

City of Lawrence
Traffic Safety Commission Agenda
October 7, 2013-7:00 PM
City Commission Room, City Hall

MEMBERS: Edwin Rothrock, Chair; John Ziegelmeier Jr., Vice-Chair; Stuart Boley; Ryan Devlin; Dan Harden; Cody Howard; Steven Koprince; 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, August 5, 2013.

ITEM NO. 2: Consider request for TRAFFIC CALMING on Learnard Avenue between 19th Street & 23rd Street.

Staff Report:

1. Learnard Avenue is classified as a "local" street in a residential area and is paved approximately 20 feet wide without curb & gutter and without sidewalks.
2. State law establishes the speed limit in residential areas at 30 mph.
3. The City's *Traffic Calming Policy* provides that traffic calming devices may be permitted if the 85th percentile speed of traffic is 5 mph or greater over the speed limit.
4. Traffic data collected on September 18-19, 2013, found approximately 700 vehicles in a 24-hour period and an 85th percentile speed of approximately 35.25 mph.
5. Therefore, this portion of Learnard Avenue meets the criteria for consideration of traffic calming devices.

ITEM NO. 3: Consider request for TRAFFIC CALMING at Montana Street & Park Hill Terrace.

Staff Report:

1. Montana Street and Park Hill Terrace are both classified as "local" streets in a residential area and are paved approximately 24 feet wide without sidewalks.
2. State law establishes the speed limit in residential areas at 30 mph.
3. The City's *Traffic Calming Policy* provides that traffic calming devices may be permitted if the 85th percentile speed of traffic is 5 mph or greater over the speed limit.
4. Traffic data collected on September 17-18, 2013, found approximately 160 vehicles in a 24-hour period and an 85th percentile speed of approximately 31.45 mph.
5. Therefore, Montana Street and Park Hill Terrace do not meet the minimum criteria for consideration of traffic calming.

ITEM NO. 4: Consider request to establish a 25MPH SPEED LIMIT on Lawrence Avenue between 31st Street & Clinton Parkway.

Staff Report:

1. Lawrence Avenue is classified as a "collector" street in a residential area.
2. State law establishes the speed limit in residential areas at 30 mph.
3. State law does permit a city to decrease the speed limit in a residence district on the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation.
4. The nationally accepted standard for establishing speed limits is the 85th percentile speed; the *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* states that the posted speed limit should be within 5 mph of the 85th percentile speed.
5. Traffic data collected September 19-20 found approximately 2875 vehicles in a 24-hour period and an 85th percentile speed of approximately 37.6 mph. Based on this data the speed limit should be posted at either 35 or 40 mph.

ITEM NO. 5: Consider request to establish a MULTI-WAY STOP at the intersection of Kasold Drive & Riverview Road.

Staff Report:

1. The *Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices* provides criteria for consideration of a MULTI-WAY STOP as follows:
 - a. Where a traffic signal is warranted;
 - b. Five or more reported crashes in a 12-month period; or
 - c. The volume on the major street must average at least 210 vehicles per hour for each of 8 hours of an average day and the volume on the minor street must average at least 140 vehicles per hour for the same 8 hours.
2. Police Department records show no reported crashes during the past three years susceptible to correction by a Multi-Way Stop.
3. Traffic data collected September 4-5, 2013 found an average of 396 vehicles per hour on Kasold Drive during the 8 highest hours of the day and an average of 42 vehicles per hour on Riverview Road during the same 8 hours.

ITEM NO. 6: Consider request to establish NO PARKING along the east side of Jana Drive from 50 feet north of Rogers Place to 50 feet south of Rogers Place.

Staff Report:

1. Jana Drive is classified as a "local" street in a residential area and is paved approximately 24 feet wide.
2. Parking is currently permitted along both sides of Jana Drive, except on the west side of the street from 50 feet north of Rogers Place to 50 feet south of Rogers Place.

ITEM NO. 7: Public Comment.

ITEM NO. 8: Commission Items.

ITEM NO. 9: Staff Items.

