bill

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: <bcarey@kingston-ny.gov>
Date: July 31, 2019 at 1:57:11 PM EDT
To: "jnoble39@aol.com" <jnoble39@aol.com>, <emtinti@kingston-ny.gov>
Subject: Stop sign communication

Jim

Could you refer to the proper committee a request for a stop sign on Winchell Avenue where it intersects with South Wall Street. Currently there are stop signs on South Wall at that location which means cars coming out of the side street have the right of way and no stop sign. I think this presents a dangerous situation.

Thanks

Bill Carey
Ward 5

Sent from my iPhone

Public Safety/General Government Committee Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: August 28, 2019

Submitted by: Dee Sills

Submitting Department: Common Council

Item Type: Proposed Resolution

Agenda Section:

Subject:

Handicap Parking 60 VanBuren St.

Suggested Action:

Attachments:

[20190822085752.pdf](#)

45

Tinti, Elisa

From: Carey, Bill
Sent: Monday, August 05, 2019 6:43 PM
To: jnoble39@aol.com; Tinti, Elisa; Worthington, Rita
Subject: Handicapped sign on Van Buren

I received a call from a Ward 4 constituent (she was told she was in Ward 5) today requesting handicapped parking designation at 60 Van Buren Street. The person in need is Victor Goodridge and her name is April Sackett. I am copying Rita and will follow up with her as well, but if you could refer to August Public Safety, I would appreciate it.

Thank you.

Bill Carey
Ward 5

Sent from my iPhone

Public Safety/General Government Committee Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: August 28, 2019

Submitted by: Dee Sills

Submitting Department: Mayor

Item Type: Proposed Resolution

Agenda Section:

Subject:

No Parking Kingston Point Rail Trail

Suggested Action:

Attachments:

[20190822090627.pdf](#)

[20190827081318.pdf](#)

Tinti, Elisa

From: Noble, Steve
Sent: Wednesday, August 14, 2019 4:33 PM
To: Noble, James; Schabot, Steven
Cc: Schultheis, John; O'Reilly, Patrick; Norman, Edward; Timbrouck, Lynsey; Tinti, Elisa
Subject: Addition to Public Safety Agenda

President Noble, Alderman Schabot,

As we prepare for the opening of the Kingston Point Rail Trail, Phase 1 this September, we are in need of a common council resolution to add "No Parking" signs in the area of each street crossing of the Kingston Point Rail trail on First Avenue, Second Avenue, Third Avenue, both crossings of Delaware Avenue and Murray Street. The no parking area would extend 25' from the center of the trail in both directions on both sides of the street.

John will be following up with an engineering analysis as per the council's new policy.

I would respectfully ask that this be added as a late communication for the Public Safety Committee later this month.

-Steve

Steven T. Noble
Mayor, City of Kingston
420 Broadway
Kingston, NY 12401
845-334-3902
www.kingston-ny.gov

CITY OF KINGSTON
Office of the City Engineer
jschultheis@kingston-ny.gov

John Schultheis, P.E., City Engineer



Steven T. Noble, Mayor

August 26, 2019

James Noble, President
City of Kingston Common Council
via email

Dear President Noble:

This is in response to Mayor Noble's email dated August 14, 2019 regarding "No Parking" signs in the area of the soon-to-be-opened Kingston Point Rail Trail. Below is my analysis and recommendation regarding this matter:

Locations: Delaware Avenue at Kingston Point Rail Trail (KPRT) Crossing 1, 1st Avenue at KPRT, 2nd Avenue at KPRT, 3rd Avenue at KPRT, Delaware Avenue at KPRT Crossing 2, Murray Avenue at KPRT, a total of six locations

Analysis: These crossings were formerly railroad crossings however the railroad has been defunct for many years. Completion of the new Rail Trail (KPRT) within the right of way of the former railroad is expected during August 2019.

