

TRAFFIC COMMISSION MEETING  
ZOOM Virtual Meeting

Date:11/11/2020

1. Call to Order At 6:30 P.M. by Chairman Stewart

2. Roll Call

|                 |                                |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Bart Stewart    | Commissioner & Chair - Present |
| Dennis Fuller   | Commissioner - Present         |
| Craig Hughes    | Commissioner - Present         |
| Jeffrey Mishkin | Commissioner – Present         |
| Cirri Moran     | Commissioner - Present         |
| Jane Schaefer   | Commissioner - Present         |
| Jerold Tiers    | Commissioner - Present         |
| Errol Tate      | Staff Liaison - Present        |
| Sinan Alpaslan  | PWP Director - Present         |
| Tim Cusick      | Council liaison - Present      |
| Shawn Whitley   | Police Liaison - Present       |
| John Mulligan   | City Attorney - Present        |

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Schaefer to approve the agenda and motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Tiers. Motion approved by a unanimous voice vote of the Commission.

4. Approval of 10/14/2020 Minutes:

Corrections: None presented

Motion by Commissioner Schaefer to approve the minutes of 10/14/2020 and motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Mishkin. Motion approved by a unanimous voice vote of the Commission.

5. Agenda items

A. Balson Avenue Traffic Concerns

APPLICANT: Michael Costello – 8231 Balson Avenue

Request: Speed Reduction Action

(1) A letter from Mr. Costello was included in the packet for review.

(2) Mr. Tate stated this item had been brought forth from the October meeting. Since the October meeting he had spoken with the applicant regarding a variety of traffic calming features with cost of same being covered by use of an NIC (Neighborhood Improvement Contract). Mr. Tate stated the neighbors did not support the use of an NIC.

(3) Commissioner Schaefer asked Mr. Tate If sidewalks had been included as part of the resolution. Mr. Tate responded that yes it had but the neighborhood was not willing

- to pick this cost up on their own. This might be a future project for the city to consider.
- (4) The initial request has been fixed with increased signage on the street and increase in police presence.
  - (5) Resident Leila Redlich, 8146 Balson was present at the zoom meeting. She stated she had been working with Mr. Costello and neighbors on this project. The cost of putting sidewalk on one side of the street was going to be approximately \$117,000 and she and Mr. Costello did not think the neighbors would support such a project at this time. She thanked the city for the additional signage and thanked Lt. Whitley for the "Speed trailer" and speed study. She stated that the improvements would not be done at this time due to cost but may do additional improvements after MSD improvements are made. Mrs. Redlich requested additional speed signs for the 8200 block.
  - (6) Commissioner Hughes questioned the official speed limit in this area on Balson. Lieutenant Whitley answered 25 miles an hour.
  - (7) No further action by the Commission was necessary.

#### B. Musick Neighborhood Speeding

Requestor: Councilman Clay

Request: Speed Reduction Action

- (1) Staff recommends the Traffic Commission review the Traffic Engineer's Scope for a study and implementation of traffic calming measures in the neighborhood.
- (2) Mr. Tate stated staff had the traffic engineer complete a study of the neighborhood, and that report was distributed to each commissioner. The traffic engineer had the police place the speed trailer between August 1, 2019 and August 11, 2019. This study showed no excess speeding during the time of this study. Lieutenant Whitley reported that 82% of the traffic was driving within the speed limit with an average speed of 16.8 mph. 1200 vehicles were tracked in this study. Data collected does not support that a large amount of the traffic was speeding. Lt. Whitley did report that the presence of the trailer does influence the data being collected as its presence does cause drivers to slow down.
- (3) Commissioner Tiers questioned the trailer's location and Lieutenant Whitley responded it was placed on Mount Vernon and Melrose.
- (4) Resident Jerry Clark, 7423 Wellington stated that the collected data was not accurate at all. He has posted on Facebook numerous people speeding at least 50 miles an hour or more with his security camera. And has been complaining about this for well over three years. This includes the area of Wellington in Melrose to around Olive and Hanley. People are using Melrose and Wellington to avoid the light on Olive and Hanley. He knows that 200 cars per day come down Wellington alone. He stated that perhaps this number is closer to 300 and that is certainly more cars than the number of residents in the neighborhood.
- (5) Resident Sylvia Morris, 7431 Wellington stated she has been attending several meetings with the neighbors and they have all viewed Mr. Clark's videos that are posted on the Musick Facebook page. This speeding on Wellington and Mount

Vernon has been going on for several years and feels that it is very dangerous on Mount Vernon because there is no stop sign. We brought a copy of some of the speeders to the July 10th traffic Commission meeting.

