

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF BRAZORIA

CITY OF LAKE JACKSON

BE IT KNOWN that the Traffic Commission of the City of Lake Jackson met on March 8, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. at 25 Oak Drive, Lake Jackson, Texas, in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following in attendance:

Douglas Kincannon, Vice Chair  
Willem Mookhoek  
Mark Allen, Secretary  
Barry Tidwell  
Larry Rosenbohm

Michael Coon, Assistant to the City Manager

Giani Cantu, Asst. City Secretary  
James Cromeenes, Detective Lieutenant

Will Brooks, Council Liaison

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Douglas Kincannon led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Mark Allen second by Barry Tidwell with all present members voting "aye", the minutes of February were approved.

VISITORS' COMMENTS

There were no visitor comments.

REPORT ON CITY COUNCIL DECISION REGARDING PROHIBITING PARKING ON SILVERBELL CIRCLE FROM CARAWAY COMMON PASSED THE NORTH CURVE TO CHERVIL COMMON

Staff reported that City Council agreed with the recommendation and has approved the ordinance at first reading. Second reading of the ordinance will be on March 21, 2016.

REPORT FROM THE WALNUT/OLEANDER TRAFFIC SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. Tidwell reported the subcommittee has met 3 times: January, February and March. An email was sent to the subcommittee regarding potential locations of the speed cushions and no responses were received. Therefore, Mr. Tidwell and staff discussed potential locations.

Staff makes the following recommendations:

- Speed Cushions on Walnut:
  - Near Violet
  - At the 500 block of Walnut
  - Mid 600 block of Walnut
- 4-way stops at:
  - Walnut and Magnolia
  - Walnut and Hickory
  - Walnut and South Yaupon
  - Walnut and the southern intersection of Silverbell Circle

- Stop Sign on Silverbell Circle at its northern intersection with Walnut
- Radar Signs to be installed on Oleander

The recommendations are made on a trial basis for a period of six months to a year. During the trial period staff will continue to collect data to verify if the solutions are sufficient traffic calming options for this area.

Barry Tidwell made a motion to install per staff recommendations. Willem Mookhoek seconded.

Mark Allen asked how the stop signs came about.

Barry Tidwell stated it was a last resort.

Mr. Coon stated that speed cushions are more expensive than stop signs. Therefore, this was a temporary solution to give time to decide if they would want to put speed cushions all the way down Walnut or if stop signs will work.

Discussion was held on the solutions suggested and how stop signs are not typically a speed calming option.

Mr. Tidwell stated the suggestions from staff are temporary and the subcommittee agreed.

Will Brooks, Council liaison, stated the commission and residents agreed upon cushions, signage and stop signs at the beginning. The thought process is to do the combination to balance out the cost.

Larry Rosenbohm shared concerns that residents on other parts of the city will request speed cushions as well.

Mr. Brooks stated this area is a problem. The recommendation is to try to keep with what was agreed upon and we will need to be patient as we try these options out. This is temporary solution and can be removed if they do not work.

BK Watson, 202 Moss Rose, stated he signed up to be on the subcommittee when he received a notice about Walnut from Plantation to Oak Drive. At the second subcommittee meeting, they were told they could get one device. After that meeting, he spoke with the city manager and the city manager stated all the complaints received were from residents in the 600 block of Walnut near Plantation. Walnut residents have been through this before when they received notices of potential stop signs and it was rejected. The traffic manual says stop signs are last resort. The subcommittee didn't hear anything about stop signs or anything other than the 600 block of Walnut until the last subcommittee meeting. Mr. Watson stated he previously submitted reports on stop signs that show they are not an effective traffic calming device. He feels there was less feedback from the subcommittee and more on what the city wished to do.

Willem Mookhoek stated he understands Mr. Watson's concerns. However, his concerns are that drivers are willingly breaking the speed zones and endangering kids. The commission has looked at radar signs, stop signs and other options and they were all turned down. Now they are at the options of last resort.

Mr. Watson stated he disagrees on the specifics. The subcommittee and city staff focused on the 600

block of Walnut. There has been no data collected on the other end of Walnut.

Mr. Brooks stated we are looking at the whole street.

Mr. Watson stated the traffic calming manual also says an option is to utilize law enforcement and he doesn't feel that is being done.

Mr. Mookhoek stated that is a valid point and the commission has repeatedly asked for more enforcement in that area.

Mr. Allen stated that he knows for a fact that they are enforcing in that area on occasion.

Mr. Watson stated he suggested barricading Walnut to the subcommittee, but they felt it was too radical. The cars driving past his home are travelling towards Oak.

Mr. Mookhoek stated that's why we want to try something. It's frustrating when the commission makes a solution then negative feedback is received.

Mr. Watson stated he thought the option to barricade Walnut at the bridge was a good solution. It may be radical, but it stops convenience of people using Walnut as a thoroughfare.

Mr. Kincannon stated he appreciates the concern and Mr. Tidwell has done an excellent job gathering information. This is a temporary solution and would allow us to gather more information for this option.

Mr. Allen stated that they should get speed data on that section of the road before stop signs are put in. Otherwise there is no information to compare.

Further discussion was held on the location of the current speed counters.

Mr. Allen stated there is currently no data and recommends collecting data. He is ok with the temporary recommendation for six months to a year.

Discussion was held on collecting data on both ends of Walnut and how they will help comparison of stop signs versus speed cushions and collecting data continuously throughout the trial period.

Mr. Coon stated the commission can make the recommendation to approve with the condition of gathering data on the north end of Walnut.

Mr. Tidwell restated his motion to install traffic calming options as recommended by staff and to review data for a period of six months to a year.

Mr. Mookhoek asked if the commission could ask staff to put out counters to collect data on both ends of Walnut and still approve the recommendations with the condition of Council considering the data collected on the north end of Walnut.

With all present members voting "aye" the commission makes recommendation to Council for the following traffic calming measures with the condition of collecting traffic counts and speed counts on the other end of Walnut and to collect said data simultaneously with the counters on the other end of

Walnut:

- 4-way stop at:
  - Walnut and Magnolia
  - Walnut and Hickory
  - Walnut and South Yaupon
  - Walnut and the southern intersection of Silverbell Circle
- Stop Sign on Silverbell Circle at its northern intersection with Walnut
- Speed Cushions on Walnut:
  - near Violet
  - at the 500 block of Walnut
  - mid 600 block of Walnut
- Radar Signs to be installed on Oleander

Larry Rosenbohm asked Mr. Brooks to relay the commission concerns regarding the stop signs to Council.

CITIZEN’S BOND TASK FORCE UPDATE

There were no new updates to report.

ACCIDENT REPORTS – FEBRUARY

The reports were approved as submitted.

ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

Larry Rosenbohm stated that there was a police car monitoring traffic on Hwy 288, which slowed traffic considerably. Mr. Rosenbohm thanked the police department for the officer observation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

These minutes read and approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Garrett Williams, Chairman

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Mark Allen, Secretary