



**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

September 16, 2009

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Karen Tingle-Sames

FROM: Eric W. Larson, City Engineer; Acting Chairman – Traffic Committee

RE: Minutes and Recommendations – Traffic Committee Meeting September 8, 2009

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Present: Eric Larson, Ben Krebs, Bryan Sageser, Terry Thomas, Greg Reeves, John Travis, Ben Rossi (GNG), Tammie Nava, David Lusby, Ed Saker, Jarrod Stanley.

- 1) Appointment of New City Council member. – Eric announced the appointment of John Travis to the Committee.
- 2) Election of Chairman – tabled until next meeting.
- 3) Minutes of July 28, 2009 approved. – Reeves made motion, Sageser seconded – committee approved.
- 4) Eric welcomed guests.

New Business

- 5) Cherry Blossom S/D – 4 way stop at Birkdale / Clubhouse
Terry Thomas, as a citizen of the community, reported on his concern about speeding, near miss accidents, and adjacent property damage. Larson reported on the various criteria that can be used to warrant a four way stop. He stated the blocked sight distance/visibility due to trees and the high volume of pedestrians would warrant such a device. Ed Saker concurred with the visibility problem, high pedestrian volume and mentioned the cut through traffic volumes as also a concern. Krebs agreed with visibility problem. He noted he has not spoke with the HOA president. Reeves suggested the HOA be contacted and ask them to respond in writing on behalf of the neighborhood on what they would recommend. Committee took no action. Larson will contact HOA.
- 6) 416 E. Main St. – Parking on Street
Larson reported that the citizen at this location is concerned with on street parking at the intersection of Memorial Drive. She says sight distance is blocked and it is a nuisance to have college employees park in front of her house. Larson investigated, with the help of Officer Todd Stone, and concurred sight distance is an issue. He recommends posting no parking in the intersection radii, along Main St. up to the driveway at 416 and the drive entrance for the college building on the opposite corner (432), and 25 ft



from the radii on both sides of Memorial Drive. Reeves made motion. Travis seconded. Committee approved.

- 7) 113 Fox Run Road - No parking on street
Larson stated resident requested to post “No Parking this side of Street” on west side Fox Run Road from Elkhorn Green Place to Timberwood trace. Although it is the side opposite the Fire hydrant, it is the side without any homes or sidewalks and is the better solution. Krebs, Larson, and Stanley reviewed the subdivision plat and determined that the plat already has No Parking on one side only, but it is the east side of the street. Larson stated his opinion is that the City Council could pass an Ordinance or Resolution to overrule the plat and any restrictive covenants of the subdivision and post it on the west side. Committee tabled any action pending an opinion from the City Attorney on the legal authority of the plat, the concept of doing a petition from the neighborhood, and resolution on the Parkside Subdivision issue, with the opinion that the decision there will set a city wide policy we can follow.
- 8) Crosswalk-Cardinal/Cumberland
Tammie Nava requested a crosswalk on Cardinal Drive, on the east (school) side of the intersection with Cumberland Drive. She states a school crossing guard is stationed there but the students have no marking and vehicle traffic makes crossing a danger. Bus traffic has been rerouted this year and increase bus volume through the intersection. She also reports problems with stop sign enforcement. Nava also pointed out the flashing beacon for the school zone is not functioning. Larson said he would contact the school for repair. Krebs noted there are no sidewalks in the area and that the shoulder is low. Nava requested building up the shoulder to make a landing and building sidewalks to tie into the school trail on the park property. Reeves requested Larson to contact the Schools and Parks to discuss the shoulder and trail. Motion to table decision on the crosswalk pending Larson’s findings by Travis. Second by Reeves.
- 9) S. Hamilton Crosswalks
Larson reported a request to paint crosswalks at the College St. intersection was made. He noted this were not replaced after resurfacing last year and has issued a work order for the work to be done. No action by the Committee was needed.
- 10) Cherry Blossom – On street parking
Lusby brought to the committee concerns from the HOA about recent posting of parking signs on Sections 4 through 8. Larson and Krebs were aware of the problem and mention the concerns include the location, side of street being restricted, message on the sign, color of the signs, and number. Lusby mentioned an upcoming HOA meeting and the President asking for some feedback. Lusby stated that the HOA wanted uniform parking restrictions on all streets, including sections 1 to 3. Krebs noted that all streets are the same width and wide enough for parking on one side only per the subdivision regulations, except Clubhouse Drive, which has a median and posted no parking both sides in Section 4 only. Lusby also noted the number of signs might be less noticeable if mounted on the street light poles. Krebs and Larson noted they are scheduled to meet with the contractor, Doug Rogers, on Wednesday, September 9, 2009 to discuss the issues. No action was taken.

Post Traffic Committee comments: At the meeting Sept. 9, 2009, Larson instructed Rogers to change the wording on all signs to “No Parking this side of street” and use red with white background. They should be posted as shown on the plat. If the plats do not have locations shown, then the HOA can send a letter to the committee requesting signs and the committee will use the 20 foot rule and fire hydrant / sidewalk location to make a decision. Larson further instructed Rogers to tell the HOA that if they desire to change the parking conditions from what was platted, they would have to apply for a subdivision plat revision through the Planning Commission.
- 11) Streetlight Ordinance and Fire Hydrant Ordinance
Lusby addressed the committee about the need to revise the Street light Ordinance and Subdivision Regulations in regard to “infrastructure” to resolve some ongoing issues with decorative lights in Cherry Blossom and Kentucky American Fire Hydrant billing to the customers and city. No Committee action was taken.

- 12) Seminole / Kentucky intersection
Travis noted the tree blocked sight distance and made it dangerous for school kids waiting for the bus. Larson stated he could have Public Works do a Work Order to trim the tree. No Committee action needed.
- 13) No other new business was discussed.

