



TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION

MINUTES

February 3, 2003

The Lawrence Traffic Safety Commission met in regular session at 7:30 p.m., in the City Commission Chambers in City Hall with Chair Jeremy Anderson presiding and Commissioners Scott Henderson (Vice-Chair), Carol Jean Brune, Paul Graves and Robert Hagen present. Commissioners Steve Blackwell, Brian Edwards and John Ziegelmeyer, Jr. were absent. Staff members David Woosley (Public Works Department) and Mike Monroe (Police Department) were present.

ITEM NO. 1: Review and approve the minutes of the Traffic Safety Commission meeting, January 6, 2003.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BRUNE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ANDERSON, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 6, 2003, TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED 3-0-2 (Hagen and Henderson abstained).

ITEM NO. 2: Consider request from Robert B. Sanders, 5738 Longleaf Drive, for traffic control devices near the intersection of 15th Street and Goldleaf Place.

David Woosley presented the information provided in the staff report.

Robert Sanders, 5738 Longleaf Drive, stated that he had had several close calls at this intersection and actually leaves the neighborhood via Redleaf Place due to the poor sight distance at this intersection.

Commissioner Anderson stated that he felt it was a problem but wasn't sure what to do.

Commissioner Brune asked how effective the warning signs would be. Woosley advised that since they are a passive device, they would only be as good as the drivers that pay attention to them.

Commissioner Brune asked is a flashing light in conjunction with the warning signs would help. Woosley advised that a flashing light might get more drivers attention.

Commissioner Hagen asked what would trigger reconstruction to a right-turn-in-only. Woosley advised that when considering crashes, five or more in a 12-month period would indicate that something should be done. However, since we are aware that the sight distance is insufficient, it would certainly be appropriate to reconstruct before there is a crash history.

Commissioner Henderson suggested that the entire neighborhood be contacted concerning the problem and possible solutions before a recommendation is made.

Commissioner Hagen agreed with Commissioner Henderson.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ANDERSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HENDERSON TO RECOMMEND DENIAL OF THE REQUEST AND ASK THAT THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT MEET WITH THE NEIGHBORHOOD TO DETERMINE WHAT SOLUTION WOULD WORK BEST FOR EVERYONE, AND IN THE MEANTIME THAT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT INCREASE ENFORCEMENT OF THE SPEED LIMIT IN THE AREA. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED 5-0.

ITEM NO. 3:

Consider request from Caleb Morse, 1733 Mississippi Street, to delete Indiana Street and Sunflower Road as TRUCK DELIVERY ROUTES between 19th Street and Jayhawk Boulevard.

David Woosley presented the information provided in the staff report and distributed a letter from the University of Kansas opposing the request.

Caleb Morse, 1733 Mississippi Street, spoke in support of the request.

John Mullens, representing the University of Kansas, spoke in opposition to the request. Large vehicles cannot negotiate the eastbound to northbound turn on Sunnyside at Sunflower.

Dietrich Earnhart, 1809 Indiana Street, spoke in support of the request. There are numerous UPS, FedEx, and Coke trucks, etc. that use Indiana; KU can find another route for these.

Steve Glass, representing LRM Industries, spoke in opposition to the request. The Lawrence Motor Carriers Association worked extensively with the Lawrence Association of Neighborhoods in the 80's to develop the recommended routes that are in effect today.

Aline Hoey, 1818 Indiana, spoke in support of the request.

Commissioner Brune stated that as a resident of the neighborhood, she has noticed a dramatic increase in the number of trucks the last few years, 95% of which could easily use Sunnyside and Sunflower.

Commissioner Henderson stated that he supported the request, but didn't think it would accomplish much.

Wayne Richardson, 1729 Louisiana Street, spoke in support of the request.

Commissioner Anderson stated that he didn't think the request would accomplish the goal either.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HENDERSON, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER ANDERSON TO RECOMMEND DENIAL OF THE REQUEST. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED 4-1 (Brune).

ITEM NO. 4:

Consider request from Conrad Plumbing, 616 Arizona Street, to remove the temporary PARTIAL DIVERTER on Arizona Street between 6th Street and 8th Street.

David Woosley presented the information provided in the staff report.

Monty Hobbs, 1649 Merion Place, stated that he was concerned about northbound vehicles trying to turn left onto 6th Street and the

number of southbound vehicles turning around and returning to 6th Street.

Camille Dalager, 718 Arizona Street, stated that she had mixed feelings about the device. It has helped reduce the traffic flow, but some drivers violate it and speed anyway. In addition, she wants to get along with the businesses in the area. It may or may not be the best solution, but the goal of the neighborhood is to slow the traffic on the street.

Lenny Conrad, 616 Arizona Street, stated that it has put a stress on his business, which is a service business; it is almost impossible to make a left-turn onto 6th Street at times. Concrete or metal speed bumps would be the best alternative.

Pete Langston, 712 Arizona, stated that he felt that the diverter has worked, however, perhaps NO THROUGH TRAFFIC signs could be used instead of DO NOT ENTER.

Commissioner Anderson stated that he was familiar with the area but was unsure of what the best solution would be.

Commissioner Brune suggested that a decision be postponed and that the neighborhood come back with a proposal that works for everyone.

Commissioner Anderson agreed with Commissioner Brune.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER BRUNE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER HAGEN TO RECOMMEND DENIAL OF THE REQUEST AND ENCOURAGE THE RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES TO MEET WITH CITY STAFF TO WORKOUT A SOLUTION AGREEABLE TO EVERYONE. THE MOTION WAS APPROVED 5-0.

ITEM NO. 5: Public Comment.

None.

ITEM NO. 6: Commission Items.

None.

ITEM NO. 7: Miscellaneous.

None.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Traffic Safety Commission is Monday, March 3, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David E. Woosley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "D".

David E. Woosley, PE
Transportation/Traffic Engineer