TOWNSHIP OF CRANFORD CRANFORD, NEW JERSEY

ORDINANCE NO. 2021-09

AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE A PEDESTRIAN MALL ON EASTMAN STREET BETWEEN NORTH AVENUE AND MILN STREET

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:56-65 to -89, as amended, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford is authorized to designate any local improvement designed for the movement, safety, convenience and enjoyment of pedestrians, whether or not a part of a street, as a pedestrian mall; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee finds that traffic congestion constitutes a hazard to the safety of pedestrians; and streets in the Special Improvement District that now accommodate both sidewalks and vehicular rights-of-way cannot be further widened without taking valuable buildings and improvements, thereby substantially impairing the primary function of such streets, that of being primarily pedestrian facilities, and impairing municipal ratables, the primary source of tax revenue; and limitations on the use of such streets by private vehicles is in the public interest of the Township of Cranford, to be of benefit to adjoining properties and to be essential to the effective use of such streets for street purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has created a Special Improvement District, which District encompasses Eastman Street, between North Avenue and Miln Street; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee wishes to designate Eastman Street, between North Avenue and Miln Street, a pedestrian mall pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:56-69.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford as follows:

SECTION 1. Upon review of the reports and recommendations of the Downtown Management Corp., the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford makes the following findings:

- (1) Eastman Street, between North Avenue and Miln Street is not a part of any State highway, is located primarily in the Special Improvement District, and is improved to its maximum feasible width with regard to adjoining buildings and improvements;
- (2) should this portion of Eastman Street be designated a pedestrian mall, reasonably convenient alternate routes to the remainder of Eastman Street, Miln Street, and other parts of Cranford exist for private vehicles;
- (3) continued unlimited use of the identified portion of Eastman street by private vehicles may constitute a hazard to the health and safety of pedestrians;
- (4) abutting properties can reasonably and adequately be provided with emergency vehicular services and receive and deliver merchandise and materials from other streets and alleys, including Miln Street, North Avenue West, and the properties' rear parking lots, and by provisions for limited use of the proposed pedestrian mall by emergency vehicles; and
- (5) it is in the best interests of the Township of Cranford and the public and of benefit to adjacent properties to use such street primarily for pedestrian purposes, and that pedestrian use is determined to be the highest and best use of such street or part thereof; and
- (6) the proposed pedestrian mall at Eastman Street, between North Avenue and Miln Street, is not served by a transit utility engaged in mass transportation of persons.

SECTION 2.

- 1. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:56-69, the Township Committee of the Township of Cranford hereby creates a pedestrian mall comprising of all of the public right of way on Eastman Street, between North Avenue West and Miln Street.
- 2. The pedestrian mall shall be closed to vehicular traffic at all times beginning on the effective date of this ordinance and continuing until 9:00 a.m. on November 1, 2021.
- 3. The pedestrian mall shall not extend to or limit vehicular use of the intersecting streets of North Avenue West or Miln Street.

 $EXPLANATION-Matter\ struck\ through\ \frac{thus}{thus}\ in\ the\ above\ Ordinance\ is\ not\ enacted\ and\ is\ intended\ to\ be\ omitted\ in\ the\ law.\ Matter\ underlined\ \frac{thus}{thus}\ is\ new\ matter.$

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall expire on December 31, 2021.

SECTION 4. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 5. Upon final passage and publication according to law, this ordinance shall become effective immediately.

Introduced: April 27, 2021 Adopted: May 25, 2021

Approved:

Kathleen Miller Prunty
Chair, Township Committee

Attest:

Patricia Donahue, RMC Municipal Clerk

Recorded Vote	Introduced	Adopted
Kathleen Miller Prunty	Aye	Aye
Brian Andrews	Aye	Aye
Jason Gareis	Aye	Aye
Thomas H. Hannen, Jr.	Aye	Nay
Mary O'Connor	Aye	Nay