

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, May 9, 2023, at 6:30 P.M. in regular session at 25 Oak Drive, Lake Jackson, Texas, in City Hall Council Chambers with the following in attendance:

Michael Cloeter, Chair  
Doug Smith, Vice-Chair  
Shannon Biar, Secretary  
Jay Foster  
Jessica Rogers  
Ravi Singhania  
Nicholle Wilson

Milford John-Williams, Asst. to the CM  
Anamaria Acuña, Asst. City Secretary  
James Cromeenes, LJP  
Sabrina England, Public Works Director

Council Liaison – Matthew Broaddus

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Cloeter led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 14, 2023

Mr. Cloeter stated he had a few corrections to the minutes.

His first suggestion was to correct the minutes on page 3 to remove his vote because as the chair he stated he does not vote unless he is breaking a tie.

Mr. Cloeter also asked to confirm a statement on page 4 regarding the statement on the cameras at the intersection and what they were used for. Mr. Singhania asked Ms. Acuña to confirm with Mr. Mundo.

Mr. Cloeter deferred the minutes be approved at the next meeting with the corrections he suggested.

VISITORS' COMMENTS

No visitors.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES AT THE 100 BLOCK OF SOUTH MAGNOLIA STREET – DAVID JENKS

Mr. Jenks was not present. Ms. England stated this is the first complaint of speeding on Magnolia she has received.

The traffic commission requested to locate the block onto Google Maps. The surrounding street is Azalea.

Mr. Cloeter asked Ms. England if there had been any measurements or studies. Ms. England answered there was not a traffic study but will do so at their request.

Mr. Cloeter asked if there were any stop signs along Azalea Street. Ms. England stated Magnolia Street has a stop sign, but Azalea Street does not.

Mr. Biar noted they were discussing Magnolia and not South Magnolia, so the crossing streets are Mimosa and Walnut. There is a stop sign on Mimosa at their intersection.

Mr. Smith asked if South Magnolia was a straight of way. Mr. Biar noted it is a straight of way until they reach Walnut. He also mentioned there are 4-way stop signs at the intersection of Walnut and South Magnolia.

Mr. Cloeter suggested a speed study.

Ms. England stated the commission had a previous request where a resident asked for speed humps and the traffic engineer advised speed humps are not recommended. The traffic engineer suggested using other options to reduce speed. Ms. England replied that she can do a traffic study once she has a counter available.

Ms. Wilson asked if Mr. Jenks is asking to reduce the speed below 30-mph or is he stating that people are driving over the speed limit.

Ms. England stated her understanding is that people are speeding, and he has safety concerns for the children on the block.

Mr. Biar suggested if a speed study indicates speeding over the 85th percentile they could look at recommending a four-way stop if deemed necessary.

Mr. Cloeter requested that staff perform a speed study and address his concerns then.

UPDATES, DISCUSS AND CONSIDER TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES AT THE 400 BLOCK OF DAFFODIL STREET – LYNNETTE BROOKS

Mr. Cloeter noted there was a speed study and there were not any actionable items as the 85th percentile was only 28.86 mph.

Mr. Cloeter commented that the maximum at midnight was 60 mph. He asked what could be done about the outliers that are speeding and questioned how accurate the counts are. He asked if there was a possibility of a false high reading from a motorcycle.

Ms. England noted the 95th percentile is also below 32 mph. She also shared that she lives on Daffodil and does not notice any speeding and wouldn't see how, as there is a dip in the road.

Mr. Cloeter questioned how old the counters are. Ms. England answered she would find out how old they are.

Ms. England believes the city's equipment is accurate because when they performed the Any Way study,

her counts gave similar data to their equipment. She noted Mr. Toscano has also shown interest in updating their counters, which may speak to their age. Mr. Cloeter asked if they update their counters they could consider opting for a radar-based one.

Ms. Rogers asked if the traffic manual has specifications on how outliers are addressed for going over the 85th percentile. Ms. Rogers followed up by asking if they could make amendments to how items are addressed.

Ms. England noted the traffic commission would have to agree upon the recommended changes for the traffic manual and then go to city council for approval.

Ms. England noted as far as outliers you cannot stop them all.

Mr. Cloeter reiterated the outliers could be due to small vehicles.

Ms. England said she will discuss this with Mr. Toscano and see how accurate the data is from the current counters. She would like to discuss newer systems and the options available. Mr. Smith suggested looking for counters with camera options.

Mr. Singhanian asked about options to prevent the outliers.

Ms. England noted they could increase policing, increase signage, and add markings onto the road. She personally believes catching the speeders and ticketing them would be the best tactic. Mr. Singhanian and Mr. Cloeter stated that those options would not be effective on this street.

Ms. England stated she can reach out to the traffic engineer, Mr. Eureka, to explore other options.

#### UPDATES, DISCUSS AND CONSIDER TRAFFIC CONTROL MEASURES AT THE 100 BLOCK OF TANAGER LANE – GABRIELLA CONE

Ms. England noted staff has not received any further complaints or concerns. The police department did not have any close calls or find the observed behavior that Ms. Cone brought forward. Ms. England said she went personally in the mornings and early afternoons to observe, and she did not see any issues either.

Council Liaison Broaddus stated Ms. Cone has discussed her concerns with him. He noted during school drop-off and pickup hours, she had noticed parents stopping at Anchusa with hazards on and children getting out and crossing the street. Council Liaison Broaddus stated Anchusa is busy during those hours and the school tries to enforce the stacking lane.

Mr. Cloeter noted at the last meeting, they were informed the streets already have “No Parking” signs.

Council Liaison Broaddus shared he has kids that attend Bess Brannen, and he drops them off every morning. He mentioned that Tanager and Arrow Wood have the “No Parking” signs and once the school moved, they shifted more towards Tanager and Royal Oak, so they were installed on those streets as well. The individual observed, specifically avoided the neighboring streets with “No Parking” and used Anchusa.

