



City of Denton
MINUTES
TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

City Hall
215 E. McKinney Street
Denton, Texas
www.cityofdenton.com

Monday, October 7, 2019

5:30 pm

City Council Work Session Room

After determining that a quorum of the Traffic Safety Commission of the City of Denton, Texas is present, the Chair of the Traffic Safety Commission will thereafter convene into an open meeting on Monday, August 5, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Work Session Room at City Hall, 215 E. McKinney Street, Denton, Texas at which the following items will be considered:

Commissioners: Kevin Sample, Daniel Krutka, Clay Thurmond, Connie Baker, Jeff King, and Melissa Carr

Staff Members: Brian Jahn, City Traffic Engineer; Trey Lansford, Deputy City Attorney; Marc Oliphant, Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator; Pam Alummoottil, Traffic Engineer; and Becky Owens, Administrative Assistant

REGULAR MEETING

A. TSC19-043 A brief discussion was held and Daniel Krutka was elected as the Chair. Melissa Carr volunteered and was approved as the Vice-Chair.

B. TSC19-045 Consider the approval of the meeting minutes of August 5, 2019.

Melissa Carr made a motion to approve. Jeff King seconded the motion.
The minutes were approved by vote (6-0).

Each commissioner provided a brief introductions to get acquainted with all currently and newly new appointed members.

C. TSC19-039 Marc Oliphant, Bicycle and Pedestrian Coordinator for the City gave a report regarding the lighting and pedestrian elements at the Alice/University traffic signal and Fulton/University traffic signal intersections with a discussion of options and ultimate design goals for safer pedestrian paths.

A question was asked if in designing a curb or corner clip if the more gentle radius could be changed to a sharper more angular design in order to slow cars when making the turn and creating a larger pedestrian space.

It was noted this is possible but when a drive entry is so wide, it doesn't really matter what you do or what radius you put on them cars don't really know where to line up because it is so wide. Private drives are a little bit more difficult or a challenge to modify the access when there is no associated street construction or reconstruction.

The property owner has been receptive and is interested in working with the City for viable solutions.

The bond package proposal includes funds for lighting and if approved could provide funding for a major project for improvements on US 380.

- D. TSC19-046** Lt. Preston Pholer with the Denton Police Department gave a report with statistics for bicycle and pedestrian citations. Information was also shared on the Department's outreach programs. Additional statistics were shared on driver crashes. The Department is continually working to improve their social media and outreach programs and coordinating with the DISD.

An additional discussion was held on speed limits in different areas of the city and their effectiveness.

A question was raised regarding enforcement of blocking sidewalks with additional discussion. These can be reported through Engage Denton individually but are generally low priority in handling and prioritizing calls for the Police Department. It is an increasing cultural awareness.

- E. TSC19-047** Pam Alummoottil presented information and a discussion was held regarding the new Wilson Elementary School facility and the mobility concerns during the two years of construction.

Staff recommends supporting the temporary parking lot on Avondale Park to avoid parking spillover into the adjacent neighborhood. DISD would be responsible for the expense of the parking lot and to repair the entire impacted area in the manner in which it was provided to them prior to the installation.

The commission recommended to ensure there are proper crosswalks and sidewalks on Windsor and agree with the plan for the temporary lot on Hanover with a unanimous vote (6-0).

- F. TSC19-049** Brian Jahn presented a report with background information on the reconstruction of Hinkle and the potential restriction of on-street parking along the west side of Hinkle Drive between Windsor and University Drive. Staff is not asking for a recommendation only feedback because it is for Council Work Session tomorrow, Tuesday October 8.

A comment received by Brian Jahn via email from Rudy Seward prior to the meeting was shared. He is in favor of maximizing bicycle use and safety and minimizing parking on Hinkle.

Citizen Susie Rumohr a resident at 1700 Crescent Street spoke in favor of restricting parking.

Comments were heard from each of the commissioners expressing individual preferences with a count of 5 in favor of Option 2 and 1 for Option 3.

Citizen Don Heiman a resident at 912 Coit Street requested the opportunity to speak on a general subject. He noted that he and his children bike to school 4 days a week. The main entrance to the school is on Malone and that is where the school zone markings are. They use the back entrance to the school which is on Cordell Street when cycling. This entrance also has a drop off zone for students. Cars go really fast on Cordell and he is asking for some type of signals and signage on both sides of this entrance on Cordell that would indicate the school entrance and tell cars to slow down in this area because there is a lot of traffic between Fulton and Malone.

Staff will need to do data collection to determine what the opportunities are to improve safety in this area.

- G. TSC19-048** Staff Reports

1. Matrix

We are in the process of finalizing the ADA Transition Plan. A lot of the ADA issues in the Downtown area are not as straight forward as they might seem. We have significant grade separations or other structures and features of downtown because it was built without pedestrians in mind or it evolved that way. The car took over in the 50's. We are looking at the ADA Transition

Plan which identifies the areas of concerns and we will come back with an overall project versus looking at individual locations or components. Will look at CIP projects to see what we can combine into a larger project and move forward with. Once we finalize the ADA Transition plan we can start grouping and finding funding. We are trying not to address individual business needs. We need to come up with a solution that solves the accessibility for the entire block face if not the entire block. A lot of the ADA Concerns noted will stay on the Matrix until we have an overall larger plan where we can knock out more than one at a time.

#11 - The lighting and sidewalks on Hickory between Carroll and UNT is terrible. Is there a temporary solution as the street reconstruction project continues.

#9 - The Hawk signals and crossing improvements are going into construction and should be complete in October for both the Brinker and Colorado crossings.

#8 - We are working to improve the existing signage and with work with enforcement.

A request was made for awareness and enforcement to keep the sidewalk clear on Elm Street in front of Caliber Collision.

2. Street Construction Report

The report was shared and most of the projects are proceeding on schedule. Questions were asked and schedule updates were provided for the Brinker and Lillian Miller underpass locations at I-35.

Adjournment: 7:50 P.M.

CONCLUDING ITEMS

Under Section 551.042 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, respond to inquiries from the Public Utilities Board or the public with specific factual information or recitation of policy, or accept a proposal to place the matter on the agenda for an upcoming meeting AND Under Section 551.0415 of the Texas Open Meetings Act, provide reports about items of community interest regarding which no action will be taken, to include: expressions of thanks, congratulations, or condolence; information regarding holiday schedules; an honorary or salutary recognition of a public official, public employee, or other citizen; a reminder about an upcoming event organized or sponsored by the governing body; information regarding a social, ceremonial, or community event organized or sponsored by an entity other than the governing body that was attended or is scheduled to be attended by a member of the governing body or an official or employee of the municipality; or an announcement involving an imminent threat to the public health and safety of people in the municipality that has arisen after the posting of the agenda

APPROVED



Daniel Krutka
Chair



Becky Owens
Administrative Assistant