



CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS
Office of the City Clerk

**North Adams City Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 8, 2020**

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the North Adams City Council will be conducted via remote, no in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, This meeting can be viewed live on the Northern Berkshire Community Television station and will be posted to their website as soon as possible

I hereby notify that at twelve noon today, September 2, 2020, the following items of business have been filed with this office and will be acted upon at the regular meeting in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, Tuesday Evening September 8, 2020 at seven-thirty o'clock according to Section 8, Rules and Orders of the City Council.

Deborah M. Pedercini
City Clerk

AGENDA

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
September 8, 2020**

Roll Call
Moment of silent remembrance
The Pledge
Approval of the minutes of August 25, 2020
Hearing of Visitors on Agenda

- 11,826** An Ordinance amending the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams, regarding the various fees established in the City Code, which was postponed at the meeting of August 11, 2020.
- 11,851** Communication submitted by Council Moulton regarding public safety issues on Route 2, wall and building, which was referred to Public Safety Committee and postponed at the meeting of June 9, 2020.
- 11,876** Communication submitted by Councilor Lamb addressing speed limits and safety concerns in the Autumn Drive and Birchwood Terrace area, which was postponed at the meeting of August 11, 2020.
- 11,811-1** An Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Article V, Section 2-37, entitled "Duty to furnish legal opinions", which was passed to a second reading and published as required by law at the meeting of August 25, 2020.

- 11,895** Communication submitted by Councilor LaForest regarding referrals to the Public Safety Committee which was postponed at the meeting of August 11, 2020.
- 11,898** Mayor's communication #46 a proclamation in support of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.
- 11,899** Mayor's communication #47 a proclamation in support of Start with Hello Week.
- 11,900** Mayor's communication #48 acceptance of donation from Ocean State Job Lot.
- 11,900** An Order authorizing the Mayor in accordance with Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 53A, to accept a donation from Ocean State Job Lot valued at \$11,000.
- 11,901** Mayor's Communication #49 regarding acceptance of a grant through Massachusetts Department of Transportation, Shared Streets and Spaces program.
- 11,901** An Order authorizing the Mayor to accept a grant in the amount of \$44,483 from Mass DOT, Shared Streets and Spaces grant, in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53A.
- 11,902** Mayor's communication #11,902 regarding transfer from the Tinker Fund to support Hillside Cemetery Restoration Project.
- 11,902** an Order authorizing the Mayor to appropriate \$450.00 from the Tinker Fund to the Department of Public Services, Repairs, Maintenance.
- 11,891-1** Report Submitted by Councilor Sweeney on behalf of the North Adams Traffic Commission regarding Protection Avenue.
- 11,891-1** An Ordinance amending Chapter 13, Article V, Section 13-49, entitled "Parking prohibited on certain streets", relative to expanding no street parking on Protection Avenue.
- 11,891-1** An Order regarding installation of "No Parking" signage on the easterly and westerly sides of Protection Avenue.
- 11,860-1** An Ordinance amending Chapter 13, Article IV, Section 13-42, entitled "Obedience to isolated stop signs or signals," relative to adding stop signs to the intersection of East Main Street, Miner Street and Pleasant Street.
- 11,860-1** An Order regarding installation of "Stop" sign on East Main Street, westbound drivers, at Miner Street and Pleasant Street and a "Stop Sign Ahead" sign no less than 100 feet east of aforementioned "Stop" sign to inform drivers.
- 11,860-2** An Ordinance amending Chapter 13, Article IV, Section 13-26, entitled, "Special speed regulations," relative to lowering speed limits at and around the intersection of East Main Street, Miner Street and Pleasant Street.
- 11,860-2** An Order regarding installation of revised "Special speed regulations" speed limit signage at intersection of East Main Street, Church Street and Route 2.