City of Lawrence
Traffic Safety Commission
October 7, 2013 Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT: Edwin Rothrock, Chair; John Ziegelmeyer, Jr., Vice-Chair; Stuart Boley; Ryan Devlin; Dan Harden; Cody Howard; Steven Koprince; and Chris Storm

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tracy Russell

STAFF PRESENT: David Woosley, Public Works Department

PUBLIC PRESENT: Anna Neill, Otto Hercha, Dan Parker-Timms, Marcia Fisher, Dana White, David Arehart, Maureen Cole, Matt Eichman, Marilou Cavin, Marcia Boswell-Carney, Jeanne Pees, Rhonda Roy, and Betty Alderson

Chair Edwin Rothrock called the meeting to order 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, August 5, 2013.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BOLEY, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER ZIEGELMEYER, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING, AUGUST 5, 2013; THE MOTION CARRIED, 8-0.

ITEM NO. 2:

Consider request for TRAFFIC CALMING on Learnard Avenue between 19th Street & 23rd Street.

Woosley reviewed the information provided in the staff report and noted the receipt of two (2) e-mails (attached) supporting the request.

Public Comment:

Anna Neill, 2020 Learnard Avenue: There is a great deal of traffic moving at an often quite unreasonable speed; there are a lot of families with small children on this street; the narrowness of the street means that pedestrians often have to jump into the ditch to avoid moving vehicles; we would like to request approval and expedition to construction to slow the traffic down.

Otto Hercha, 2221 Learnard Avenue: I'm sort of 'yes' and 'no' on speed bumps; speed bumps are fine, an island would be dangerous; with the condition of the road, speed bumps might be dangerous; we have drop-offs going right into a ditch, no curbs; we have a lot of people walking dogs, people jogging, bicycles, children playing.

Dan Parker-Timms, 2136 Learnard Avenue: I agree with the previous speakers; we feel that speed bumps would be a great option.

Commission Discussion:

Commissioner Devlin asked how the street lighting was; area residents indicated that there was only one (1) midway between 19th Street & 23rd Street.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HARDEN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER BOLEY, TO RECOMMEND TRAFFIC CALMING ON LEARNARD AVENUE BETWEEN 19TH STREET & 23RD STREET; THE MOTION CARRIED, 8-0.

ITEM NO. 3:

Consider request for TRAFFIC CALMING at Montana Street & Park Hill Terrace.

Woosley reviewed the information provided in the staff report and noted the receipt of an e-mail (attached) in support of the request.

Public Comment:

Dana White, 2539 Montana Street: I do like the idea of doing speed bumps or speed humps along our road; it would be nice to be able to ride our bikes with a little more safety; cars do cut-through both ways to avoid the light at 23rd & Louisiana; I would like to see something happen.

David Arehart, 2545 Montana Street: There are a lot of children, a lot of dog-walkers accessing Montana; this street is the 23rd & Louisiana bypass; we see much increased traffic during the two (2) rush hours; we don't want sidewalks, the lack of sidewalks is one of the sweet things about our neighborhood, it forces people to walk along the side and say 'hi' to each other.

Commission Discussion:

Commissioner Ziegelmeier: I drive that street periodically and I'm amazed that the vehicle count was as low as it was.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ZIEGELMEYER, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER DEVLIN, TO RECOMMEND DENYING THE REQUEST FOR TRAFFIC CALMING AT MONTANA STREET & PARK HILL TERRACE; THE MOTION CARRIED, 7-1 (Howard, in order to get the item placed on the City Commission Regular Agenda).

ITEM NO. 4:

Consider request to establish a 25MPH SPEED LIMIT on Lawrence Avenue between 31st Street & Clinton Parkway.

Woosley reviewed the information provided in the staff report.

Commission Discussion:

Commissioner Boley: Based on the data, it appears that this location would qualify for consideration of traffic calming, but not for a lower speed limit.

Public Comment:

Maureen Cole, 2732 Lawrence Avenue: From 27th Street, south, it seems like the speed gets pretty, high, easily 50mph; if I had know I should have requested traffic calming instead of a lower speed limit, I would have done that; there are houses with driveways entering onto Lawrence Avenue; with parking on both sides of the street, you can't see if a dog or a child is running out into the street; if possible, I'd like for you to consider traffic calming instead of a 25mph speed limit.

