

AGENDA REPORT

TO: Mayor Pat Humphrey & the Clare City Commission
FROM: Jeremy Howard, City Manager
DATE: February 26, 2026
RE: Traffic Control Order 001-2026 (No Parking on Hemlock – Wheaton to State; and No Parking on Wheaton from Hemlock to Cedar)

For the Agenda of March 2, 2026

Background. At the request of Clare Public Schools Superintendent Matt Forsberg, the Traffic Safety Committee met on February 18, 2026, to review traffic congestion and safety concerns on Hemlock Street and Wheaton Avenue near the school. There are ongoing issues with vehicles parking, stopping, and standing along Hemlock and Wheaton which has resulted in restricting the effective width of travel lanes causing navigation and safety issues for school buses, parents, and other motorists in this area. This congestion has resulted in safety concerns for students walking to and from school, as well as for students being dropped off and picked up in this area. The current conditions are not conducive to orderly traffic movement or safe pedestrian travel in the school zone. The City's Traffic & Safety Committee have reviewed and considered the request and have recommended approval of the request. The Committee's findings and supporting rationale are detailed in the attached justification narrative. The City Commission is asked to approve the request by issuance of a Traffic Control Order 001-2026 (*att'd*).

Issues & Questions Specified. Should the City Commission approve Traffic Control Order 001-2026?

Alternatives.

1. Approve the TCO.
2. Approve the TCO with modifications/amendment.
3. Do not approve the TCO.
4. Set aside the decision regarding this matter to a later date.

Financial Impact: Signage to implement the TCO will be ordered and installed by the Department of Public works and will be paid for by the school.

Recommendation. I recommend that the City Commission approve Traffic Control Order 001-2026 by adoption of Resolution 2026-012 (*att'd*).

Attachments.

1. Traffic Safety Committee Narrative.
2. TCO 001-2026.
3. Resolution 2026-012.

CITY OF CLARE POLICE DEPARTMENT

207 W 5th St, Clare, MI 48617 | Phone: (989) 386-2121 | Fax: (989) 386-0440



Narrative Justification — Traffic Control Order No. 001-2026

At the request of Clare Public Schools Superintendent Matt Forsberg, the Traffic Safety Committee convened to review ongoing traffic congestion and safety concerns in the area of Hemlock Street and Wheaton Avenue near the school. Superintendent Forsberg requested the meeting due to increasing issues with vehicles parking, stopping, and standing along these roadways, which has resulted in restricted travel lanes and difficulty for school buses and other vehicles to safely navigate the area.

The Committee reviewed reports and observations indicating that vehicles parked along both Hemlock Street and Wheaton Avenue have significantly narrowed the roadway, creating hazardous conditions for bus traffic and general vehicle movement. Recently, a truck was involved in an accident in this area due to insufficient roadway width caused by parked vehicles, further highlighting the need for corrective action.

In addition, there are ongoing safety concerns related to student drop-off and pick-up activities. Children are frequently being dropped off and crossing the street between parked vehicles while traffic continues to travel through the corridor, creating limited sight distance and increasing the risk of pedestrian-vehicle conflicts.

After discussion and consideration of these factors, the Traffic Safety Committee determined that regulatory changes are necessary to improve traffic flow, maintain adequate roadway width for buses and emergency vehicles, and enhance pedestrian safety.

The Committee therefore recommends the following changes as outlined in Traffic Control Order No. 001-2026:

- Establish No Parking, Stopping, or Standing on Hemlock Street from State Street to Wheaton Avenue on both sides of the roadway.
- Establish No Parking, Stopping, or Standing on Wheaton Avenue from Hemlock Street to Cedar Street on both sides of the roadway.

A motion to recommend these changes was made by Larry Wyman and seconded by Greg Rynearson. The motion carried unanimously, with all committee members voting in the affirmative and no votes opposed.

The Traffic Safety Committee respectfully requests that the City Commission review and approve Traffic Control Order No. 001-2026. The Committee believes that implementation of these restrictions will alleviate congestion, improve roadway operations, and significantly enhance safety for students, school staff, bus drivers, and the traveling public in this area.

Chief David Saad

Clare Police Department



CLARE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief David Saad

207 West Fifth Street

Clare, Michigan 48617

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CITY OF CLARE TRAFFIC CONTROL ORDER NO: 001-2026

A. ISSUED BY: Chief David Saad DATE: February 20th, 2026 (TRAFFIC ENGINEER)

B. WORK TO BE DONE BY: Luke Potter, DPW Superintendent

C. FILED AND ATTESTED: _____ (City Clerk) Date: _____

D. CHANGES

DATE: _____

1. Establish No Parking, Stopping, or Standing on Hemlock Street from State Street to Wheaton Street on both sides of the roadway.
2. Establish No Parking, Stopping, or Standing on Wheaton Street from Hemlock Street to Cedar Street on both sides of the roadway.

E. REQUIRED ACTION

1. Install regulatory signage indicating No Parking, Stopping, or Standing as specified above.
2. Apply pavement markings as necessary to clearly delineate restricted areas.
3. Remove or cover any conflicting signage.

DATE OF EXPIRATION: None

RESOLUTION ADOPTION DATE: _____

RESOLUTION 2026-012

A RESOLUTION OF THE CLARE CITY COMMISSION APPROVING TRAFFIC CONTROL ORDER 001-2026.

WHEREAS, a request was made by the Clare Public Schools Superintendent to the City to review ongoing traffic congestion and safety concerns in the area of Hemlock Street and Wheaton Street near Clare Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, the City's Traffic & Safety Committee met on February 18, 2026, and has reviewed said request and recommended implementing no parking, stopping, or standing on Hemlock Street between Wheaton Avenue and State Street on both sides of the roadway and on Wheaton Avenue from Hemlock Street to Cedar Street on both sides of the roadway; and

WHEREAS, said recommendation has been incorporated in a proposed Traffic Control Order, said Order being designated as TCO 001-2026; and

WHEREAS, said TCO 001-2026 has been reviewed and considered by the City Commission and determined to be an appropriate and prudent solution to the aforementioned request.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Clare City Commission hereby approves Traffic Control Order 001-2026 and directs its City Manager to task the City's Street Administrator to ensure that appropriate signage is installed to implement the provisions of the Traffic Control Order and that appropriate enforcement actions are taken relative to said Order.

ALL RESOLUTIONS AND PARTS OF RESOLUTIONS INSOFAR AS THEY CONFLICT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS RESOLUTION BE AND THE SAME ARE HEREBY RESCINDED.

**The Resolution was introduced by Commissioner _____ and supported by Commissioner _____.
The Resolution declared adopted by the following roll call vote:**

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

Resolution approved for adoption on this 2nd day of March 2026.

Diane M. Lyon, City Clerk