LICENSES
OPEN FORUM
MAYOR'S CONCERNS
COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MINUTES
LIAISON UPDATES AND COUNCILOR CONCERNS
CORRESPONDENCE
ADJOURNMENT

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83557540978>

Or iPhone one-tap :

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253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799

Webinar ID: 835 5754 0978

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83557540978>



CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor
Thomas W. Bernard

| Communication # | Subject | Date |
|-----------------|--|-------------------|
| 46 | Proclamation in support of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month | September 8, 2020 |

Honorable Members of the City Council
North Adams, Massachusetts

Dear Honorable Councilors:

I request time on the September 8, 2020, City Council meeting agenda to present a proclamation in support of Childhood Cancer Awareness Month as well as to offer Kathy and Joe Arabia an opportunity to speak briefly over Zoom on the issue of childhood cancer awareness.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas W. Bernard
Mayor

TWB/me



CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor
Thomas W. Bernard

| Communication # | Subject | Date |
|-----------------|---|-------------------|
| 47 | Proclamation in support of Start with Hello Week | September 8, 2020 |

Honorable Members of the City Council
North Adams, Massachusetts

Dear Honorable Councilors:

I request time on the September 8, 2020, City Council meeting agenda to present a proclamation in support of Start With Hello Week as well as to speak briefly about planned community engagement related to this program.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas W. Bernard
Mayor

TWB/me



CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor
Thomas W. Bernard

| Communication # | Subject | Date |
|-----------------|---|-------------------|
| 48 | Acceptance of donation from Ocean State Job Lot | September 8, 2020 |

Honorable Members of the City Council
North Adams, Massachusetts

Dear Honorable Councilors:

Submitted for your consideration is an Order to accept a donation of \$11,000 worth of personal protective equipment (PPE) from Ocean State Job Lot for North Adams firefighters and police officers to use for the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

I request that the Council adopt this Order as presented.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas W. Bernard
Mayor

TWB/me



City of North Adams

In City Council

September 8, 2020

Ordered:

Whereas, Ocean State Job Lot has offered to donate personal protective equipment for the firefighters and police officers to use for the response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Whereas, the donation is valued at \$11,000.00; and

Whereas, pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53 A, the North Adams City Council must accept the donation;

Now, therefore, it is ordered, that the North Adams City Council accepts the donation described above.



City of North Adams, Massachusetts **Fire Department**

40 American Legion Dr., North Adams, MA 01247 (413) 662-3103 (Fax) 662-3008

Stephen A. Meranti
Fire Chief

August 7, 2020

Honorable Mayor Thomas Bernard
City Hall
10 Main St.
North Adams MA 01247

RE Ocean State Job Lot donation

Dear Mayor Bernard,

We have received a donation from Ocean State Job Lot of \$11,000.00 worth of personal protective equipment for the firefighters and police officers to use for the response to the Covid -19 pandemic. We are requesting that you and the city council accept this generous donation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Stephen A. Meranti
Fire Chief

Jason Wood
Chief of Police



CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor
Thomas W. Bernard

| Communication # | Subject | Date |
|-----------------|---|-------------------|
| 49 | Acceptance of MassDOT Shared Streets and Spaces Program award | September 8, 2020 |

Honorable Members of the City Council
North Adams, Massachusetts

Dear Honorable Councilors:

Enclosed with this communication is an Order to accept a \$44,483 grant from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) through the Shared Streets and Spaces grant program. This program was enacted by Governor Baker in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to provide resources for the creation of safe, socially-distanced, and temporary outdoor dining and curbside retail in existing public spaces, such as sidewalks and parking spaces.

I respectfully request that the City Council accept the Order as presented and authorize the proposed temporary changes.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas W. Bernard
Mayor

TWB/me



City of North Adams

In City Council

September 8, 2020

Ordered:

Whereas, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Massachusetts Department of Transportation established the Shared Streets and Spaces grant program to provide resources to municipalities for the creation of temporary outdoor dining and curbside retail amenities in existing public spaces;

Whereas, the City of North Adams applied for grant funds through the above described program for interventions on Center Street, Eagle Street, North Church Street, the monument intersection, and Main Street;

Whereas, the City of North Adams received an award from the program in the amount of \$44,483.00; and

Whereas, completion of the scope of work submitted as part of the application to the program requires the approval of the North Adams City Council pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53 A;

Now, therefore, it is ordered, that the North Adams City Council accept grant funds in the amount of \$44,483.00 from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation's Shared Streets and Spaces grant program to complete the scope of work included in the application.