Commission Discussion:

Commissioner Ziegelmeier asked to confirm that they could not change the request, but that a new request for traffic calming could be made; Woosley advised that that was correct.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DEVLIN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER KOPRINCE, TO RECOMMEND DENYING THE REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A 25MPH SPEED LIMIT ON LAWRENCE AVENUE BETWEEN 31ST STREET & CLINTON PARKWAY; THE MOTION CARRIED, 8-0.

ITEM NO. 5:

Consider request to establish a MULTI-WAY STOP at the intersection of Kasold Drive & Riverview Road.

Woosley reviewed the information provided in the staff report.

Public Comment:

Matt Eichman, 3500 Riverview Road: I understand that the report does not meet the criteria for crashes or for traffic on Riverview, but, I would like to point-out it meets almost double the amount of traffic on Kasold; I have found it to be pretty unsafe to enter or cross the street; a fence and trees block the view of traffic approaching from the north; although there are sidewalks on Riverview, there are no sidewalks on Kasold and no way to cross Kasold for children to walk to Deerfield School; therefore, I would request approval of the request.

Commission Discussion:

Commissioner Rothrock: We are just too far off the required numbers.

Commissioner Ziegelmeyer: We don't have the authority to recommend a Stop sign in violation of the code.

Commissioner Boley: I'm not sure a Stop sign would be the appropriate solution for pedestrians anyway; I would think that a pedestrian beacon would be a better solution.

Commissioner Rothrock: Funding would be a problem for a pedestrian beacon.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ROTHROCK, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER BOLEY, TO RECOMMEND DENYING THE REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A MULTI-WAY STOP AT THE INTERSECTION OF KASOLD DRIVE & RIVERVIEW ROAD; THE MOTION CARRIED, 8-0.

ITEM NO. 6:

Consider request to establish NO PARKING along the east side of Jana Drive from 50 feet north of Rogers Place to 50 feet south of Rogers Place.

Woosley reviewed the information provided in the staff report and noted receipt of an e-mail (attached) supporting the request.

Public Comment:

Rhonda Roy, 1028 Rogers Place: When the roadway is slick, we have no way of stopping when going down the hill; I'm requesting No Parking on the east side of the street so we can avoid hitting a parked vehicle; even with a 4-wheel-drive vehicle, you start sliding as you approach the intersection and make a turn either direction; I usually end-up hitting the curb, but with vehicles parked near the intersection, they are a likely target; so, we're requesting the No Parking, and in reality, it's only three (3) parking spaces.

Marilou Cavin, 1021 Rogers Place: When you're trying to turn off Rogers Place onto Jana Drive, it is very hazardous with vehicles parked on the east side of the street near the intersection; I agree, I think we need to have No Parking on that side of the street.

Jeanne Pees, 2905 Stratford Court, President of Sunset Hills Neighborhood Association: Our Mission Statement includes "concerns for the safety of our neighborhood"; this is a safety concern, turning right or left at a t-intersection like this is very dangerous in the winter; we support our neighbors and we hope that you support this.

Commission Discussion:

Commissioner Devlin and Commission Koprince asked if there had been any accidents reported; residents in attendance indicated there had been no damage, but a lot of near-misses.

Commissioner Koprince asked if staff had heard from any property owners on the east side of the street; Woosley advised that letters were sent to each property owner, but no responses had been received.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ZIEGELMEYER, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HARDEN, TO RECOMMEND ESTABLISHING NO PARKING ALONG THE EAST SIDE OF JANA DRIVE FROM 50 FEET NORTH OF ROGERS PLACE TO 50 FEET SOUTH OF ROGERS PLACE; THE MOTION CARRIED, 6-2 (Koprince & Rothrock, lack of reported crashes, a seasonal problem and reduction in the value of adjacent property).

ITEM NO. 7:

Public Comment:

None.

ITEM NO. 8:

Commission Items:

None.

ITEM NO. 9:

Staff Items:

None.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the Traffic Safety Commission is Monday, November 4, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

David E. Woosley

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