

Arkansas City Traffic Safety Committee
7/10/20 Minutes

A regular meeting was held Friday, July 10, 2020, in the Water Treatment Facility classroom. Meeting was called to order at **10 a.m.**

Roll Call:	<u>CITY STAFF MEMBERS</u>		<u>COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES</u>			
	City Manager	Randy Frazer*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	City Commission	Karen Welch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Fire-EMS Department Management Assistant	Bobby Wolfe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chamber of Commerce	Mark Chickadonz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Police Department	Mike Crandall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cowley College	Jason O'Toole	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Principal Planner	Dan Ward	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Equal Opportunity Board	Frances "Rags" Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Public Information Officer	Josh White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Planning Commission	Andy Paton	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Public Services Department	Andrew Lawson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	School Board / Chamber	Jon Oak	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Tony Tapia	<input type="checkbox"/>	USD 470 Public Schools	Jeri Crumbliss	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

*Others in attendance included USD 470 Superintendent **Ron Ballard**, Principal **Jeremy Truelove** (Arkansas City High School) and Principal **Braden Smith** (Arkansas City Middle School). *City Manager **Randy Frazer** participated in the meeting via telephone.*

1. Approve April Meeting Minutes:

Bobby made a motion to approve the minutes of the **April 10, 2020**, regular meeting. Mike seconded the motion, which was approved **11-0** on a voice vote.

2. Introduce New City Manager / Review Committee Purpose and Duties:

Randy introduced himself. Andrew briefly reviewed the resolution and bylaws establishing the Traffic Safety Committee.

3. ACPD Traffic Safety Report:

Dan said there was a 9-percent decrease in non-injury accidents in the second quarter of 2020, attributable largely to the ongoing novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, but there was a 37-percent increase in injury accidents due to speeding.

Dan noted that the "hot spot" is still migrating south from its usual location on North Summit Street, between Kansas Avenue and Radio Lane, to an area centered on the intersection of Madison Avenue and South Summit Street, south of downtown.

From noon to about 6 p.m. Saturdays is the peak time for Summit Street, but there are other peaks throughout the week, too.

He plans to shift more enforcement to both areas in the third quarter of 2020. Birch Avenue also is starting to turn into more of a thoroughfare, but the accidents are occurring at controlled intersections where people are simply running stop signs.

Truck traffic on Eighth Street continues to be a problem and the Public Services Department is working on truck route signs.

4. 15th Street / Radio Lane Intersection:

Virginia Schweitzer, 2103 N. 15th St., requested a possible barrier on the west side of North 15th Street at the intersection with West Radio Lane. She said there have been some accidents there that result in vehicles ending up in her front yard.

Dan said there have been four accidents there since January 2017. He said the motorcycle incident she referenced was back in 2015 and involved a high-speed pursuit in which signage would not have made any difference. He also said he is concerned that erecting a guardrail could potentially cause a speeding driver to swerve to miss it and end up in her driveway instead.

A flashing stop sign also was discussed at 15th Street and Radio Lane. Randy said he and Tony will need to look at the area.

Andrew made a motion to table the discussion so City staff can discuss the issue further internally. Dan seconded the motion.

5. C Street Canal Bridge Guardrails:

Mike said the forms have been set for pouring concrete for the bridge and a fence company out of Wichita will be on site soon to place a new chain-link fence. Braden asked how tall the fence will be. Andrew and Mike said they would check on it.

6. Hike-Bike Trail (Phase 2):

Andrew said Chris Meinen, with Smith & Oakes, needed some feedback from the committee regarding HAWK beacons for the Hike-Bike Trail Extension (Phase 2) to cross South Summit Street near Cowley College's Travis Hafner Training Center.

Andrew showed a pair of videos, which demonstrate how the signals work, that Chris supplied. No one objected to the design.

There may be a need to reduce the speed limit to 30 mph further south than currently, but KDOT will have to weigh in on this.

7. Paris Park Plaza Proposal:

Andrew provided an overview of Deb Davidson's Paris Park plaza proposal, which would involve vacating the streets west and north of Paris Park. The Fifth Avenue bridge over the Mill Canal also would be closed permanently to vehicle traffic.

The Traffic Safety Committee did not note any specific safety concerns. Jeri made a motion to officially recommend that the Planning Commission proceed with this concept. Rags seconded the motion. The motion was approved **11-0** on a voice vote.

8. Radio Lane School Zone Extension:

Andrew said a decision needs to be made on this in order for the new crosswalk to be painted and new signs to be installed prior to the start of the 2020-21 school year in August or September. Ron said USD 470 plans to build a new ACHS sidewalk.

No action was taken by the Committee on either item. Randy said he will need to look at this area later with Tony, as well.

9. Skyline and Eighth Street / 61st Road Parking:

Bobby and Josh said some of the Creekstone parking lot construction is completed, but other sections are ongoing. Bobby said the parking situation has improved significantly on Eighth Street, but 61st Road is still active (and still under county control).

10. Traffic Counts on Lord Road:

Dan said of the 71 vehicles detected by the speed sign, the majority are likely golf carts. In the 30-mph zone, the average speed was **24 mph** and the top speed clocked was **37 mph**. He does not think there is a safety issue and no action was taken.

Mike said Tony could add a **30-mph sign** for southbound traffic on the back side of the existing post for the "dead end" sign on Lord Road. He made a motion to approve this and Bobby seconded the motion, which was approved **11-0** on a voice vote.

11. Transportation Alternatives Program (FY2022-23):

Andrew provided an overview of the changes to this program. The next "scheduled" project is the Hike-Bike Trail Extension Phase 3, but he made a case for switching to doing the **Central Trail** (Phase 1) next instead. There was no Committee dissent.

12. Other Miscellaneous Items:

Mike gave an overview of street sign replacements by the Public Services Department in the second quarter of 2020. A total of **59** signs were repaired or replaced by the Street and Stormwater Division during this time frame, including three new signs for the two burn pits, 34 street sign replacements and/or repairs, and 22 regulatory sign replacements and/or repairs.

Andrew said there is very good, but embargoed, news regarding **Phase 2** of the Pathways to a Healthy Kansas grant program.

The City submitted an application for and received RISE Cowley funds for a transportation master plan process in 2020-21.

The City also received funding for new LED lighting at the Poplar Walking Trail and is working on sourcing that equipment.

Randy left the meeting in progress shortly before adjournment.

Bobby made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Josh seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion was approved **10-0** on a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at **11:35 a.m.** The next meeting of the Traffic Safety Committee will be at **10 a.m. Friday, Oct. 9, 2020.**