Old Business

- 14) Parkside Subdivision
Larson updated the Committee on the site visit made by the Mayor, Chief Sageser, and himself on September 4, 2009. Public Works will be posting no parking in each corner, curve, and intersection as well as repainting existing no parking zones at fire hydrants and mailbox clusters. However, no solution on the city wide problem of street width and emergency access has been made. Sageser noted recent conversation with other Chiefs across Kentucky was that Georgetown is “ahead of the curve” when it comes to trying to address this issue. Lusby recommended a sub-committee be formed to come up with a solution and suggested members such as Council members, City Attorney, Fire Chief, Police Chief, City Engineer, and perhaps citizens; let the Mayor make the final decision on Sub-Committee members. Motion by Lusby. Second by Travis. Committee approved.
- 15) Radar Traffic Counter Purchase
Larson explained the Police Department and his desire to purchase a speed/volume/classification tube or radar counter(s) to assist in speed studies, 4 way stop justification studies, and other needs. These work on the same principal of the speed trailer but do not show the speed and are intended for discreet data collection, not public awareness. Larson reported to the Committee the results of his research into this type of Traffic Calming tool purchase. Larson states the City has budgeted \$24,500.00 for Traffic Calming for the Fiscal Year. One item the group might recommend to the Mayor for purchase is a Radar Traffic Counter. This device is mounted discreetly on a utility pole and measures speeds, volumes, and vehicle class (type) without the obvious speed trailer and flashing speed sign. It would be useful in studying speed and cut through complaints without skewing results with the Calming effect of the trailer. These units operate on battery power and use software and PDA/Laptop interfaces to download data. The first unit and software package costs \$4,390 with additional units costing \$3,400 since the software would already been purchased. Larson also noted that this particular company was having a sale, but not sure if it was still going on. The sale was on older tube counters that had been refurbished. While older technology, they still used software the laptop downloads and tube laid on the roads. They also can collect speed, volume, and class data. A set of four of these would be very useful in intersection counts to justify 4 way stop signage or traffic signal justification. At \$495 each plus software (no cost if we bought the radar unit), Larson said this was a real bargain. In a past job, Larson had used tube counters like these and knows their capabilities well and how to use them. Reeves presented several other quotes and brands to the Committee. Total Cost would likely be less than \$10,000, even with software and equipment. Motion by Krebs to recommend to the Mayor to allow Reeves and Larson to get quotes and recommend a purchase. Second by Reeves. Committee approved.
- 16) LED Sign Purchase
Larson reported to the Committee the results of his research into this type of Traffic Calming tool purchase. Larson states the City has budgeted \$24,500.00 for Traffic Calming for the Fiscal Year. One item the group might recommend to the Mayor for purchase is LED lighted Stop signs. These signs have solar panel power and light the sign border to add emphasis and make the sign more visible. They could be used in a high accident location. Larson reported that getting utility poles and electrical service set for KU power is actually more expensive than the solar packs. Each sign with solar pack is \$1,350. Options, such as pre-programmed timers to program certain times of day rather than 24/7 use are \$800, cellular controllers to program remotely are \$1,100, and motion sensors to activate only when a car approaches are \$5,000. Larson noted these would be a set of 2, 3 or 4 depending on the intersection and only set after

the Police and the Committee determined the intersection has a history of problems and these signs are needed. The Committee had concern about vandalism and theft of the signs since they are very attractive and expensive. The Committee chose to table any decision on purchase until a pilot project could be found for their use.

- 17) Traffic Calming Program / Parking Policy for Older Streets
See #13, Parkside Subdivision discussion and recommendation to form subcommittee.
- 18) Bradford Subdivision No Parking Sign Consistency
Larson reported on his inventory of the existing no parking signs in the subdivision. Most of the signs had the wrong message (not “No Parking this side of Street”) and would require replacement. In addition, there locations were not effective. To properly post signage would require 100+ signs and significant manpower. The Committee chose to table any action in Bradford until a citywide policy could be developed.
- 19) West Showalter / Broadway Signal
Committee thanks KyTC for the improvement created by the retiming and rephasing of the signal.
- 20) Darby Dr. / Cherry Blossom Sidewalk at intersection
Lusby thanked City Engineer for getting the sidewalk and curb repaired.
- 21) US 25 (Paris Road) and McClelland intersection (left turns at Swifty’s, Wendy’s, and Kmart)
Stanley presented the latest thoughts and possible redesign of the intersection. KyTC is considering Congestion Management funds to mill and resurface the intersection and approaches to provide dual left turns WB to SB movement, EB to NB movement, deleting a through lane on both the EB and WB approach. They have modeled it and think this will relieve congestion and reduce delays during each cycle. They are also considering the use of median barriers to prohibit left turns into the businesses to reduce conflicts and minimize delays. The plan is still under development.
- 22) No other Old Business was discussed.
- 23) Next meeting date is October 13, 2009, 5pm City Hall.
- 24) Motion to Adjourn – Travis, second by Sageser. Passed. Meeting Adjourned.

Recommendations to the Mayor for Approval:

- 6) Post “no parking here to corner” and paint curbs in the Memorial Drive intersection radii, along Main St. up to the driveway at 416 and the drive entrance for the college building on the opposite corner (432), and 25 ft from the radii on both sides of Memorial Drive.
- 14, 17, 18) Mayor to appoint an On Street Parking Subcommittee to develop a citywide policy to address on street parking and emergency access width on city streets.
- 15) Mayor gave permission to the City Engineer and Police Chief to develop a specification and solicit quotes for traffic counter equipment in an amount of \$10,000 or less.