- (6) Commissioner Tiers question the residents, "What time of day is the worst for the speeding?" Resident Morris responded that it was usually evening. Mr Clark stated it was usually between the hours of 8:30 to 11:00 AM and 1:30 to 3:30 PM., and then late in evening. Mr. Clark has also sent Sinan Alpaslan a video clip of a speeder.
- (7) Councilman Stacey Clay, 1328 Midland, was speaking as a resident stated the intersection of Mount Vernon and Melrose is lacking a stop sign on the Mount Vernon in a north and south direction.
- (8) Resident Donna Merin, 7445 Wellington: Is concerned that we need better data. Questioned whether we need to put the speed trailer out again only disguise at this time. Also wants to consider the impact on first responders if we put any impediments in the neighborhood to slow traffic.
- (9) Commissioner Fuller questioned what the purpose of the Commission was at this meeting as we had earlier made recommendations in July. Mr. Tate responded that this was to take the traffic engineer's recommendation of doing a new study forward, as a study would cost approximately \$5000. This study would see if the July recommendations, (make some streets a one-way) would be feasible.
- (10) Resident James Bartley, 7338 Wellington: Stated he is frustrated and has been working on this for the last three years how can we move forward and get this resolved?  
Resident Jonathan Worthey, 7335 Wellington: The East West Street seemed to be a cut through to avoid the lights at Olive and Hanley. Even if some streets were made one-way people will still speed. Questioned when the speed card is used when was the data or was the data collected on the East West streets?
- (11) Suzan Lee, 1338 Midland: Questions how Midland factors into this. They own property on Midland and have had property damage. She has been told that Midland is a County Road. She is very frustrated because neither the County nor the city seemed to be responding to this problem.
- (12) Naomi silver, 7434 Wellington: stated she has observed traffic speeders and non-stopping as well. She is the administrator for the Musick Facebook page and is willing to share any of the speeding videos with anyone on the commission. There have been serious accidents at Melrose and Mt. Vernon.
- (13) Sinan Alpaslan, PWP Director, did receive the video from Mr. Clark and attempted to play. There was audio but no picture.
- (14) Commissioner Stewart summarized that the Commission had heard the frustrations of the neighborhood. He assured the Music neighborhood that the commission and city was addressing these issues with and through the traffic engineer study.
- (15) Commissioner Hughes question whether a stop sign could be put in place to temporarily address the situation while we collect more data. Mr. Tate responded that any stop sign would have to be codified through city council. Mr. Alpaslan advised that the stop sign could go on the study first , but there are no dollars for

capital improvements on this year's budget. City will take commission's recommendation.

- (16) Commissioner Stewart asked the traffic commissioners if there were any objections to moving forward with the study as recommended by staff. There were no objections to moving forward by any of the commissioners. Commissioner Hughes requested that a stop sign be placed temporarily and still proceed with the study.
- (17) City attorney Mulligan stated the code allows for temporary measures for 90 days and this can be authorized by the city manager.
- (18) **A motion** by Commissioner Tiers: proceed with the study. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schaefer and the motion passed by a unanimous voice vote of the Commission.
- (19) **A motion** by Commissioner Tiers: A temporary stop sign be placed on southbound Mount Vernon at Melrose and Wellington. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hughes and **Motion was amended** by Commissioner Tiers: Stop sign to be installed after the previous recommended traffic study was completed. The amendment was seconded by Commissioner Hughes. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Commission.