At the time of trail completion and opening to the public, it will be necessary to prevent parked vehicles from blocking the trail and from blocking the view of the trail and roadway by motorists and pedestrians in order to ensure the trail remains safe and passable.

Recommendation: It is my recommendation that no parking zones be established by local law for a minimum of 25-ft from each of the listed crossings. Signage to this effect should be erected at both sides of the streets at these six locations.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "JS", is written over a faint, larger signature.

John M. Schultheis, P.E.

Public Safety/General Government Committee Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: August 28, 2019

Submitted by: Dee Sills

Submitting Department: Common Council

Item Type: Proposed Resolution

Agenda Section:

Subject:

2 Hour Parking Sign

Suggested Action:

Attachments:

[20190617104819.pdf](#)

Tinti, Elisa

From: Worthington, Rita
Sent: Thursday, June 13, 2019 2:18 PM
To: Noble, James; Tinti, Elisa
Cc: Norman, Edward; Bergquist, Diane; Timbrouck, Lynsey
Subject: FW: 190 Fair St

Good Afternoon:

Unfortunately, I have not received a response back to my email of June 4th (See Below). I received another call from Linda Sumber, wife of Dr. Sumber who has a practice at 185 Fair Street. As indicated in my June 4th email, the 2-hour parking signs were removed without their knowledge.

Apparently, the practice is losing patients because there is no place to park. There is a handicapped parking sign, however because it is not designated, uptown business patrons are using it.

I am asking that this matter be placed on the June 26th Public Safety agenda as well as to be provided with a reason on why the signs were taken down. The request is that signs be placed across the street from the practice indicating 2-hour parking, Monday through Friday from 8:30 am - 5 pm.

I would appreciate a response.

Thank you.
 Rita M. Worthington
 Ward 4

From: Worthington, Rita
Sent: Tuesday, June 4, 2019 12:34 PM
To: Norman, Edward; Bergquist, Diane
Subject: FW: 190 Fair St

Hi Ed and Diane:

I received a call from a Linda Sumber regarding two 2-hour parking signs that were removed at 190 Fair Street, in front of their practice. Please see Lynsey Timbrouck's email to me below.

Can you tell me why they were removed. I don't recall anything coming before council on this.

Please advise, so I can bet back to Ms. Sumber.

Thank you.
 Rita M. Worthington
 Ward 4

Public Safety/General Government Committee Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: August 28, 2019

Submitted by: Dee Sills

Submitting Department: Public Works

Item Type: Proposed Resolution

Agenda Section:

Subject:

Handicap Parking 38 VanDeusen

Suggested Action:

Attachments:

[20190603101703.pdf](#)

Tinti, Elisa

From: Bergquist, Diane
Sent: Wednesday, May 22, 2019 2:58 PM
To: Koop, Douglas; Morell, Jeffrey; Schabot, Steven; Scott-Childress, Reynolds; Worthington, Rita
Cc: Noble, Steve; Tinti, Elisa; Norman, Edward; Coon, Ryan; Simon, Mike
Subject: handicap parking at 38 Van Deusen
Attachments: 38 Van Deusen St. Handicap Paring.pdf

There is still a problem with placing handicap parking at the 38 Van Deusen St. residence. There is no parking on that side of the road. It would have to be changed by an amended resolution to 35 Van Deusen across from the address listed in the attached resolution.

Diane Bergquist
 Safety Officer
 (845) 481-7307
 (845) 331-0295 Fax
 (845) 224-6070 Cell

RESOLUTION 93 of 2019

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AN ORDINANCE IN RELATION TO TRAFFIC ON THE
PUBLIC STREETS OF THE CITY OF KINGSTON, NEW YORK, ADDING HANDICAP
PARKING ON VAN DEUSEN STREET

Sponsored By: Public Safety/General Gov. Committee: Aldermen:
Schabot, Scott-Childress, Worthington, Koop

WHEREAS, in the interest of safety and the needs of residents, parking on the street must be regulated

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF KINGSTON, NEW YORK, DOES ORDAIN AND ENACT THE FOLLOWING:

SECTION 1. ARTICLE 7, SECTION 390-57, "HANDICAP PARKING" is hereby amended
by ADDING the following:

Handicap Parking (and signage) at 38 Van Deusen Street.

