

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 Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 6:30 P.M. for regular session at 25 Oak Drive, Lake Jackson, Texas, in City Hall Council Chambers with the following in attendance:

Douglas Kincannon
Michael Cloeter
Matthew Bjune
Kevin Land

Sal Aguirre, City Engineer
Sally Villarreal, Asst. City Secretary
Sargent Welch, LJPD
Sabrina England, PW Superintendent

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Stanley led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes were approved as presented.

VISITORS' COMMENTS

DISCUSS TRAFFIC SPEED ON CIRCLE WAY BETWEEN OAK DRIVE AND OYSTER CREEK DRIVE – MR. VENNE

Palmer Venne – 312 Circle Way

Mr. Venne stated people are speeding, impatient and driving on the sidewalk and he's afraid someone will get hurt. He has witnessed near accidents.

Mr. Goodrich – 312 Circle Way

Mr. Goodrich stated he sees all types of vehicles speeding through the street including some city vehicles, PD, Fire and EMT vehicles. This street is somewhat of a cut through.

Ms. England stated the traffic counter has been set on Circle Way. If additional counts are needed, Ms. England can look into adding another counter.

Mr. Goodrich asked how the system works. Mr. Bjune stated it is pre-set. The system produces number of cars, speed and time of traffic.

Mr. Bjune mentioned future business development and how it could impact the traffic on Circle Way. Would a stop light could end up being considered?

Sal Aguirre – City Engineer.

Mr. Aguirre mentioned sometime down the road, there would likely be traffic light with future development. As that area generates traffic, there will eventually be some type of traffic calming measure taken.

Mr. Venne asked if it would be possible to add a STOP sign until other traffic calming measures are taken.

Mr. Land explained the first step to any of the process is to collect data. Once that is collected the commission will be reviewing it. This will be reviewed at the next meeting in February.

Mr. Land asked Sargent Welch if it was possible to step up the enforcement. Mr. Welch that area is being worked on now and is in the process of being monitored more closely.

Mr. Greg Bond – 532 Oak Drive

Mr. Bond also believes the traffic travels faster than the speed limit. He has also witnessed people driving on the sidewalk because they do not want to wait for residents to turn or back into their driveways or something. Mr. Bond felt since there are no STOP signs on Circle Way between Oyster Creek Drive and Oak Drive, it allows people to go faster.

Mr. Cloeter stated he travels this street often and didn't notice a problem.

Mr. Stanley asked about a timeline for a possible traffic light.

Mr. Aguirre stated it depends on the movement of traffic. Currently, it is not on the plan.

Mr. Stanley asked if it was possible to add temporary STOP signs until further action is taken if speed studies come back indicating a problem.

Mr. Land informed Mr. Venne about the process. He explained the petition that is needed, coming back before the Traffic Commission then to City Council.

Ms. Villarreal gave Mr. Venne a Traffic Calming Manual with information on how to approach a STOP sign.

Mr. Land also informed him of the process.

DISCUSS UNDERGROUND UTILITY INFORMATION GATHERED FROM ENGINEERING REGARDING RIGHT TURN LANES ON OYSTER CREEK DRIVE FROM OAK DRIVE TO HWY332 AND HWY332/LAKE ROAD

Mr. Aguirre went over the information gathered.

Hwy332/Oyster Creek Drive intersection

Mr. Land asked if this is all the city's property. Mr. Aguirre stated TxDot would not participate in this project.

Mr. Aguirre mentioned the cost estimate of \$215K for a TxDot contract and \$130K for a city contract. TxDot would have to be approached regarding this.

Mr. Land stated this is an area that backs up tremendously. Mr. Aguirre stated if they are interested in pursuing this project, new numbers would need to be gathered. Mr. Aguirre also stated a letter would need to be sent to TxDot.

Mr. Stanley asked what would have to be done to make the crosswalk safe at that intersection. A lot of people ride their bikes and walk to the mall area. Mr. Aguirre said it would rely on signage.

Mr. Aguirre stated these estimates were taken 2 - 3 years ago and new estimates would need to be obtained.

Mr. Cloeter stated the traffic will likely get worse with new hotels coming in.