Charles D. Baker, Governor
Karyn E. Polito, Lieutenant Governor
Stephanie Pollack, MassDOT Secretary & CEO



August 28, 2020

Zachary Feury
10 Main Street, City Hall, Office of Community Development (Rm. 107)
North Adams, MA 02147

Dear Mr. Feury:

Thank you for submitting a project application to the MassDOT Shared Streets and Spaces Program. Your project application has been reviewed, and we are pleased to notify you that the North Adams outdoor dining project has been approved for funding. We received many applications and had a competitive applicant pool from which to select, and your application stood out. The North Adams outdoor dining project will be funded at \$44,483 under Chapter 90 Contract Number/ MMARS #50912. Ongoing maintenance, operational, and enforcement costs associated with a project are not eligible uses of this funding.

The Shared Streets and Spaces Program is intended to support projects that promote public health, safe mobility, and renewed commerce by quickly providing new or repurposed space for socially-distanced walking, bicycling, dining, retail, and bus travel. Because of the urgency of this effort, the North Adams project will need to be fully implemented by Friday, October 9, 2020. Please note that any pavement markings or signage included in your project that are not compliant with the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices should be used with caution, and only on a temporary basis. Please feel free to contact the Shared Streets Team to discuss this issue in more detail, if needed.

By December 31, 2020, a report detailing lessons learned from the project must be submitted to MassDOT. Grant recipients may also be invited to participate in a learning exchange with other municipalities to share experiences. MassDOT will work directly with you to determine the best evaluation process for your particular project.

We are excited to work with you and the full North Adams team as this project advances.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Pollack

Secretary and CEO



CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of Community Development

September 1, 2020

To: Mayor Bernard

From: Zachary Feury, Project Coordinator

Re: MassDOT Shared Streets and Space Program

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation's (MassDOT's) Shared Streets and Spaces quick-launch/quick-build grant program provides grants for cities and towns to quickly implement or expand improvements to sidewalks, curbs, streets, on-street parking spaces and off-street parking lots in support of public health, safe mobility, and renewed commerce in their communities.

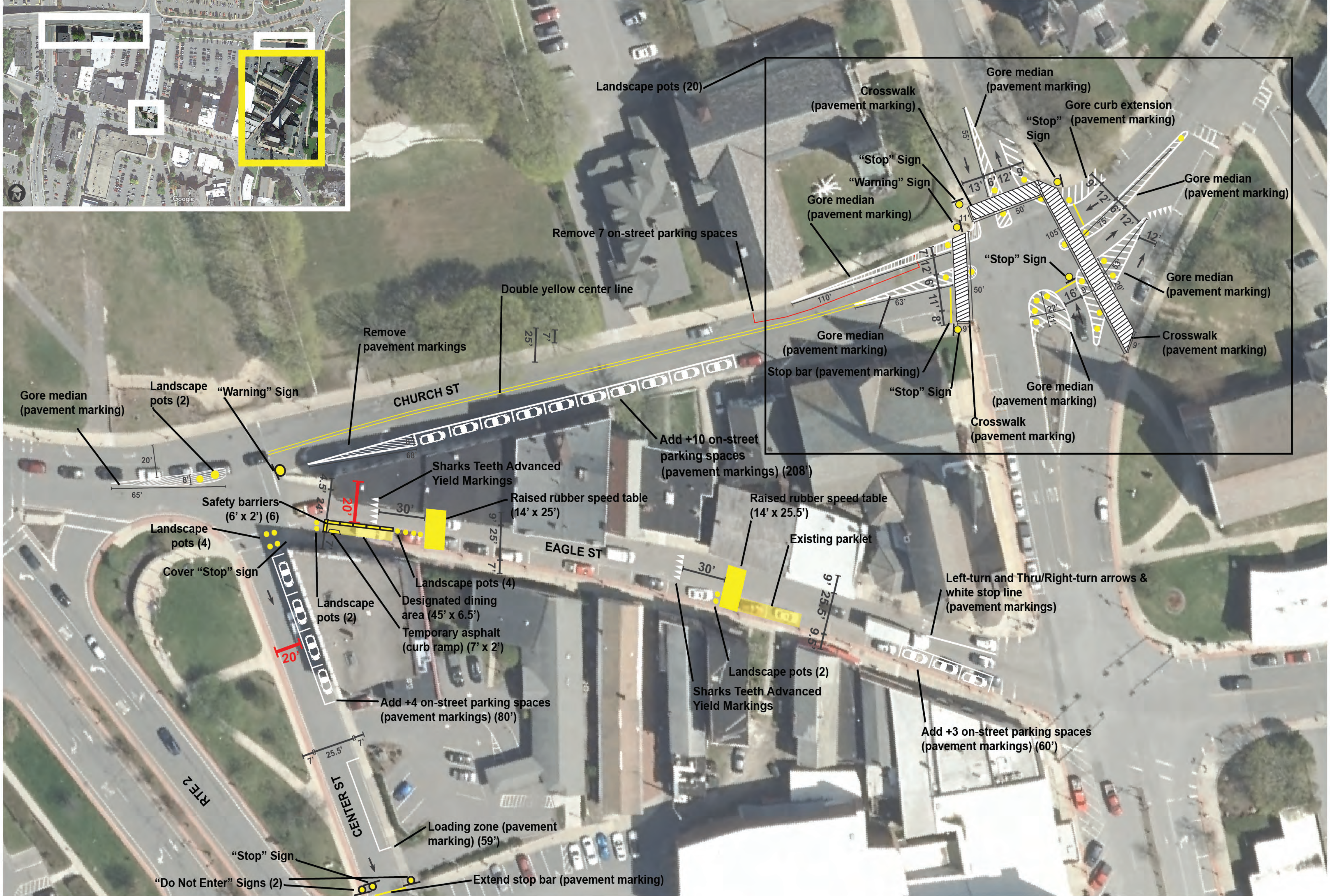
City staff worked with Stantec to develop an application for funds to create such shared spaces on Eagle Street, Main Street, and Center Street. This information was presented to local businesses and stakeholders at public meetings held on July 8, 2020, which helped inform the city's application to the program. The final plans were then presented to the Traffic Commission on July 29, 2020 without objection therefrom.

