

AGENDA: TSC 5/2/16

ITEM NO. 7: Consider request for a PEDESTRIAN CROSSING on Haskell Avenue at 16th Street.

Staff Report:

1. Haskell Avenue is classified as a "minor arterial" street, paved approximately 30 feet wide and a posted speed limit of 30 mph.
2. The most recent traffic count on Haskell Avenue shows approximately 8,000 vehicles daily.
3. Based on the posted speed limit of 30mph, a crossing width of 38 feet 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 610 feet both north and south of the crossing for a pedestrian to cross safely. In addition, a gap study found that during the peak hour of traffic there were 0-3 adequate gaps in traffic during each 5-minute period.
4. The nearest controlled crossings on Haskell Avenue are at 15th Street, approximately 1200 feet north of the intersection, and 19th Street, 1300 feet south of the intersection.
5. The current bus stop is on the west side of Haskell Avenue.
6. A comprehensive study of approximately 2000 crosswalks nationwide found that under existing traffic conditions, there is no statistical difference in the crash rate of a marked vs. unmarked crosswalk.
7. Therefore, it is recommended that a pedestrian crossing be established at this location only if additional traffic control, such as a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon or Pedestrian Refuge Island is included.

MINUTES: TSC 5/2/16**ITEM NO. 7:**

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Woosley reviewed the information provided in the staff report

Public Comments:

Chris Lempa, 1215 Delaware Street, representing the Housing Authority: We have a lot of families that try to cross Haskell at peak times to catch the bus, they have a really hard time crossing; over 25% of our tenants are elderly and disabled; this would really be beneficial for the area, going to 15th or 19th to cross isn't realistic; I ride my bike to work and I even have a hard time crossing; we have had people miss appointments because they couldn't get across the street in time to catch a bus.

Vicki Pepperdine, 829 E. 13th Street: My son likes to ride his bike to Edgewood a lot and it is difficult for him to get across the street and I don't like him trying to cross without a light.

Commission Discussion:

Commissioner Hoskinson: I think with all the origins and destinations, this location makes sense, I wouldn't go to 15th or to 19th to cross; however, if we have a crosswalk, we do need to have a pedestrian hybrid beacon too.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HOSKINSON, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD, TO RECOMMEND ESTABLISHING A PEDESTRIAN CROSSING WITH A PEDESTRIAN HYBRID BEACON ON HASKELL AVENUE AT 16TH STREET; THE MOTION CARRIED, 8-0.

David Woosley

From: Heather Odell [<mailto:hodell@ldcha.org>]
Sent: Monday, March 28, 2016 3:21 PM
To: David Woosley
Subject: Crosswalk Installation Request - 1600 Haskell

To whom it may concern,

I would like to submit a request for a pedestrian cross walk to be installed at 1600 Haskell Ave. across from the Lawrence-Douglas County Housing Authority. This would serve the T bus stop and allow for our low income elderly, disabled and youth populations to safely cross Haskell, either walking or on their bikes to get to the Burroughs trail. Making cars on Haskell aware of pedestrians and bikes by drawing their attention to slow down would dramatically increase safety.

Many of our tenants, Section 8, Homeless Transitional and Public Housing amongst others, use this bus stop and have to cross Haskell to get to our office. I have frequently witnessed our tenants hesitantly crossing Haskell in heavy traffic especially at rush hour. Also, if a vehicle is turning southbound out of the LDCHA, they can encounter a pedestrian trying to get to their bus stop. Please let me know if you have any questions and when you will be discussing this issue.

Thank you,

Heather Odell
Director of Resident Services
Resident Services Office

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