



Jean Fraser <jf@portlandmaine.gov>

1363 Washington Avenue / Taco Bell - Final Traffic Comments

1 message

Tom Errico <thomas.errico@tylin.com>

Wed, Mar 16, 2016 at 3:56 PM

To: Jean Fraser <JF@portlandmaine.gov>

Cc: David Margolis-Pineo <DMP@portlandmaine.gov>, Katherine Earley <KAS@portlandmaine.gov>, Jeremiah Bartlett <JBartlett@portlandmaine.gov>, Jeff Tarling <JST@portlandmaine.gov>

Jean – The following is a status update from my preliminary review and represents my final comments.

- I have reviewed the trip generation analysis and find it to be acceptable. The project is expected to increase traffic by 90 trips during the AM peak hour, 50 trips during the PM peak hour, and 85 trips during the Saturday peak hour. Based upon this estimate, a Traffic Movement Permit is not required. I would note that the project will have a greater net traffic impact on the public street system given that the existing restaurant is closed.

Status: I have no further comment.

- I have significant concerns as it relates to safety conditions along Washington Avenue in the area of the project drive. MaineDOT data indicates Washington Avenue between Allen Avenue and Northport Drive is a High Crash Location with 19 crashes over the 2012-2014 three-year period with a very high Critical Rate Factor (CRF) of 2.22. Additionally, the Washington Avenue/Allen Avenue intersection is a High Crash Location with 45 crashes over the same three-year period with a CRF of 1.49. In my professional opinion, access management improvements (beyond narrowing the driveway) are required for this project. The applicant should provide detailed plans on provision of a connection to the Rite Aid driveway. I do recognize that existing grades do complicate provision of a connection, but further detailed information is warranted before this option can be

deemed not feasible. I would note that if this connection is determined not to be possible, other strategies should be identified, including turn restrictions at the driveway.

Status: A condition of approval regarding an inter-parcel connection and a monitoring study is being drafted by Planning Staff in conjunction with increased traffic and safety deficiencies.

- The applicant has conducted a capacity analysis for the driveway. The applicant should provide the SYNCRHO model files for review.

Status: The applicant has provided the model files and I have no further comment.

- The applicant should provide bike racks on-site that meet City standards.

Status: Bike racks have been added and I have no further comment.

- Sidewalk improvements along the property frontage on Washington Avenue shall be included. Two utility poles are located in the sidewalk and their location obstructs pedestrian accessibility. I would suggest the sidewalk be widened toward the site to accommodate a 5-foot clearance to the face of poles.

Status: The plans have been revised and I have no further comment.

- The applicant should document whether the proposed driveway meets City's driveway separation standards. If the driveway does not meet separation standards, the applicant should formally request a waiver with supporting documentation.

Status: Documentation has been provided and I support a waiver from City standards contingent on the above noted condition of approval requirement.

- The applicant should provide dimensions for all on-site parking lot elements and note whether City standards are met.

Status: Acceptable dimensioning have been provided. I would also note that I find the changes to the angled parking alignment to be acceptable.

- I have reviewed the Construction Management Plan and in general it appears acceptable. This is based on the assumption that all work will be performed on-site (no work within Washington Avenue) and the sidewalk will remain open.

Status: The applicant will be required to provide details on likely sidewalk closures during construction that will need to be approved by DPW.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Best regards,

Thomas A. Errico, PE

Senior Associate

Traffic Engineering Director

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