Shared Streets and Spaces projects are intended to be implemented quickly, flexibly, at low cost, and without major roadway reconstruction, but rather by using inexpensive and readily available materials, such as traffic cones, temporary plastic barriers, flexible delineators, planters, and temporary paint. The program also encourages grantees to consider how a successful project could eventually be made permanent. For this reason, our project provides a demonstration and proof of concept of ideas included in the Vision 2030 comprehensive plan, and proposals such as the Eagle Street woonerf that previously has been presented to the Council.

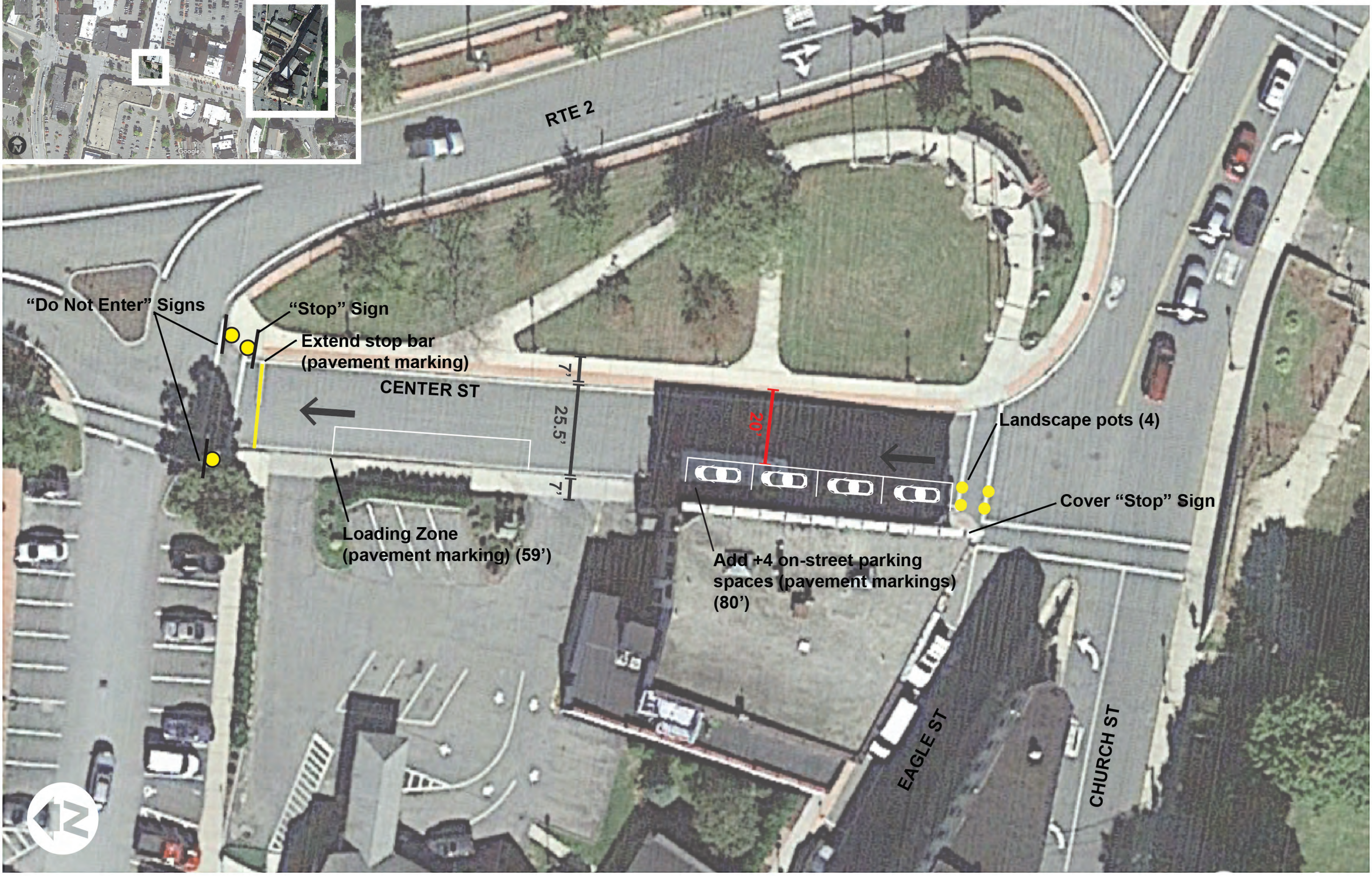
Please note that our shared spaces plans require several changes to local traffic patterns including the addition of temporary traffic calming measures. Such measures may result in increased traffic congestion on Eagle Street. To alleviate potential congestion, the plans call for converting North Church Street to two-way traffic through November 1, 2020. The addition of southbound traffic at the monument intersection, in turn, necessitates the creation of a four-way stop and, in order to promote pedestrian safety, the addition of bump-outs and pedestrian refuge islands. City staff, Stantec's transportation planners, and MassDOT all indicate that such interventions will create a safer intersection by providing pedestrian amenities and clarifying traffic patterns.



