



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – March 21, 2018 Agenda Item 3

Work Session

Preliminary Results of the Takoma Junction Traffic Study

Recommended Council Action

None – Presentation only

Context with Key Issues

On November 20, 2017, the Council authorized the undertaking of an independent traffic study to evaluate current traffic patterns in the vicinity of the Takoma Junction area and to identify ways to mitigate the impact of this traffic and anticipated traffic generated by the planned development of the City parking lot. Once completed, the study will provide options for the mitigation of long standing traffic concerns at the intersection of Carroll, Ethan Allen and Sycamore Avenues. The scope of services includes information on the extent of cut-through traffic occurring in adjacent neighborhoods and an evaluation of the capacity of several key intersections and the viability of the mitigation options previously presented by SHA. The study will also include preliminary design concepts for the possible reconfiguration of existing intersections and options for addressing safety concerns raised by pedestrians, bicyclists and transit riders. The scope of the study was recently expanded to include an investigation of the feasibility of using Sycamore Avenue and/or Columbia Avenue for the delivery of goods to the Takoma Park Food Co-op. The Contract for Services related to the study was executed by A. Morton Thomas & Associates (AMT) on January 4, 2018.

The initial phase of the project, delayed as a result of weather conditions, has been completed with traffic counts conducted February 23 through March 1, 2018. The information collected by AMT during this process and their analysis of the data will be presented to the Council. The final results of the study will be available later this spring.

The preliminary findings of the study will be presented by AMT representatives Jack Goode, Senior Project Manager and Catherine Proot-Pro, Project Manager.

Council Priority

Advance Economic Development Efforts: Takoma Junction Development

Environmental Impact of Action

An anticipated benefit of the proposed traffic study and the implementation of identified mitigation measures is a reduction in carbon emissions from idling vehicles.

Fiscal Impact of Action

The cost of services required to complete the Takoma Junction Traffic Study is \$36,284.

Racial Equity Impact of Action

We do not believe this Council action will adversely affect or disproportionately impact any particular group.

Attachments and Links

Takoma Junction Traffic Study Inquiry - Revised Scope of Services (Revised March 2, 2018)

1. Determine level of cut-through traffic from Carroll Avenue and Ethan Allen Avenue at the following intersections:
 - a) Ethan Allen Avenue and Jackson Avenue
 - b) Ethan Allen Avenue and Woodland Avenue
 - c) Ethan Allen Avenue and Sycamore Avenue
 - d) Sycamore Avenue and Columbia Avenue
 - e) Columbia Avenue and Poplar Avenue
 - f) Columbia Avenue and Hickory Avenue
 - g) Columbia Avenue and Pine Avenue
 - h) Columbia Avenue and Carroll Avenue

2. Intersection Capacity Analysis of the following intersections:
 - a) Carroll Avenue and Flower Avenue
 - b) Ethan Allen and Carroll Avenue
 - c) Carroll Avenue and Philadelphia Avenue
 - d) Philadelphia Avenue and Maple Avenue

3. Review intersection options presented in SHA District 3 Intersection Study (links below) and evaluate potential impact on anticipated traffic:
 - a) Reconfiguration of Carroll and Ethan Allen Avenue intersection
 - b) Closure of Sycamore Avenue or restricted access to/from Sycamore Avenue

4. Develop preliminary design concepts for reconfiguration of the following intersections:
 - a) Carroll Avenue and Ethan Allen Avenue
 - b) Carroll Avenue and Grant Avenue

5. Develop preliminary design concepts for incorporation of bike and pedestrian safety improvements along Ethan Allen Avenue between Jackson Avenue and Sycamore Avenue and along Carroll Avenue between Ethan Allen Avenue and Columbia Avenue. Identify options for possible relocation of existing bus stops.

6. Identify options for the delivery of goods to the Takoma Park Silver Spring Cooperative from Sycamore Avenue and/or Columbia Avenue; Investigate the feasibility of trucks (semi-tractor trailers) to access and perform their deliveries; review roadway geometrics, future traffic volumes along Sycamore Avenue and Columbia Avenue, and impacts to the residential community.