



**Department of Public Works  
Eric W. Larson – City Engineer**

**Karen Tingle-Sames, Mayor**

**City Council Members**

Don Hawkins  
David Lusby  
Kelly McEuen  
Larry Prather

Mark Showalter  
Connie Tackett  
John Travis  
Chad Wallace

January 13, 2010

**INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Mayor Karen Tingle-Sames

**FROM:** John Carroll Travis, Chairman

**RE:** Minutes and Recommendations – Traffic Committee Meeting January 12, 2010

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**Present:** Eric Larson, Terry Thomas, John Travis, Brain Shorkey, Tom Musgrave (GNG), Ed Saker, Jarrod Stanley, Scott Jarvis, Larry Prather, Joan Tyra (citizen).

- 1) Minutes of November 10, 2009 – Shorkey made motion, Stanley seconded – committee approved.
- 2) John welcomed guests – Joan Tyra, concerning item 7.

**New Business**

- 3) Sutton Place Blvd Median area on street parking.  
Larson states a citizen has expressed concern about parking on the median section of Sutton Place Blvd. Larson reports that during his site visit he noted cars parked in the center of the road at the median noses and on the sides close to the beginning of the median. There was tracking on the ground indicating the two lanes of traffic overlap when they pass these parked cars. Each lane of the road is 14 feet wide. The Median is 10 ft. The section of road between the medians is 38 feet. There are three breaks in the medians with lengths of 180ft, 260ft, and 150ft. While the sections without medians are wide enough to support parking on both sides, the lengths of these sections is not long enough to support many cars. In addition, the weaving movements of the through traffic could result in an accident due to wheel path overlap and blocked sight distance. There is no signage restricting parking on this block. Other blocks within the subdivision do not have medians and are signed with one side parking only. Most driveways are double wide and deep enough for two cars. Due to potential of head on accidents, Larson recommends no parking both sides on this block. Shorkey made motion, second by Saker. Committee approved.
- 4) Bridge St. Railroad Bridge closure  
Larson states that the Norfolk Southern Railroad Company has contacted the Mayor's office about dedicating the bridge to the city for maintenance. While the City Engineer advised against it, the Mayor and Larson have suggested that the Railroad Company could remove the bridge if the city closed the road. The Mayor has requested the Committee discuss the feasibility of closing Bridge St. Shorkey asked if we knew the traffic volume on the bridge. Larson said no. Thomas asked if the City should have the bridge inspected and closed for safety if found to be deficient. Shorkey noted the bridge is posted with a 10 ton



limit, suggesting it has been inspected in the past and asked who does this. Stanley noted that the KyTC inspects all bridges on roads on behalf of cities and counties but frequency of inspection is unknown. Stanley stated his experience was the Railroad Companies are reluctant to repair or replace old wooden bridges. Travis noted the bridge has been in poor condition for a long time. Larson noted that his staff had told him the City had made offers to repair the bridge in the past but told no by the RR Company. Discussion shifted to traffic problems if the bridge was closed. Prather and Travis noted the problems exiting at Eastside Drive and recycling entrance and asked if a traffic signal could be considered. Stanley stated that KyTC did do a study there and found volumes to be insufficient to warrant a signal. Stanley agreed that the businesses on Eastside Dr. would be limited to one way in or out. Larson noted while there maybe one or two residents back on Bridge St. behind Eastside Drive, most of the residents served by the bridge are on the west side of the RR tracks and have grid streets and opportunities to exit the area via Bourbon St., Main Ave., North Hamilton St., etc. Thomas noted a case in Pulaski Co., TN back in 1990 while he served on the local Planning Commission in which the RR Company closed a bridge, creating a one way in/out condition. During a storm a tree blocked the only road, a citizen had a heart attack, and emergency services could not get to them. The City was sued. He suggests involving the City Attorney in further discussions with the Railroad. Larson suggested a possible course of action would be to announce to the citizens the intent to close the bridge and road and provide an opportunity for them to voice their concerns to the Mayor's office in writing before a final decision was made. Shorkey suggested that perhaps the better course of action was to do nothing and wait and see what the RR Company does after the City declines to accept the bridge for maintenance. Recommendation to the Mayor from the Committee is that the City does not accept maintenance and ownership of the bridge. The City Attorney, City Engineer, and Mayor should contact the RR Company again and ask what course of action the RR Company will take knowing that the bridge is in need of repair and the City does not want to accept this responsibility. The issue was tabled by common consent.