Oyster Creek Drive and That Way intersection

Mr. Aguirre went over the utilities that are underground. He also mentioned that the downtown area would soon be starting reconstruction. There will be some changes made. Mr. Aguirre stated he would like to see a right turn lane off Oyster Creek Drive onto That Way. That part of the plan has not been reviewed yet. He will try to see if there is a way to make a right turn lane. It would be a very short radius and there is not much room available to work with.

Mr. Aguirre went over the plan sheet for the project. There are some parking spaces that will be removed. There will be more of a gradual grade at the intersection so there is not as much of a dip. There are storm pipes that run underneath the area that will remain untouched. There are also water lines at the location and inlets that are proposed. This is something that could possibly be revised to accommodate a right turn lane. It will be tough to do, and Mr. Aguirre is not sure if he will get positive feedback for the change.

Mr. Bjune felt there are other locations that are more worthy of the time. Mr. Land agreed especially for the one at Hwy332/Oyster Creek Drive.

Oak Drive and Oyster Creek Drive intersection

Mr. Aguirre went over the aerial views and explained the city portions and all four sides of the intersections. Mr. Aguirre showed the power poles in the way and the water well close to the intersection.

Mr. Land didn't think this intersection was a big problem.

Mr. Bjune asked how long the water well had been there.

Mr. Aguirre stated it was here before he came to work here which is over 40 years.

Mr. Cloeter asked if there was a ballpark cost estimate of making a right turn lane. Mr. Aguirre did not have that cost available. Mr. Aguirre stated he could get this information and have it at the next meeting in February.

Hwy332/Lake Road intersection

Mr. Aguirre stated TxDot said in 2024 there would be some changes to that intersection. He has not heard of any activity regarding right of way procurement. He also mentioned the timeline may not be reliable. This is TxDot right of way.

Mr. Cloeter asked if he could get some estimations on the cost for this intersection also.

Mr. Bjune stated he was only concerned about the turns on Hwy 332/OCD and Lake Road/OCD. Mr. Land and Mr. Cloeter agreed. Mr. Aguirre will work on getting estimates for those two intersections only.

DISCUSS TRAFFIC LIGHT TIMING ON THE FOLLOWING INTERSECTIONS – MR. CLOETER

- a) HEB OUTLET ON OYSTER CREEK DRIVE
- b) CENTER WAY & DIXIE DRIVE
- c) CIRCLE WAY & OYSTER CREEK DRIVE

Mr. Cloeter went over the slides he provided for the commission to see. He also went over the video he provided. The concern/complaint is that when one car is turning right exiting the school side it trips the lights on Oyster Creek Drive (OCD) and they have to stop. Mr. Cloeter suggested adding a 10 second delay before it trips the light to turn red OCD.

Ms. England stated everything on OCD is a loop detection. It is supposed to be at a resting green. If nothing is coming from a side street it will remain green. As soon as a vehicle comes in from a side street it will trip. Ms. England stated she was hesitant to change anything at crossings because of pedestrians or bicyclist. OCD is a very busy street with heavy traffic along the side streets.

Ms. England stated she would talk to Mr. Toscano and find out if it could be adjusted so it wouldn't trip the light so quickly.

DISCUSS THE TRAFFIC STUDIES GATHERED ON SYCAMORE AT POST OAK AND SYCAMORE AT PEACH STREET

Mr. Land stated the traffic studies indicate there could be a problem with speeding on this street. The 85th percentile shows people exceeding the speed limit. Mr. Land asked that this be on the agenda next month for further discussion.

Mr. Cloeter suggested discussing the possibility of a crossing guard on Sycamore and Post Oak and painting the lines on Post Oak.

ACCIDENT REPORTS

Sargent Welch went over the accident reports.

ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

Mr. Cloeter mentioned the left turn lane on Lake Road and This Way. That left turn arrow is not working properly. Ms. England will have Mr. Toscano look into it.

Mr. Bjune asked who provided the no outlet signs within the city. Ms. England stated the residence can request one.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

These minutes read and approved this _____ day of _____, 2020.

Doug Kincannon, Chairman

Michael Cloeter, Secretary