- NO Parking
on even side
- \$35 charge to
in front
of someone
elses house

SECTION-2. All ordinances and parts thereof, inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION-3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Submitted to the Mayor this 8 day of

May, 2019

Elisa Tinti

Elisa Tinti, City Clerk

Approved by the Mayor this 8 day of

May, 2019

Steven T. Noble

Steven T. Noble, Mayor

Adopted by Council on May 7, 2019

Public Safety/General Government Committee Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: August 28, 2019

Submitted by: Dee Sills

Submitting Department: Common Council

Item Type: Proposed Resolution

Agenda Section:

Subject:

No Parking request Smith & Ardsley

Suggested Action:

Attachments:

[20190402080230.pdf](#)

Tinti, Elisa

From: Davis, Tony
Sent: Monday, April 01, 2019 8:33 PM
To: Tinti, Elisa; Noble, James; Jim Noble
Subject: Comm7nication

I would like have added to next months communication regarding no parking near corner at the intersection of Smith ave and ardsley. I would like to get signage on both sides of the corner of ardsley and smith.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S7, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

Public Safety/General Government Committee Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: August 28, 2019

Submitted by: Dee Sills

Submitting Department: Mayor

Item Type: Proposed Resolution

Agenda Section:

Subject:

Memorializing Resolution

Suggested Action:

Attachments:

[20190507095026.pdf](#)

Tinti, Elisa

From: Noble, Steve
Sent: Friday, May 03, 2019 8:58 AM
To: Noble, James
Cc: Tinti, Elisa; Timbrouck, Lynsey
Subject: FW: Bringing a Memorializing Resolution opposing the Danskammer Power Plant before the Common Council
Attachments: 02-15-19_RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF NEW PALTZ BOARD EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO THE DANSKAMMER BUILD OUT PROPOSAL.docx; 03-11-19 _NEWBURGH_RESOLUTION_AGAINSTDANSKAMMER.docx; Elected Official Sign-On Letter_ Danskammer.docx

Dear President Noble,

Please see the email and attached communication regarding a request for a common council memorializing resolution.

Thanks,

-Steve

Steven T. Noble
 Mayor, City of Kingston
 420 Broadway
 Kingston, NY 12401
 845-334-3902
www.kingston-ny.gov

From: Andrew Pezzullo [mailto:apezzullo@fwwatch.org]
Sent: Thursday, May 2, 2019 10:42 AM
To: Noble, Steve
Subject: Bringing a Memorializing Resolution opposing the Danskammer Power Plant before the Common Council

Mayor Noble,

My name is Andrew Pezzullo and I am constituent of yours and own a home in Ward 5 on Fair St. I am a big supporter of your work, especially around the intersection of municipal planning, climate change, and economic development! I was a local organic farm business owner for many years in the town of Ulster and am now a community organizer with Food and Water Watch.

I am emailing today to ask you if you might be willing to bring a memorializing resolution before the Common Council that expresses opposition to the expansion and repowering of the fracked-gas Danskammer power plant in the town of Newburgh. Though it is being touted as more eco-friendly than the peaker plant that currently occupies Danskammer point, instead of running 2-3% of the year, it will become a base generating plant that runs 95% of the year releasing a continuous stream of pollution and greenhouse gas emissions into the local and regional air and water supply and accelerating the impacts of global climate change. Additionally, it is sited in a floodway and according to IPCC floodway projections, the new fracked-gas power plant will be underwater more than a half century before it's expected retirement.