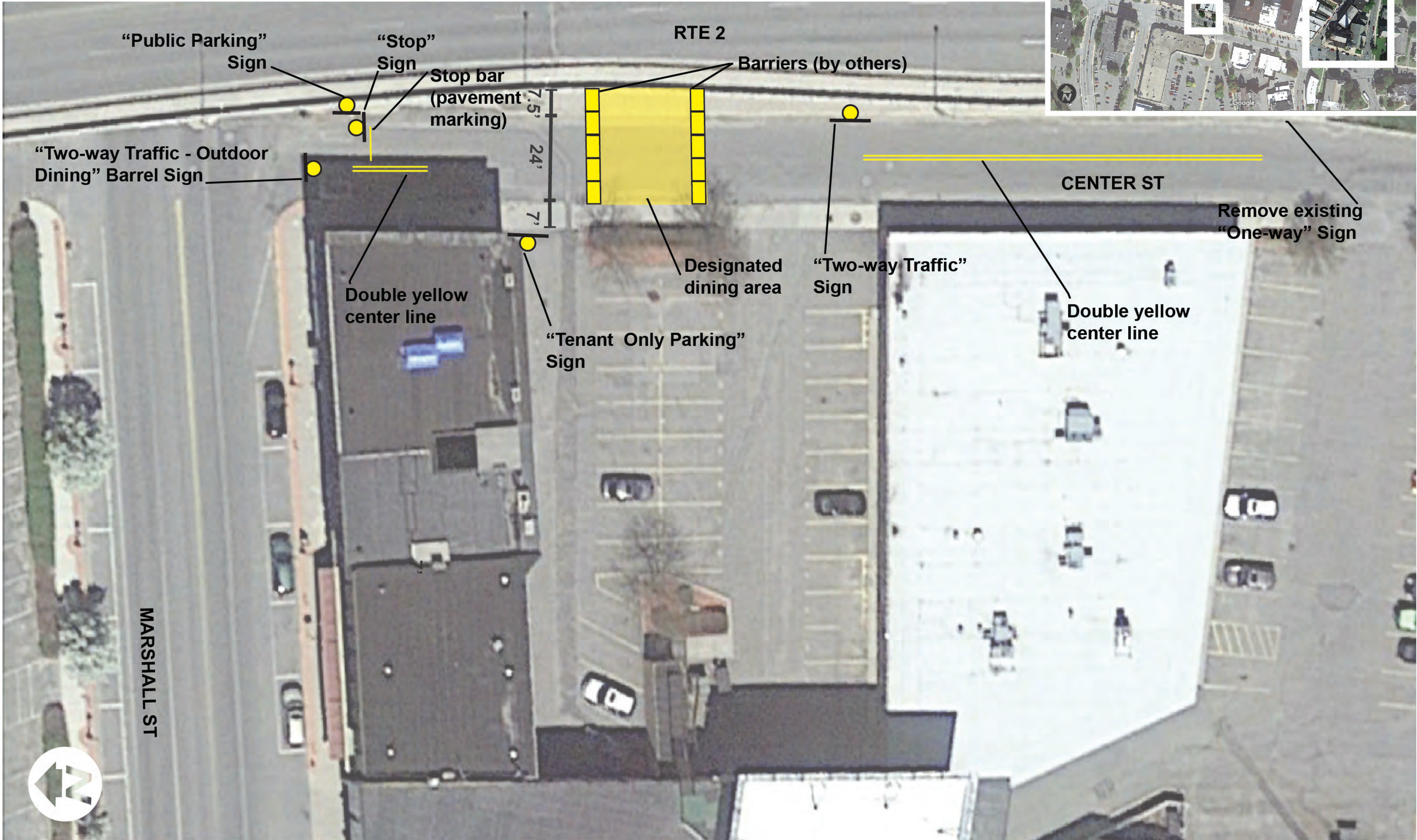
Drawing not to scale; for informational purposes only. Final details to be confirmed in the field by installer.



Drawing not to scale; for informational purposes only. Final details to be confirmed in the field by installer.



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CITY OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor
Thomas W. Bernard

| Communication # | Subject | Date |
|-----------------|--|-------------------|
| 50 | Transfer from Tinker Fund to support the Hillside Cemetery Restoration Project | September 8, 2020 |

Honorable Members of the City Council
North Adams, Massachusetts

Dear Honorable Councilors:

Submitted for your consideration is an Order to transfer \$450.00 from the Tinker Fund to the Public Services/Cemetery Repairs and Maintenance account to support the ongoing work of the Hillside Cemetery Restoration Project.

I request that the Council adopt this Order as presented.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas W. Bernard
Mayor

TWB/me



City of North Adams

In City Council

September 8, 2020

Ordered:

That the sum of **four hundred fifty dollars** (\$450.00) be and is hereby appropriated from the Tinker Fund (Account #084-0084-5960-0821) to:

3. Department of Public Services

Cemetery

Repairs and Maintenance

Account # 001-4910-5431

\$450.00

AUG 27 2020

North Adams Traffic Commission

Deborah M. Pedercini
City Clerk

10 Main Street

North Adams, Mass. 01247

Dear Honorable North Adams City Council,

The Traffic Commission was contacted by residents of Protection Ave., that live in the area of the Alcombright athletic complex. The concerns of these residents are with the on-street parking from State Road, through the "S" turn, and to the end of the athletic fields.

As required the Commission sent out letters to the residents in the area prior to a public meeting on the subject. The meeting did draw residents who voiced concerns about safety issues caused by the parking. The meeting was in the late fall when most, if not all the sports were over making on site observation difficult. All members were asked to do a site visit when convenient and other meetings were scheduled.

Site visits were made and after discussion the following recommendations are being proposed.