5) Traffic Signal Request – McClelland / Hemingway

Larson states this has been requested by a citizen and forwarded to KyTC. Stanley states that KyTC intends to do an engineering study but has not contracted that work out yet for this year. Travis asked if there were minimum signal spacing requirements for the bypass. Stanley responded yes and they would be followed as part of the study. Jarvis noted that the spacing between signals is great and this intersection is so far away from the others that speed of vehicles can be excessive. Larson noted only history of problems the City has had in recent years is vehicles bailing out in the median when making left turns out of the subdivision. Signage was checked and pavement markings were added to try to reduce some of that movement. No action was taken. Tabled by common consent.

6) Seminole/navajo-3 way stop

Larson states the School Board has requested this due to concern for safety of students at the bus stop at this location. Larson noted during his site visit that the 25 mph speed limit is well signed. Sight distance from the west is unlimited for stopping, etc. To the east, the sight distance is approx. 200 feet, adequate for 25 mph traffic. He did note speeding during the site visit. There are no school bus stop ahead signs. There is a street light at the corner. Larson notes that 3 way stops are typically not justified unless all approach volumes are near equal and doubts Navajo traffic equals Seminole's volume. Safety can be a determining factor but with adequate sight distance and lack of other signage, other options should be considered first. Larson recommends speeding enforcement by PD and installation of School Bus Stop caution signs approx. 250 feet from intersection. Motion by Stanley, seconded by Saker. Committee approved.

7) Darby Drive-street parking

Larson states that a business is concerned that on street parking by large vehicles in front of the business makes it difficult to enter and exit their property. Joan Tyra, an employee of one of the local businesses explained that semi truck parking on the inside of the curb in front of their business made it difficult to see in both directions when exiting the site. Larson stated he also witnessed this problem. Larson reports the existing road width is 36 feet. The road is not striped for centerline or parking. It is wide enough for parking on both sides. However, the concern about sight distance if vehicles are parked on the inside of the curve is valid. Most of the business entrances are on that side of the road. Larson recommends

posting the west side (inside of the curve) of the road No Parking This Side of Street due to safety. Motion by Shorkey, seconded by Jarvis. Committee approved.

- 8) Parking lot cross connection behind City Hall, building on N. Court St., and the Pawn Shop  
Larry Prather asked that this be put on the agenda for February for discussion.
- 9) No other new business was discussed.

#### Old Business

- 10) Radar Traffic Counter Purchase  
Larson states he is still researching vendors. No action at this time. Tabled by Common Consent.
- 11) Crosswalk-Cardinal/Cumberland  
Larson states he has met with two of the three school principals on Cardinal Drive. He has also spoke with Judge Lusby and School Board Superintendent Putty's office. However, no decision has been reached to share with the committee or recommend to the Mayor. No action at this time. Tabled by Common Consent.
- 12) On-Street Parking Sub-Committee  
Larson states the Mayor has not appointed anyone to the committee at this time. No action at this time. Tabled by Common Consent.
- 13) Cherry Blossom Sections 1 through 3 - No parking one Side of street  
Larson updated the committee by stating he has not had the opportunity to contact the neighborhood and notify them of the pending action or schedule a public meeting. No action at this time. Tabled by Common Consent.
- 14) Keelridge Dr. - School related parking issue  
Larson updated the committee by stating he has not had the opportunity to contact the neighborhood and notify them of the pending action or schedule a public meeting. No action at this time. Tabled by Common Consent.
- 15) Seminole @ Hutchins and Copperfield Ln Stop Signs  
Travis asked for update. Larson stated that like several other requests for speed studies and volume studies for intersections and speed humps, the City was limited to the one speed trailer used by the Police. He referenced the need to purchase equipment (See item 10 above) or consult this work. He stated no action has been taken at this time.
- 16) No other Old Business was discussed.
- 17) Next meeting date – February 9, 5pm City Hall. Travis stated that this meeting may be cancelled depending on the amount of new business and progress on old business.
- 18) Motion to Adjourn – Travis, second by Shorkey. Passed. Meeting Adjourned.

#### **Recommendations to the Mayor for Approval:**

- 3) Post Sutton Place Blvd. from Lemons Mill Road to Skyline Dr. No Parking Both Sides of Street.
- 4) Bridge St. Railroad Bridge acceptance for ownership and maintenance. City should not accept maintenance and ownership of the Bridge. The City Attorney, City Engineer, and Mayor should contact the RR Company again and ask what course of action the RR Company will take knowing that the bridge is in need of repair and the City does not want to accept this responsibility.

- 6) Post School Bus Stop Ahead signs on Seminole Trail in both directions approaching Navajo Drive.
- 7) Post Darby Drive from Darby Lane to Champion Way No Parking This Side of Street on the west side (Inside of Curve), Opposite Financial Way.