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
 Governor of New York State
 NYS State Capitol Building
 Albany, NY 12224

Stop a dangerous fracked gas power plant on the Hudson River

Dear Governor Cuomo,

We, the undersigned elected officials, urge you deny Danskammer, LLC the permits for expansion to a year-round Danskammer fracked gas and diesel burning power plant in Newburgh, NY. We represent communities across the Hudson Valley and throughout New York targeted by the fossil fuel industry for the expansion of fracked gas pipelines and power plants.

The Danskammer fracked gas power plant threatens nearby communities while locking us into decades of fossil fuel dependence. Instead, your administration can and must lead the way to a rapid transition to 100% renewable energy.

We strongly urge you to oppose this power plant for the following reasons:

The project directly contradicts your own Green New Deal goals for New York State. Pollution from greenhouse gases, including carbon and methane, emitted from Danskammer would further exacerbate the climate crisis. Danskammer is proposing to be permitted through 2053, which far surpasses the 2040 timeline you set for New York to run on 100% clean energy.

The year-round plant threatens our air and water quality. We have already seen the approval of Competitive Power Ventures (CPV) and Cricket Valley (the largest fracked gas power plant in the North East). Adding the greenhouse gas emissions from Danskammer would drastically worsen the air quality in the Hudson Valley and increase the public health risks for asthma and other diseases for surrounding residents.

Furthermore, the plant would reside in a flood-prone area due to the expected sea-level rise on the Hudson River. Up to 1 million gallons of diesel and 30,000 gallons of aqueous ammonia would be stored on-site and present an enormous threat to our water if there were any flooding or spills.

We don't need this power plant to meet our energy needs. The recent \$250 million Green Energy Grant that Westchester was awarded is a step in the right direction, and it is inspiring to see the state begin to follow through with its promise to be a leader in the fight against climate change. We now ask that you do the same thing for the rest of our communities, and invest in renewable energy, energy efficiency and battery storage; and deny all future requests from the fossil fuel industry to expand infrastructure for energy production in New York State.

The plant would have negative impact on tourism in the Hudson Valley. The Hudson Valley is known for its agriculture and natural beauty, which draws millions of tourists from around the globe each year, further strengthening New York's economy. Danskammer would invariably take away from the aesthetics of the Hudson Valley and lead to a decline in tourism for people that come to enjoy the bountiful nature and outdoors the area provides.

The power plant disproportionately effects nearby Environmental Justice areas and targets vulnerable communities. In particular, low-income communities and people of color will feel the brunt of the air pollution due their proximity to the plant. This includes, but not limited to, residents in the cities of Beacon, Newburgh and Fishkill. There is also a correctional facility close to the would-be power plant, if built.

More and better jobs can be produced in the renewable energy sector. For communities that have displaced workers from the fossil-fuel industry, we urge a fair and just transition plan that provides training and placement for workers in the rapidly-growing renewable energy economy. The transition must address legitimate community concerns regarding loss of tax revenues and donations to first responders and important community services. These concerns can and should be addressed through creative leadership.

We applaud your recent announcement of a Green New Deal (GND) for New York, but in order to hit the targets you set out, you cannot allow the expansion of any new fossil fuel based electricity generating infrastructure. Danskammer would need the Public Service Commission to provide a air quality permit and coastal flooding permit.

We are calling on you to follow through with your proposal, and use your authority to stop this dangerous polluting power plant expansion. Now more than ever before, New Yorkers need your leadership.

Sincerely,

Manna Jo Greene, Ulster County Legislator
 Nick Page, Dutchess County Legislator
 Daniel Torres, Town of New Paltz Council Member
 Neil Bettez, Town of New Paltz Supervisor

