

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 April 12, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. at 25 Oak Drive, Lake Jackson, Texas, in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following in attendance:

Garrett Williams, Chair
Douglas Kincannon, Vice Chair
Willem Mookhoek
Mark Allen, Secretary
Barry Tidwell
Larry Rosenbohm
Andy Anderson

William Yenne, City Manager
Giani Cantu, Asst. City Secretary
James Cromeenes, Detective Lieutenant
Will Brooks, Council Liaison

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Garrett Williams led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Willem Mookhoek second by Mark Allen with all present members voting "aye", the minutes of March were approved.

VISITORS' COMMENTS

There were no visitor comments.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER TRAFFIC ON CENTER WAY NEAR DIXIE DRIVE AS REQUESTED BY CINDY SPARKMAN (253 CHESTNUT)

Otis Sparkman, 253 Chestnut, reported he has lived on the corner of Center Way and Chestnut for many years and he was present to discuss traffic in the area. The last few years have been pretty rough with the heavy, noisy traffic and drag racing. Traffic is travelling at high rates of speed on Dixie Drive and on Center Way. The neighborhood is also seeing large trucks travelling to the AP Beutel construction site. The Sparkman's requested speed limit signs on Center Way a couple of weeks ago but it doesn't seem to be doing any good. Mr. Sparkman stated his daughter purchased a home on Walnut and he is familiar with the traffic calming options that are being looked at in that area. Mr. Sparkman also provided the commission with an article out of the Houston newspaper.

Mr. Williams stated it's a two part issue: traffic on Dixie and then the Center Way as well.

Mr. Sparkman yes but believes Center Way is more important due to the neighborhood and potential of pedestrians and children in the area.

Mr. Williams asked if we could contact the school or contractor and ask them to advise their drivers to slow down.

Mr. Yenne stated that we could contact the contractor. Also, since Dixie Drive is a truck route, Center Way becomes the most direct route to AP Beutel.

Discussion was held on the truck routes and the reason for using Center Way.

Mr. Yenne stated traffic counters are going to be put out but we have to take some from Walnut.

Mr. Williams stated some of the traffic calming options shown in the article are being considered and are on trial basis on Walnut. Data is being collected to see if it's a good solution before they consider putting them somewhere else around town. However, in the mean time, we can collect data on Center Way to see what the traffic is like.

Discussion was held on potential traffic calming options, reduce speed limit, speed cushions and radar signs.

Mr. Sparkman reported that traffic picks up when they turn on to Center Way from Dixie.

Mr. Mookhoek asked if there was a timing issue with the new light.

Mr. Yenne stated that it was not timed. However, the loops just went in today.

Mr. Williams stated we will collect data and review the data next month.

Mr. Mookhoek asked if anything can be done about noise.

Mr. Yenne stated motorcycles are allowed to have noise because they need to be able to hear them. The city can look at all of the issues.

Mr. Sparkman stated maybe if the drivers just see the officers, it'll slow traffic down. He asked the board to read the article and to consider the options.

Mr. Williams stated we will monitor the area, collect data, and the item will be brought back on the next agenda.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER CHANGING THE YIELD SIGN TO A STOP SIGN AT THE INTERSECTION OF PLANTATION COURT AND PLANTATION DRIVE AS REQUESTED BY KENT DEVINE

Kent Devine, 57 Plantation Court, stated he is new to the neighborhood and he has noticed the yield sign on Plantation Drive at Plantation Court creating a problem. Vehicles are impeding traffic flow onto Plantation Court from the access road. Mr. Devine presented a petition of neighbors in agreement with the stop sign. At this time, they are requesting a simply change of sign to a stop sign and hope that will fix the issue.

Discussion was held on the traffic flow and issues at the intersection.

Mr. Devine stated another neighbor suggested maybe a white line.

Mr. Yenne stated the city has requested to close the frontage access at Plantation Court and add a right turn lane on Plantation Drive.

Mr. Williams stated he is not opposed to the stop sign.

Mr. Mookhoek asked if they could barricade Plantation Court at Plantation Drive.

Mr. Yenne stated not without TXDOT permission.

Mr. Rosenbohm asked if they can put striping to designate lane.

Mr. Williams suggested striping DO NOT BLOCK at the intersection.

Mr. Yenne stated we can do whatever the commission recommends.

On motion by Mark Allen second by Barry Tidwell with all present members voting "aye" the commission recommends a proposed stop sign and no block intersection pavement markings.

Mr. Williams stated that it will be a proposed stop sign asking residents to call in either way and the item will come back on the next agenda. It will then have to go to council for approval as well.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER DROP OFF AND PICK UP LOCATIONS FOR RASCO ELEMENTARY ON LAKE ROAD

Garrett Williams stated he wanted clarification of the drop off areas in front of Rasco Elementary. Drop off and pick up is being prohibited in the area directly in front of the school.

Mr. Yenne stated they are not to be allowed directly in front of the drive drop off area. There is a mistake on the current map that needs to be corrected.

Mr. Williams stated that the school map shows drop off and pick up is allowed. Therefore, it is currently being instructed as ok.

Mr. Yenne asked if the school is ok with the drop off there. The school originally requested to block the drop off there to avoid students walking through the traffic in the drive through drop off. If they are ok with how its working than we'll need to change the route map.

Mr. Williams stated he will follow up with principal.

UPDATE ON WALNUT AND OLEANDER TRAFFIC CALMING SOLUTIONS

Mr. Yenne reported traffic on Oleander does not show the speed problems or traffic volume seen on Walnut.. The 200 block of Walnut is an issue with speeds on average of 34 mph and 600 block of Walnut is still a major issue. Speed cushions have shipped and should be received within the next week.

Mr. Allen asked about stop signs on the north part of Walnut.

Mr. Yenne stated the recommended stop signs were for consistency of traffic flow and right of way.

Mr. Allen stated this is an opportunity to assess the impact of stop signs themselves. The data is needed before and after the stop signs and speed cushions.

Mr. Yenne stated that data is being collected now and will be available by the next meeting. There may be a need to move the counters due to other areas of concern, but they can be brought back in the future.

Mr. Brooks asked if the stop signs are currently in.

Mr. Yenne stated yes.

Discussion was held on high speeds on Walnut.

ACCIDENT REPORTS – MARCH

The reports were approved as submitted.

ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

Mr. Yenne reported the commission may need to revisit Creekside Subdivision traffic.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Larry Rosenbohm second by Barry Tidwell, with all present members voting “aye” and there being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

These minutes read and approved this _____ day of _____, 2016.

Garrett Williams, Chairman

Mark Allen, Secretary