

Complete Safe Streets Committee Meeting Minutes

Takoma Park Community Center

Thursday, January 16, 2020

Meeting called to order at 7:32pm and adjourned at 9:15pm

Members

Constituting a Quorum:

Cindy Herrera, Tracy Duvall, Diana McCown, Emanuel Wagner, Frank Demarais, Jessica Landman, David Cookson, Michael Moore

Members Absent (excused):

Mimi Diaz, Lacey McMullan, Michael Moore, Laurie Kelly

Takoma Park Staff Present:

Jamee Ernst

Guests Present:

Sgt. Robinson

Committee Discussion

- I. Report from Sgt Robinson-Traffic Summary
 - a. Traffic Summary-specific location
 - i. Compared data from two points in time (3/29/19-4/12/19 and 10/18/19-10/19/19) on the 7900 block of Wildwood
 - ii. Increase in total vehicle count (weekday and weekend)
 1. April- 26,097
 2. October- 35,039
 3. The largest increase occurred during weekday traffic
 - a. April- 19,905
 - b. October- 28,814
 - b. Accident Data – top five intersections
 - i. New Hampshire and University
 - ii. New Hampshire and Kirklynn
 - iii. New Hampshire and East-West Hwy
 - iv. New Hampshire and Holton
 - v. Philadelphia and Piney Branch
 - c. Traffic Complaints
 - i. Erskine Street @ 13th Ave. – Stop sign/cut through traffic
 - ii. Hilltop Rd. @ Maple Ave. – Do not enter sign
 - iii. Prince Georges Ave. – Stop signs
 - iv. Wildwood Dr. – Stop signs /cut through traffic
 - v. 4th Ave. @ Westmoreland Ave. – Stop signs
 - vi. Sligo Mill Rd @ Orchard Ave. – Stop sign/cut through traffic
 - vii. Manor Circle @ Ethan Allen – Do not enter
 - viii. Ethan Allen @ Jackson Ave. – No right turn
 - d. Speed Camera locations
 - i. Carroll Ave. @ Boyd Ave.
 - ii. 900 Blk University

- iii. 7400 Blk New Hampshire S/B
- iv. 7300 Blk New Hampshire N/B
- v. 7200 Blk New Hampshire S/B
- vi. 7200 Blk New Hampshire N/B
- vii. 900 Blk East-West Hwy.
- viii. 400 Blk Ethan Allen Ave. E/B
- ix. 400 Blk Ethan Allen Ave. W/B
- x. All speed camera revenue comes to the city and must be used for public safety

II. Questions

- a. If TkPk feeds police data to the county, can we get analyzed data back?
- b. Note-for analysis there is only Sgt. Robinson and the crime analyst
- c. Are there red light cameras coming? SR said he is looking into acquiring red light cameras, there are additional issues, like right of way and an actual spot to put the camera.
- d. How big is the police traffic department? SR and one other officer with back up when needed from other officers.
- e. Stop sign cameras are not legal in Maryland
- f. April is distracted driving month

III. Review of discussion draft on sidewalk petition process and traffic calming

- a. Questions-what format is City Council looking for, for the recommendations?
- b. No guidance from council other than present to council before going too far. There are spots on the agenda for the end of March meeting.
- c. Question-Can council members read committee suggestions before presenting to council. Jamee will confirm.

IV. Emanuel presents the document form the working group.

- a. Five recommendations
 - i. Change the language for speed hump policy to outline other viable options
 - 1. Language should be more open and include safety and traffic, recommend "mobility safety measures"
 - ii. Ease the request policy to reduce the burden on residents seeking safer streets, consider removing a petition process
 - 1. There may be an opportunity to recommend a new process altogether
 - a. Resident Option 1: Ask council member
 - b. Resident Option 2: Ask city staff (how do you submit a request? Form that includes relevant metrics and/or justification and convey guidelines?
 - c. City staff on initiative
 - d. Appeal to city in the event of denial of a study to include the signatures of 5 interested parties
 - iii. Encourage the city manager to draw from a broader array of low cost options for traffic calming
 - iv. Community Engagement
 - 1. Continue to notify and residents via City Council members
 - a. Site example of notification of meter changes posted at the Junction

- v. Consideration of large area scope approach vs. individual measures for problem streets/neighborhoods
 - 1. When the city sees a cluster of complaints, a community meeting should be convened to consider the broader community impact (e.g. Changing Manor Circle to one way and the no right turn at Jackson during rush hour has forced more traffic to Elm and Lincoln).
- vi. Replicate process for traffic calming to apply to sidewalk request policy
- V. Need to find out what the current sidewalk approval process is (on the city side).
 - a. The sidewalks that are in the pending stage, what is holding them up? Jamee will investigate.
 - b. Use point system
 - c. Revisiting next month.
- VI. Agreement we will be ready to finish discussion on recommendations for CC next month and will finalize to present to Council in March
- VII. Next meeting February 13th @ 7:00