RESOLUTION NO.: _____ - 2019 OF MARCH 11, 2019

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NEWBURGH TO FILE A NOTICE OF INTENT TO BECOME A PARTY TO THE APPLICATION OF DANSKAMMER ENERGY, LLC FOR THE PROPOSED DANSKAMMER ENERGY CENTER AND TO EXPLORE OPPORTUNITIES TO ACCESS INTERVENOR FUNDING WHEREAS, Danskammer Energy, LLC ("Danskammer") seeks a permit through New York State's Article 10 power plant siting process to repower its existing power generating facility; and WHEREAS, the City of Newburgh has an interest in Danskammer's application because of the plant's proximity to the City and because the City is concerned with protecting the air, water, and general quality of the environment for its residents; and WHEREAS, the City desires to become a party to Danskammer's Article 10 application proceeding and to explore possibilities of obtaining "Intervenor Funding" for purposes of hiring experts, consultants, and other professionals who can assist the City in analyzing Danskammer's application; and WHEREAS, the City is interested in exploring opportunities with other parties to the proceeding who may share common goals and interests with respect to Danskammer's application, including but not limited to: Scenic Hudson, the Natural Resources Defense Council, Riverkeeper, and Hudson River Sloop Clearwater; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Newburgh hereby authorizes the Interim City Manager or the Corporation Counsel to file a Notice of Intent to become a party to Danskammer's Article 10 application proceeding; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Newburgh hereby authorizes the Interim City Manager and/or the Corporation Counsel to submit an application for Intervenor Funds in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Article 10 proceeding; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Newburgh hereby authorizes the Interim City Manager or the Corporation Counsel to discuss cooperative arrangements with other interested parties which would protect the interests of the City and its citizens with respect to Danskammer's application.

**RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF NEW PALTZ BOARD EXPRESSING
OPPOSITION TO THE DANSKAMMER BUILD OUT PROPOSAL**

WHEREAS, climate change requires immediate action, we need to stop incrementally expanding fossil fuel energy generation and fully ramp up on renewables and we need to make tough choices in the face of entrenched, narrow, short-term interests; and,

WHEREAS, these seemingly small and scattered decisions that extend fossil fuel dependency are neither small or insignificant, as they cumulatively add up to a whole system that supports and reinforces the continuation of our reliance on fossil fuels, and we need to diverge from this path; and,

WHEREAS, according to Food and Water Watch, “The Danskammer would be a massive 550 MW fracked gas plant posing huge risks to the air and water of the local community -- and worsening our climate crisis by burning dirty fossil fuels around the clock” and,

WHEREAS, we have the science and technology and we need to show that we have the will to transition to a clean, green economy; and,

WHEREAS, the Danskammer build out proposal is against the stated goals of our governor, is wrong for our economy, our health, and the environment;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village New Paltz Board call upon the Public Service Commission to reject the Danskammer application; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Village Clerk is directed to submit this statement to the Public Service Commission and to send a copy of this resolution to U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, U.S. Senator Charles Schumer, Governor Andrew Cuomo, State Senator Jen Metzger, State Assemblyman Kevin Cahill, Ulster County Executive Adele Reiter, City of Kingston Mayor Steve Noble, Ulster County Legislative Chair Tracey Bartels, Ulster County Legislator Hector Rodriguez, and Ulster County Legislator James Delaune.

Public Safety/General Government Committee Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: August 28, 2019

Submitted by: Dee Sills

Submitting Department: Common Council

Item Type: Proposed Resolution

Agenda Section:

Subject:

Removal Handicap Parking 193 Clinton Ave.

Suggested Action:

Attachments:

[20190822092102.pdf](#)

P.S.

Tinti, Elisa

From: Worthington, Rita
Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2019 10:10 AM
To: Al Crisafulli
Cc: STEVEN SCHABOT; Tinti, Elisa; Noble, James
Subject: RE: Handicap Parking Signs - 193 Clinton Ave

Mr. Crisafulli:

My name is Rita and I am the Alderwoman for the ward in which you reside. I will forward your request for the removal of the handicapped parking signs to the appropriate committee and request that said request be placed on the agenda.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Thank you.

Rita M. Worthington
Alderwoman, Ward 4
(845)430-2819

Jim, Steve and Elisa:

Please be sure to include the below request on the next public safety meeting's agenda. New owner's Al and Sandy Crisafulli are requesting the removal of handicapped parking signs at 193 Clinton Avenue Street.