#### C. 6669 Washington – New Multi-Family Building

APPLICANT: Lochmueller/TriStar Companies Location: 6669 Washington Ave

Request: Review Traffic Impact Assessment Study – Proposed New Multi-Family Building

- (1) Staff recommendations: The traffic impact study and its related documentation show that an impact to the surrounding transportation infrastructure from the proposed development project is minimal and doesn't require any additional improvements for the maintenance of existing levels of service. Access requirements as for vehicular egress from the proposed parking lot will incorporate a right-turn only movement into the alley above Loop South and this requirement can effectively be built into subsequent plan approvals of the proposed project. The parking requirements, as evidenced in the attached engineering reports, both as for the University City Code and Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) standards are satisfied for the project as proposed. Staff recommends approval of the traffic impact study with an evaluation of the parking requirements on the proposed multifamily development project proposed at 6669 Washington Ave. by Big Lou Properties, LLC c/o Mr. Daniel Slavin with the stipulation that any substantial revisions as determined by staff in the proposal up to the issuance of building permit and completion of construction will require a reexamination by this Commission.
- (2) Mr. Tate states that this will be a new nine unit development and according to the traffic study there are no significant traffic impacts on the community.
- (3) Mr. Alpaslan, PWP Director, requested Mr. Dan Slavin, developer and Ms Julie Nolfo, Lochmuller Group, city traffic engineer to address the Commission.
- (4) Mr. Dan Slavin, developer, was present, on-line. Mr. Slavin had a traffic study completed by CBB, Lee Cannon, principle traffic engineer. Study document was provided to the commissioners with no significant traffic impact noted.
- (5) Ms Julie Nolfo, Lochmuller Group, city traffic engineer was present on-line. The city traffic engineer recommendations were also presented to the commissioners. The

city engineer notes that these 9 units will be considered 2-bedroom units and agrees with the CBB recommendations for 20 parking spaces meets code. City engineer also cites no significant traffic impact.

- (6) Commissioner Moran stated that the current lot is used for parking for the building to the West and excess Washington University faculty parking. Commissioner Moran expressed concern that this development will dump this parking onto the street.
- (7) Mr. Slavin indicated that the property to the west is not a Slavin property. Mr. Slavin stated he owns this lot as DD investment property and this development will be in compliance. The building will be a three-story building and the lot will be gated.
- (20) As there was no further discussion Commissioner Tiers made the following **Motion:** Approve the Traffic impact Study to move forward for 6666 Washington. . The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schaefer. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Commission.

#### D. Vanderbilt No Parking

APPLICANT: University Park – Kay Watts

Location: Vanderbilt

Request: Restrict Parking on Vanderbilt from Colgate to Amherst. This block is in the University Park Private subdivision. Conclusion/Recommendation: Discussion – Private subdivision traffic signs are not codified in the City's code and are questioned if they can be enforced by the police department. The Traffic commission is being asked to discuss this item with intent on helping to decide on how to move forward with signage in private subdivisions, city implementation, and enforcement.

- (1) Mrs. K Watts, University park subdivision trustee and resident, 7364 Stanford addressed the Commission. The subdivision is asking to extend an existing no parking zone 150 feet further to the South on Vanderbilt. Currently residents are parking on the curve of Vanderbilt and obstructing traffic at the intersection of Vanderbilt an Amherst.
- (2) City attorney Mulligan indicated that this was a private subdivision, and the trustees could move the sign. It was noted by commissioner Fuller that this is an existing codified no parking sign. After discussion whether a coded sign could be moved, city attorney Mulligan cited code 315.060 section B which gives the Director of Public Works authority to move such a sign.
- (3) by commissioner Tiers: have public works director extend the no parking zone on Vanderbilt Ave in University Park subdivision. Motion was seconded by commissioner Moran. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the commissioners.

#### 6. Council Liaison Report: Councilman Cusick

- A. The financial report for the first quarter shows a deficit.
- B. The task force for renaming city streets have been meeting report to follow.
- C. There will be a recycle for all yard signs on Saturday November 14th 2020.
- D. Leaf collection for fall has started and note there will be 2 cycles of leaf collection.

7. Miscellaneous Business: None Presented

8. Adjournment: No further business appearing, Commissioner Schaefer made a motion to Adjourn, Motion was 2nd by Commissioner Tiers. Meeting Adjourned at 9:12PM

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dennis Fuller