

City of Lawrence

Traffic Safety Commission

Website: lawrenceks.org/boards/traffic-safety-commission

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Telephone: 785-832-3034

December 1, 2014 Agenda

7:00 PM - City Commission Room, City Hall

COMMISSION MEMBERS: John Ziegelmeyer Jr., Chair; Ryan Devlin, Vice-Chair; Stuart Boley; Travis Harrod; Jason Hoskinson; Steven Koprince; Edwin Rothrock; Tracy Russell; and Chris Storm

Anyone who wishes to be notified when an item will be heard by the City Commission must provide their name and a telephone number or an e-mail address.

ITEM NO. 1: Review and approve the minutes of the Traffic Safety Commission meeting, November 3, 2014.

ITEM NO. 2: Consider request for TRAFFIC CALMING on Alabama Street between 19th Street & 21st Street.

Staff Report:

1. Alabama Street is classified as a "local" street in a residential area with a speed limit of 30mph.
2. The City's *Traffic Calming Policy* provides that Traffic Calming may be permitted on "local" streets if the 85th percentile speed of traffic is 5mph or greater over the speed limit, or if the 24-hour traffic volume is greater than 1000.
3. Traffic data collected October 28-29, 2014, found approximately 700 vehicles in 24 hours and an 85th percentile speed of approximately 33.2mph; therefore, this part of Alabama Street does not meet the minimum criteria for consideration of Traffic Calming.

ITEM NO. 3: Consider establishing a 20MPH SPEED LIMIT on Alabama Street between 19th Street & 21st Street.

Staff Report:

1. State law establishes a speed limit of 30mph in all residential areas.
2. Speed limits can be changed by the local jurisdiction; however, the change must be made on the basis of a traffic engineering investigation.
3. Traffic data obtained on October 28-29, 2014, found the overall 85th percentile speed of traffic to be approximately 33.2mph; therefore, a change in the speed limit is not recommended.

ITEM NO. 4: Consider constructing a PEDESTRIAN HYBRID BEACON on 19th Street at Alabama Street.

Staff Report:

1. 19th Street is classified as a "minor arterial" street, paved approximately 30 feet wide and a posted speed limit of 30mph.
2. The most recent traffic count on 19th Street shows approximately 13,000 vehicles per day.
3. Based on the posted speed limit of 30mph, the width of the street and a walking speed of 3.5 feet/second (typical for an elementary school student), there would need to be a gap in traffic of approximately 510 feet both east and west of the intersection (shown on the attached map) for a pedestrian to safely cross the street.
4. The nearest controlled crossings on 19th Street are at Louisiana Street, 1,365 feet east of the intersection, and Naismith Drive, 1,200 feet west of the intersection.

ITEM NO. 5: Consider request for TRAFFIC CALMING on Elm Street between 3rd Street & 4th Street.

Staff Report:

1. Elm Street is classified as a "local" street in a residential area with a speed limit of 30mph and is designated as a one-way street eastbound in this area.
2. The City's *Traffic Calming Policy* provides that Traffic Calming may be permitted on "local" streets if the 85th percentile speed of traffic is 5mph or greater over the speed limit, or if the 24-hour traffic volume is greater than 1000.
3. Traffic data collected November 10-11, 2014 found approximately 1120 vehicles in 24 hours and an 85th percentile speed of approximately 34.8mph; therefore, this part of Elm Street meets the minimum criteria for consideration of Traffic Calming.

ITEM NO. 6: Public Comment.

ITEM NO. 7: Commission Items.

ITEM NO. 8: Staff Items.

City of Lawrence
Traffic Safety Commission
December 1, 2014 Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Ziegelmeier, Jr., Chair; Ryan Devlin, Vice-Chair; Travis Harrod; Jason Hoskinson; Steven Koprince; Edwin Rothrock; and Chris Storm

MEMBERS ABSENT: Stuart Boley; and Tracy Russell

STAFF PRESENT: David Woosley, Public Works Department

PUBLIC PRESENT: Ted Boyle; Tom Harper; Erika Kirkland; Matt Kirkland; Austin Paley; Emily Sharp; Bob Tryanski; and Daniel Zimney

The meeting was called to order by John Ziegelmeier, Jr. at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Room, City Hall, 6 E. 6th Street.

ITEM NO. 1:

Review and approve the minutes of the Traffic Safety Commission meeting, November 3, 2014.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DEVLIN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER KOPRINCE, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING, NOVEMBER 3, 2014; THE MOTION CARRIED, 5-0-1.

ITEM NO. 2:

Consider request for TRAFFIC CALMING on Alabama Street between 19th Street & 21st Street.

Woosley reviewed the information provided in the staff report.

Public Comments:

Erika Kirkland, 1908 Alabama Street: The placement of city vehicles conducting the studies may have affected the speed of traffic; there are over 20 children under the age of 16 that I know of personally that live on this part of Alabama, most under the age of 10; there is an elderly population that frequently walks in this area; there are a lot of families who walk with their dogs; there are a lot of college students that park there and then go to campus.

Austin Paley, 1203 W. 20th Terrace: I would advocate for calming measures on the street; often a lot of traffic on 19th Street and 21st Street use Alabama to fly across to get a different route with less traffic and are doing it out of frustration and pounding on the gas; a lot of the traffic is cutting-through; since there is no sidewalk on the west side of the street, everyone ends-up crossing the street to walk on the east side, so there are constantly people crossing the street; there's often not room for two cars to pass due to the parking.