Thank you.

Rita M. Worthington
Ward 4

From: Wiltshire, MaryJo
Sent: Thursday, July 25, 2019 9:20 AM
To: Al Crisafulli
Cc: Worthington, Rita; STEVEN SCHABOT
Subject: RE: Handicap Parking Signs - 193 Clinton Ave

Mr. Crisafulli - Our department does take down and put up signs but removing the handicap signs requires legislation from the Common Council. I am copying your Alderwoman on this email so you can proceed with the request to have the signs removed. Any questions please let us know.

Mary Jo Wiltshire
Finance and Operations Administrator
Department of Public Works
25 East O'Reilly St
Kingston, NY 12401

Public Safety/General Government Committee Agenda Item Report

Meeting Date: August 28, 2019

Submitted by: Dee Sills

Submitting Department: Common Council

Item Type: Proposed Resolution

Agenda Section:

Subject:

25 Mile Per Hour Request

Suggested Action:

Attachments:

[20190822092707.pdf](#)

Tinti, Elisa

From: Scott-Childress, Reynolds
Sent: Monday, July 01, 2019 8:42 AM
To: Noble, James; Jim Noble
Cc: Tinti, Elisa
Subject: July Communication re Speed Limits
Attachments: Resolution to Reduce Default Speed Limit 2019-07-01.docx

Dear President Noble,

Attached is a communication calling on the State of New York to allow the City of Kingston to establish a City-wide speed limit of 25 miles per hour. Please assign it to the committee best suited to consider it for further action.

Best wishes,
Rennie

Reynolds J. Scott-Childress
Alderman, Ward 3, City of Kingston
(845) 616-3687 mobile

A Resolution Supporting the Reduction of the City-wide Default Speed Limit From 30 Miles Per Hour to 25 Miles Per Hour

WHEREAS, the observed speeds that citizens report as feeling unsafe in their communities has been shown to be less than 30 miles per hour through speed evaluations; and

WHEREAS, Federal Highway Administration methodologies recommend speed limits of 25 miles per hour or lower on the type of roadways common in the historic City of Kingston ; and

WHEREAS, a study by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety demonstrated that a City-wide speed limit reduction in Boston from 30 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour resulted in lower speeds, especially in excess of 35 miles per hour; and

WHEREAS, reduced speeds minimize stopping distance of vehicles and the likelihood of injury or fatality as a result of a collision with a pedestrian; and

WHEREAS, reduced speeds narrow the difference in operating speeds of vehicles and bicycles, which can improve safety for these vulnerable users of the roadway network; and

WHEREAS, lower speeds provide greater flexibility in roadway design; and

WHEREAS, a reduction in speed from 30 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour represents an increase in travel time of only 24 seconds per mile under free flow conditions; and

WHEREAS, the State Vehicle and Traffic Law Section 1643 prohibits cities and villages from establishing area-wide speed limits below 30 miles per hour and also prohibits establishing any speed limit under 25 miles per hour on any roadway (except school zones); and

WHEREAS, in some cases, this law prevents the City from establishing appropriate speed limits based on accepted engineering practices; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the City of Kingston hereby requests that the State of New York amend Vehicle and Traffic Law Title 8, Article 38, Section 1643 to allow the City of Kingston to establish a city-wide speed limit as low as 25 miles per hour. Further, on roadways where established FHWA methodologies for establishing speed limits recommend speed limits lower than 25 miles per hour, all cities and villages should be permitted to post speed limits lower than 25 miles per hour, and be it further

RESOLVED, That certified copies of this Resolution be sent to Assemblyman Kevin Cahill, Senator George Amadore, and Governor Andrew Cuomo.