Currently there is an ordinance in place that addresses part of the concerns under 13-49. This states that there is no parking on the Westerly side of the street from State Road going southerly a distance of 212 feet.

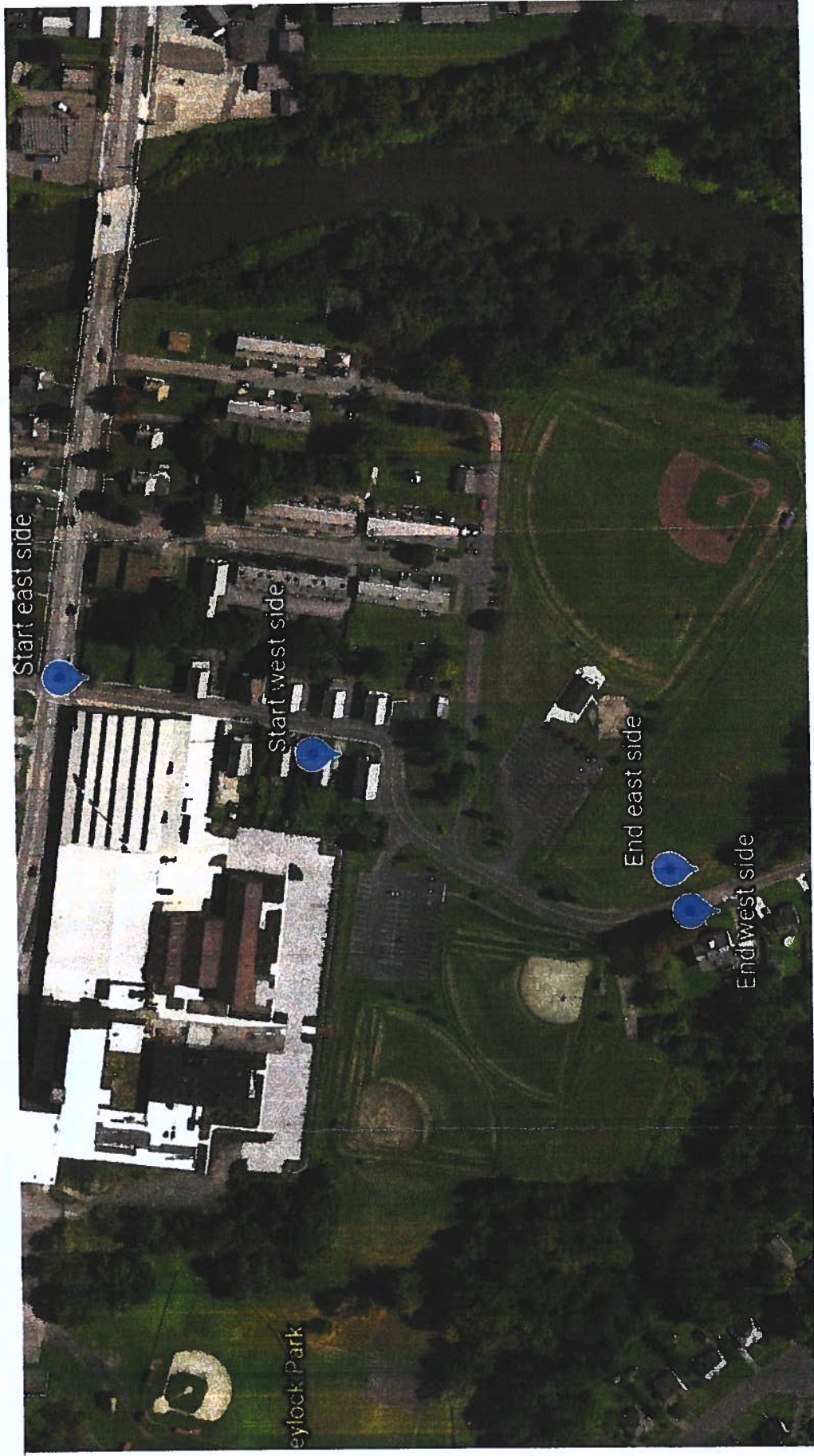
Our proposal would continue to allow parking from the Southerly side of the rear entrance of Greylock Works 145' south to the driveway of 137 Protection. From that point, we are recommending no parking on the westerly side continuing South for 700'. The 700' includes the existing driveways.

