Residential Traffic Commission Meeting Minutes of Monday, September 11, 2023

The Residential Traffic Commission met on Monday, September 11, 2023, in the Lower-Level Conference Room #1 of the Municipal Government Center (Town Hall), 25 West Market Street, Leesburg, Virginia. The Commission was officially called to order at 6:58 p.m.

Members presentTown Staff PresentCitizens PresentSandy Grossman-ChairNiraja Chandrapu, PE, PTOESee Public CommentsDavid BowersLieutenant Vogel ChrisRaymond L. JonesScott Parker, AICPRay Delpesche
Cherie JonesCherie JonesMark NormanMark Norman

1. *Approval of Minutes*: On motion by Commissioner Ray Delpesche, seconded by Commissioner David Bowers, the Commission approved the August 14, 2023, minutes.

On motion by Commissioner Ray Delpesche, seconded by Commissioner Raymond Jones, the commission approved the September 11, 2023, agenda.

2. Public Comments:

Mr. Borger, a resident of Cornwall St. NE, raised concerns about pedestrian safety at the intersection of North and Church Streets, particularly with the anticipated increase in traffic and the use of the Pennington lot for the new Courthouse. He inquired if the Town has any plans to install a raised crosswalk similar to one on Loudoun Street at the intersection of North Street and Church Street. Commissioner Sandy responded that we want to wait and get things operational to observe the behavior and the traffic patterns after the project's completion. He emphasized that the commission has heard similar concerns from neighbors and suggested waiting, like everyone else, until more data is available.

3. SMART Trailer Results: Lieutenant Vogel (LPD) shared the following SMART Trailer Results and speed enforcement data with the commission:

Table 1: SMART Trailer Results

Roadway Name	Data		Average	85th Percentile	Average Daily	
	Collection Total Vehicle		Speed	Speed	Traffic	
	Time Period Count		(MPH)	(MPH)	(VPD)	
448 S King Street, NB	8/10/2023 through 8/31/2023	237,712	15.69	24.15	10,805.1	

Table 2: Selective Enforcement Locations and Data

Location	Issue	Strategy	Results	Notes
			23 Hours /	
South King Street / Meade Drive SW	Speeding	Selective Enforcement	29 Citizen Contacts	-
			6 Hours /	
Dry Mill Road SW / Anne Street SW	Speeding	Selective Enforcement	5 Citizen Contacts	-
Sycolin road SE / Gateway Drive SE	Speeding	Selective Enforcement	Data not available yet	New
Battlefield Parkway SE / Kincaid Boulevard				
SE	Speeding	Selective Enforcement	Data not available yet	New

4. Meadowbrook residential community (phase 5) traffic concerns: The staff provided an update to the commission, indicating that closing of Axios Street might not be feasible due to the requirement of providing a secondary access for a development with more than 200 homes. Additionally, it was noted that the streets of Meadowbrook Phase V development are not yet accepted by the Town and are expected to be off bond either late winter or in spring 2023. Consequently, staff intend to collect cut-thru traffic data and intersection counts at Battlefield Parkway and Idyllic Place once the roads are officially accepted by the Town.

One of the residents inquired previously about investigating the possibility of removing "No Parking or Standing Fire Lane" signs on Idyllic Place between Battlefield Parkway and Axios Street to allow residents to park, citing that road width is sufficient. Upon investigation, it was discovered that this matter is governed by Fire Marshall requirement and therefore, no changes will be made to this segment of Idyllic Place.

- 5. Deaf Child Signs at Laconia Street: The staff mentioned that they plan to visit the neighborhood this week to determine the suitable locations for placing the "Deaf Child" signs.
- 6. Existing school traffic issue at the intersection of Saddleback Pl and Harper Park Middle School entrance: The staff provided an update to the commission, stating that high-visibility crosswalks and stop bars have been installed at the subject intersection. Additionally, it was mentioned that the LCPS traffic specialist will collaborate with the neighborhood HOA and Town staff to determine the placement of school zone speed limit signs. If all goes according to the plan, the signs are expected to be installed within three months, subject to logistical considerations.
- 7. West Market/Fairview and Catoctin Circle intersection concern about cars not yielding to pedestrians in a crosswalk and visibility of pedestrians: The staff provided an update to the commission, indicating that high-visibility crosswalks have been installed, stop bars have been repainted, and an advanced walk signal has been implemented for pedestrians crossing the West Market Street.
- 8. Speeding on Dry Mill Road: Staff informed the commission that this segment is back on the enforcement list. Commissioner Sandy requested that the members of the commission visit the area to assess the visibility of exiting signage and determine if there is a need for improved or additional signage to mitigate traffic speed. Commissioner Sandy also mentioned that the new development is expected to contribute to improving the speeding issue on Dry Mill Road.

9. Update on outstanding issues:

- a) Conversion of street lighting with LED lighting on Hope Parkway at crosswalks located at Burnell Place SE and Park Gate Drive SE: The staff received the quote and Novec is upgrading the street lighting to LED.
- b) Pedestrian signage on South King Street at W&OD Trail: The staff is working to arrange a meeting with the Nova Parks authority to discuss mitigation measures aimed at slowing down bicyclists on W&OD trail. Also, discuss zigzag pavement markings on the road approaching the W&OD trail with the Parks authority. Commissioner Mark Norman wrote an article for the Bike Loudoun newsletter about Bike laws, and this will be posted soon on their website.
- c) Potential Traffic Calming efforts on Ft Evans Road at Meadows Lane: The commission discussed and asked LPD to collect the speeding data on Ft Evans Road.

10. Commission Member Concerns: Commissioner Ray Delpesche raised concerns about the causes of traffic congestion on the Rte. 7 off-ramp to Route 15. In response, Niraja explained that congestion is primary a result of traffic merging, weaving, and diverging at downstream locations.

The staff provided an update to the commission that "No-Thru" truck sign will be installed on Rte. 15/ Rte. 15 BUS diverge point to inform the drivers that the trucks are prohibited on Rte. 15 BUS.

The commission asked the staff to provide the scope of services for the *Downtown Traffic Study and Travel Demand Model*.

11. Next meeting date: Monday, October 2, 2023.

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m., on a motion by Commissioner Ray Delpesche and seconded by Commissioner Mark Norman.