July 21, 2019

Members of the Public Safety Committee
Kingston Common Council
City Hall
Kingston, NY 12401

Dear Colleagues:

Many Kingston residents are deeply concerned at the seemingly increasing number of speeding vehicles not only on our major thoroughfares but also on our residential streets. Many of the streets in Kingston are narrow. Others quickly narrow when drivers park their vehicles along one or both sides of the street. These many situations become exceedingly dangerous when vehicles travel them at our current limit of 30 miles per hour (mph). When automobiles race down our streets they create an intolerable situation. A lower speed limit throughout the City of Kingston could significantly reduce these dangers.

A lower speed limit throughout the City of Kingston could significantly reduce these dangers. Frequently suggested solutions such as stop signs, traffic lights, speed bumps, and speed monitors can have some effect in particular circumstances. But none of these offers a comprehensive solution. In fact, some of these steps can actually make matters worse.

The single change proven to positively affect traffic safety in throughout towns like Kingston is a lower speed limit. Lower rates of speed closely correlate with improved outcomes in traffic incidents, particularly those involving pedestrians. Even a 5-mph reduction in speed has a significant effect. As Lena Groeger points out in a [recent article](#):

[O]nce cars reach a certain speed (just above 20 mph), they rapidly become more deadly.... [A] person is about 70 percent more likely to be killed if they're struck by a vehicle traveling at 30 mph versus 25 mph.

In a recent study of vehicular speeds and increasing rates of injury and damage caused by automobile accidents, researchers at the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety discovered that

[T]he average risk of severe injury for a pedestrian struck by a vehicle reaches 10% at an impact speed of 16 mph, 25% at 23 mph, 50% at 31 mph, 75% at 39 mph, and 90% at 46 mph. The average risk of death for a pedestrian reaches 10% at an impact speed of 23 mph, 25% at 32 mph, 50% at 42 mph, 75% at 50 mph, and 90% at 58 mph. Risks vary significantly by age. For example, the average risk of severe injury or death for a 70-year-old pedestrian struck by a car travelling at 25 mph is similar to the risk for a 30-year-old pedestrian struck at 35 mph.

Unfortunately, the City of Kingston cannot change the speed limit within our city limits because the State of New York currently prohibits municipalities from controlling their own destinies in this regard. State law forbids minimum speed limits lower than 30 miles per hour. This is an

unfair and dangerous situation. Other states that border on New York, such as Connecticut, allow municipalities to set 25 mile-an-hour speed limits. In New York State, New York City recently petitioned the legislature and won the lower speed limits in parts of the City. The City of Ithaca is currently petitioning the State to reduce its speed limit to 25 mph. The City of Saugerties, recognizing the safety of slower speeds, has reduced the limit on several of its streets to 25 mph (see <https://ecode360.com/11103555>).

Slower speed limits save lives, reduce damage in automobile crashes, and create safer streets for automobile drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists. They also create the conditions for more courteous driving in general. Once instituted, a widespread education campaign, new signage, and initial enforcement will go hand-in-hand with our efforts to create a comprehensive traffic safety plan for the City.

Kingston is fortunately experiencing increases in business, new residents, and tourist and commercial visitors. However, this boon to our community economy raises vehicular risks. Moreover, other changes should make us wary of the potential for serious accidents if we maintain our current 30 mph speed limit. For example, we are encouraging more residents to walk for health and more residents to bicycle to reduce pollution. We are also experiencing relevant demographic changes: both an increasingly aging population and growing numbers of children. Before these numbers get much higher, before we find ourselves grieving a rash of serious and even fatal accidents, it is imperative that the Common Council reconsider Kingston's citywide speed limit.

But first we must get the State to give us permission to consider the change to safer streets. The legislation under consideration tonight urges the state to give us permission to take up consideration of reducing the City-wide speed limit to 25.