Council Liaison Broaddus said he believes it is something we should look out for, as the person that was observed dropping off their child crossed the street although there are two crosswalks set for that purpose.

Mr. Cloeter noted the commission did not want to add the “No Standing,” because of the cross walks on the streets and they did not want to add confusion.

Mr. Biar noted as there was no observed behavior, and he agrees with staff’s recommendations of no further action.

Council Liaison Broaddus asked Lt. Cromeenes, what the repercussions would be for an individual if they were to turn on their hazards and blocked traffic. Lt. Cromeenes answered it would depend on if there was traffic and if they were aware of having cars backed up, they could be cited with impeding traffic even without having signs posted.

The traffic commission agreed that no action is necessary per staff’s recommendations.

#### STAFF UPDATES – SABRINA ENGLAND

##### ***Traffic light at Oak Dr and Circle Way:***

Ms. England noted they installed a filter and have not received any further complaints.

##### ***OCD/Yaupon, OCD/Circle Way and OCD/Dixie intersections:***

Ms. England mentioned staff hired Econolite Systems to perform assessments and preventative maintenance on these intersections. They assessed and made small repairs. Ms. England will have Ms. Acuña forward the report once she reviews it.

Ms. England noted Econolite and Paradigm work together and they will provide quotes.

Ms. England stated that Mr. Cloeter has previously requested to synchronize the lights. The city’s current system would not allow for synchronization. She shared that staff has discussed with a traffic engineer to review what their overall goal would be.

Mr. Cloeter suggested he would like to add flashing yellow arrows. Ms. England noted accidents have occurred because some people do not understand what a flashing yellow arrow means.

Ms. England noted that the staff has discussed a transit plan which would include bike lanes, and how to redirect traffic, and while there is nothing concrete, it is being discussed.

She noted that one of the assessments they found was that many of the light poles were old and rusted which could affect the budget. She also mentioned the traffic light poles have weight limits, so if they were to install license plate reader (LPR) camera sensors that would require the poles to be able to carry and support those additional items.

Mr. Cloeter asked if she could include HWY 332 & FM 2004 in the scope. Ms. England noted that she could

not as those streets would be under TxDOT.

Once Ms. England reviews the quotes, staff will discuss their options and report their updates.

### ***Any Way Updates***

Ms. England noted June 15th was the date set for the Any Way study. She mentioned the city council was concerned that traffic would be pushed onto those streets. Ms. England placed counters back onto Any Way and the side streets. Staff did this before the speed humps were previously installed as well.

Mr. Smith mentioned he does not go down Any Way anymore because of the humps. Ms. England stated she has heard both complaints and positive feedback regarding the installation of the speed humps.

Ms. England notified the commissioners that they have the traffic counts in their packets from Any Way and surrounding streets.

Mr. Cloeter said the outliers seem to be incorrect. Ms. England mentioned a traffic engineer was hired to perform a speed study and her counters showed the same data.

Council liaison Broaddus noted the traffic engineer never recommended installing the speed humps.

Mr. Smith said people will slow down for the speed bumps but then they make up for it in between.

Ms. England mentioned she has heard that there are many people making a full stop before going over the humps which may cause issues in the future, but she has not heard of any accidents on Any Way.

### **ACCIDENT REPORTS – LT. CROMEENES**

Lt. Cromeenes read over the accident reports. He mentioned March had 69 accidents, which was significantly more than the previous year.

Lt. Cromeenes mentioned April had two severe accidents, one was an aggravated assault with a vehicle.

- April 18<sup>th</sup> – The driver backed out of a parking space and ran over two people. One of the victims suffered head trauma. The driver headed to Freeport and attempted to ditch his vehicle in the water. He was arrested.
- April 28<sup>th</sup> – A motorcycle accident occurred in front of The Monaco Villas Apartment. The driver was exiting HWY 332 on a motorcycle and hit road debris from a previous accident and wrecked.

At the last meeting, the commission reported there was speeding near the 100 block of HWY 332W (by the mall area). Lt. Cromeenes noted the police department made over 112 stops in that area.

The other area brought to Lt. Cromeenes attention was near the 700 block of HWY 332 and the feeder. The police department made 16 stops, 11 were speeding at 10 percent above the speed limit.

Mr. Cloeter mentioned patrolling those areas was necessary and thanked Lt. Cromeenes for his report.

ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

- Mr. Singhanian suggested adding a flashing yellow left turn light near Lowes (Abner Jackson Pkwy/ This Way).
- Mr. Singhanian mentioned the pedestrian crossing on Lake Road/ FM 2004 is on a continuous loop.
  - Ms. England noted she will ask Mr. Mundo if TxDOT ever responded to that request.
- Ms. England advised that Timbercreek will close off starting next Tuesday, May 16th.
  - The county pushed the repair due to weather conditions this week.
  - The alternate / detour route will be Cherry Wood.
- Mr. Singhanian and Mr. Cloeter mentioned that the intersection on Lake Road/ This Way would also be a suitable candidate for the flashing yellow left turns.
- Ms. Wilson suggested posting a sign by the light to remind drivers to yield if the city is concerned about accidents.
- Mr. Cloeter asked if they could add a flashing yellow left turn on Medical Drive/ Oak Drive.
  - Council Liaison Broaddus noted it was agreed to be a protective left for Altus Emergency Room.
- Mr. Foster advised that the push button near the sidewalk at the Recreation Center and Rasco Middle School does not work.
  - Ms. England noted that she will get a ticket submitted to correct that.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m. These minutes read and approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2023.

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Michael Cloeter, Chair

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Shannon Biar, Secretary