Matt Kirkland, 1908 Alabama Street: We're concerned that the city vehicles doing the studies were parked in a no parking zone and might reduce the number of vehicles that cut-through.

Bob Tryanski, 2000 Alabama Street: We've had three (3) cars drive down 20th Street and wind-up in our lawn, and one (1) hit our house and then drove-away; last year I watched a dog get hit by a college kid on 21st Street; it might be that some more study or observation of this area might be warranted; we have a lot of traffic from the high school; there is more traffic and there are more cars in our area when there are events at the high school stadium.

Tom Harper, 2152 Owens Lane: I travel this stretch every day; I would request that we do another study and get the city vehicles in a less visible way so they don't affect traffic; it's 30mph, but people don't go 30, perhaps a sign could help; I think something needs to happen, doing nothing is not acceptable.

Commission Comments:

Commissioner Rothrock asked how many traffic calming projects had been approved, but, not funded; Woosley advised that there were approximately 20 currently on the list.

Commissioner Devlin asked how another study could be accomplished; Woosley advised that the Commission could request additional information.

Commissioner noted he was concerned that the available data did not support traffic calming and that if an additional study did, it would still be some time before it may be funded.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ZIEGELMEYER, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HARROD, TO TABLE THE REQUEST FOR TRAFFIC CALMING ON ALABAMA STREET BETWEEN 19TH STREET & 21ST STREET UNTIL TRAFFIC DATA CAN BE RECOLLECTED; THE MOTION CARRIED, 6-1.

ITEM NO. 3:

Consider request to establish a 20MPH SPEED LIMIT on Alabama Street between 19th Street & 21st Street.

Woosley reviewed the information provided in the staff report.

Public Comments:

None.

Commission Comments:

None.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ZIEGELMEYER, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HARROD, TO TABLE THE REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A 20MPH SPEED LIMIT ON ALABAMA STREET BETWEEN 19TH STREET & 21ST STREET UNTIL TRAFFIC DATA CAN BE RECOLLECTED; THE MOTION CARRIED, 6-1.

ITEM NO. 4:

Consider request to construct a PEDESTRIAN HYBRID BEACON on 19th Street at Alabama Street.

Woosley reviewed the information provided in the staff report.

Public Comments:

Emily Sharp, 902 W. 20th Terrace: It is an inconvenience to get across 19th Street; I have to get into 19th Street with my stroller and my dog, particularly during rush hour; often I have to go all the way to Louisiana to cross; can't go to Naismith to cross because there is not a sidewalk on the north side of 19th Street; my mother watches my daughters and has a disability and would never have enough time to cross the street if she needed to; I have to dart out into traffic when I'm alone, but, I'm not comfortable when I have my kids.

Erika Kirkland, 1908 Alabama Street: Any families on the north side of the 19th Street would have to cross at Alabama in order for the children to use the wide sidewalk along the south side of the street.

Tom Harper, 2152 Owens Lane: This is the easiest of the three (3) requests; just hang-out at 19th and Alabama at five o'clock, it's really tight, there is a lot of traffic, and people stand on both sides of the street trying to cross; I want a button on each side with lights.

Daniel Zimney, 2009 Alabama Street: There is quite a bit of KU traffic and KU students, particularly on game nights; the same is true at Lawrence High School when there is a football game; that kind of traffic may not have been caught during the study in October.

Commission Comments:

Commissioner Rothrock: I was in school and walked through that intersection at least once a day for two (2) semesters and it is frightening, and as a single able-bodied adult trying to get across that anytime from 3pm-6pm, it's seriously taking your life into your own hands; as a driver, I have been afraid to stop and let someone cross, afraid I would get hit from behind; I would be a strong supporter of putting a crosswalk in there.

Commissioner Koprince: I used to live not far from here, we used to walk our children around in strollers, and I would second those comments.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ROTHROCK, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER DEVLIN, TO RECOMMEND CONSTRUCTING A PEDESTRIAN HYBRID BEACON ON 19TH STREET AT ALABAMA STREET, THE MOTION CARRIED 7-0.

ITEM NO. 5:

Consider request for TRAFFIC CALMING on Elm Street between 3rd Street & 4th Street.

Woosley reviewed the information provided in the staff report. .

Public Comments:

Ted Boyle, 310 Elm Street: This has been a constant problem; we have longer blocks in North Lawrence and Elm Street from 2nd to 7th, it's just straight-through; we also have Woodlawn School in the 500 block; we've even had the electronic speed sign used several time; since the intersection with 2nd Street was re-done, traffic can turn onto Elm Street a much higher speed and then they hit the accelerator in the 200 block; we have a lot of young children in the 300 and 400 blocks; we think we can get CDBG funding to construct traffic calming if we get a recommendation since we meet the minimum criteria.

Commission Comments:

None.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DEVLIN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER ROTHROCK, TO RECOMMEND TRAFFIC CALMING ON ELM STREET BETWEEN 3RD STREET & 4TH STREET; THE MOTION CARRIED, 7-0.

ITEM NO. 6:

Public Comment:

None.

ITEM NO. 7:

Commission Items.

None.

ITEM NO. 8:

Staff Items:

None.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the Traffic Safety Commission is Monday, January 5, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

David E. Woosley

David E. Woosley, P.E.
Transportation/Traffic Engineer