Sincerely yours,

Reynolds J. Scott-Childress
Ward 3 Alderman
845-616-3687
ward3@kingston-ny.gov

See for more:

Lena Groeger, Unsafe at Many Speeds (ProPublica, May 25, 2016). Available online at <https://www.propublica.org/article/unsafe-at-many-speeds>

Brian C. Teft, Impact Speed and a Pedestrian's Risk of Severe Injury or Death (AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, September 2011). Available online at <https://www.aaafoundation.org/sites/default/files/2011PedestrianRiskVsSpeed.pdf>

RESOLUTION 161 of 2019

RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KINGSTON, NEW YORK, REQUESTING THE STATE OF NEW YORK ALLOW THE CITY OF KINGSTON TO HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH A 25 MILE PER HOUR SPEED LIMIT

Sponsored By: Public Safety/General Gov. Committee: Alderman:
Schabot, Ventura Morell, Koop

WHEREAS, the observed speeds that citizens report as feeling unsafe in their communities has been shown to be less than 30 miles per hour through speed evaluations; and

WHEREAS, Federal Highway Administration methodologies recommend speed limits of 25 miles per hour or lower on the type of roadways common in the historic City of Kingston; and

WHEREAS, a study by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety demonstrated that a City-wide speed limit reduction in Boston from 30 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour resulted in lower speeds, especially in excess of 35 miles per hour; and

WHEREAS, reduced speeds minimize stopping distance of vehicles and the likelihood of injury or fatality as a result of a collision with a pedestrian; and

WHEREAS, reduced speeds narrow the difference in operating speeds of vehicles and bicycles, which can improve safety for those vulnerable users of the roadway network; and

WHEREAS, lower speeds provide greater flexibility in roadway design; and

WHEREAS, a reduction in speed from 30 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour represents an increase in travel time of only 24 seconds per mile under free flow conditions; and

WHEREAS, the State Vehicle and Traffic Law Section 1643 prohibits cities and villages from establishing area-wide speed limits below 30 miles per hour and also prohibits establishing any speed limit under 25 miles per hour on any roadway (except school zones); and

WHEREAS, in some cases, this law prevents the City from establishing appropriate speed limits based on accepted engineering practices.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KINGSTON, NEW YORK AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That the City of Kingston hereby requests that the State of New York amend Vehicle and Traffic Law Title 8, Article 38, Section 1643 to allow the City of Kingston to establish a city-wide speed limit as low as 25 miles per hour.

SECTION 2. That on roadways where established FHWA methodologies for establishing speed limits recommend speed limits lower than 25 miles per hour, all cities and villages should be permitted to post speed limits lower than 25 miles per hour.

SECTION 3. That on roadways where established FHWA methodologies for establishing speed limits recommend speed limits lower than 25 miles per hour, all cities and villages should be permitted to post speed limits lower than 25 miles per hour.

SECTION 4. That certified copies of this Resolution be sent to Assemblyman Kevin Cahill, Senator George Amadore, and Governor Andrew Cuomo.

SECTION 5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Submitted to the Mayor this ____ day of _____, 2019

Approved by the Mayor this ____ day of _____, 2019

Elisa Tinti, City Clerk

Steven T. Noble, Mayor

Adopted by Council on _____, 2019

THE CITY OF KINGSTON COMMON COUNCIL

PUBLIC SAFETY/GENERAL GOVERNMENT
COMMITTEE REPORT

DEPARTMENT _____

DATE 7/24/19

Description _____

Resolution to request that the State
of New York allow the City of Kingston to
have the authority to establish a
25 mph speed limit.

(As appropriate, always give cross streets: North, South, East, West directions; and Vehicle & Traffic Section from City of Kingston Code Book)

Signature _____

Motion by _____

Seconded by _____

Action Required:

SEQRA Decision:

Type I Action _____

Type II Action _____

Unlisted Action _____

Negative Declaration of Environmental Significance: _____

Conditioned Negative Declaration: _____

Seek Lead Agency Status: _____

Positive Declaration of Environmental Significance: _____

Committee Vote

YES

NO

Steve Schabot, Chairman

Jeffrey Ventura Morell, Ward 1

Reynolds Scott-Childress, Ward 3

Rita Worthington, Ward 4

Douglas Koop, Ward 2