For the Easterly side of the street we are proposing the following. No parking beginning at the posted no parking sign and continue South for 1078' ending at the southern end of the chain link fence adjacent to the soccer field. This measurement also includes any existing driveways or streets. *****

*****Please note that while every effort was made to make these measurements as accurate as possible, these measurements are approximate. The Commission submits this proposal as a recommendation to address the concerns of the residents.

Thank you for your attention in this matter. Councilor Sweeney will be presenting this as the liaison to the Commission.

Respectfully submitted, David Sacco Chair



Eyrelock Park



100%



Camera: 847 m 42°41'47"N 73°08'52"W 190 m



City of North Adams

In City Council

September 8, 2020

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of North Adams as follows:

That Chapter 13 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams, Article IV, Section 13-49, entitled "Parking prohibited on certain streets," is hereby amended as follows

Insert

"Protection Avenue, westerly side from the driveway of 137 Protection Avenue, South for a distance of 700 feet.

Protection Avenue, easterly side, from the parking lot entrance for the Kevin Boland Memorial Soccer Field, South for a distance of 1200 feet to the southern end of the chain link fence adjacent to the soccer field."

Immediately before "Quincy Street, southerly side"



City of North Adams

In City Council

..... September 8, 2020

Ordered:

BE IT ORDERED by the City Council of the City of North Adams as follows

That the City Council of the City of North Adams hereby orders the timely installation of "No Parking" signage on the easterly and westerly sides of Protection Avenue in the areas now identified as No Parking zones in the Revised Ordinance of the City of North Adams, Chapter 13, Article IV, Section 13-49 entitled "Parking prohibited on certain streets."



City of North Adams

In City Council

September 8, 2020

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BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of North Adams as follows:

That Chapter 13 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams, Article IV, Section 13-42, entitled "Obedience to isolated stop signs or signals," is hereby amended as follows

Insert "East Main Street, westbound drivers at Miner Street and Pleasant Street."
after "Eagle Street, southbound drivers at Main Street"



City of North Adams

In City Council

September 8, 2020

Ordered:

BE IT ORDERED by the City Council of the City of North Adams as follows:

That the City Council of the City of North Adams hereby orders the timely installation of the ordained Stop sign on East Main Street, westbound drivers, at Miner Street and Pleasant Street

AND BET IT FURTHER ORDERED that no less than 100 feet east from the aforementioned Stop Sign on East Main Street, that "Stop Sign Ahead" signage, westbound drivers, be installed at the same time as the Stop Sign installation as to inform drivers of impending requirement to stop.



City of North Adams

In City Council

September 8, 2020

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BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of North Adams as follows:

That Chapter 13 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of North Adams, Article IV, Section 13-26, entitled "Special speed regulations" is hereby amended as follows

Insert

"East Main Street – eastbound traffic

Beginning at the intersection of East Main Street and Church Street, thence easterly 1.2 miles at 25 miles per hour to the intersection of East Main Street and Massachusetts Route 2, excluding the designated school zone on East Main Street as defined in Chapter 13, Article IV, Section 13-26.1 entitled "School zones,".

East Main Street – westbound traffic

Beginning at the intersection of East Main Street and Massachusetts Route 2, thence westly 1.2 miles at 25 miles per hour to the intersection of East Main Street and Church Street excluding the designated school zone on East Main Street as defined in Chapter 13, Article IV, Section 13-26.1 entitled "School zones".

Immediately before "Wheel Estates Mobile Home Park"



City of North Adams

In City Council

September 8, 2020

Ordered:

BE IT ORDERED by the City Council of the City of North Adams as follows:

That the City Council of the City of North Adams hereby orders the timely replacement of, and necessary new installation of, speed limit signage at appropriate intervals along the length of East Main Street, westbound drivers and eastbound drivers, in accordance with revised North Adams City Ordinance Chapter 13, Article IV, Section 13-26 entitled "Special speed regulations" setting the new speed limit for East Main Street from the East Main Street intersection with Church Street, 1.2 miles easterly to the East Main Street intersection with Massachusetts Route 2 to 25 miles per hour.