



TRANSPORTATION SAFETY & ADVISORY COMMISSION

CITY OF HARRISONBURG, VIRGINIA

TO: Transportation Safety & Advisory Commission Members, Council members, City Manager Kurt Hodgen

FROM: Brad Reed, Transportation Planner

DATE: Friday, June 21, 2013

RE: Transportation Safety & Advisory Commission Summary from June 12, 2013 Meeting

The Transportation Safety & Advisory Commission met on Wednesday, June 12, 2013 at 8:30 AM in Room 205 at the City Municipal Building, 345 S. Main St.

Members and Advisory Members present included: Bill Blessing (Citizen Member, Chair), Russell Presnell (Citizen Member), MPO Greg Deeds (Police Member), Brad Reed (Public Works Designee), Drew Williams (Public Works), Thanh Dang (Public Works), Doug Stader (DMV), Lee Eshelman (JMU), Paul Helmuth (Fire), Reggie Smith (Public Transportation)

Guests Present: None

Commission meetings are open to the public and citizens are provided the opportunity to voice their views/concerns about any item before the Commission. It is the policy of the Commission to move relevant agenda items to the beginning of the meeting when citizens are in attendance to avoid detaining them for the entire meeting.

Welcome

New Business

1. Failure to obey stop signs at E Wolfe Street & Myrtle Street

Mr. Reed shared a citizen complaint regarding vehicles failing to stop at the stop signs at the intersection of E Wolfe Street & Myrtle Street. Public Works staff reviewed the location and found that the stop signs are installed properly and are visible from each of the two stop-controlled approaches. The Police Department has been informed of the complaint and has placed the issue on its list of special enforcement locations.

2. Accident history review for Reservoir Street

Mr. Deeds showed examples of the Police Department's traffic crash map, which has a pin placed on it at the location of each reported traffic crash for the year. This map is updated regularly and is a tool to easily identify locations with a high crash frequency. It was noted that the crashes on the board only include reportable accidents (those meeting criteria for cost of damage or including personal injury), meaning that the total number of crashes is underrepresented. Combining this tool with the Police Department's new Geo-Policing format, officers can review specific issues within their regularly assigned area.

Mr. Deeds noted that there has been a clustering of crashes in the vicinity of the Reservoir Street & University Boulevard intersection, primarily caused by the "phantom waiver" issue in which a car in one lane waves on a vehicle to turn left and the vehicle is struck by a vehicle in the adjacent lane that was poorly visible passed queued traffic. Mr. Reed explained that the Reservoir Street improvement project should help with these issues, as the added approach lanes on Reservoir Street and University Boulevard will increase stacking space and decrease wait times, thus reducing the length of vehicle queues. Mr. Williams recommended that city staff provide a presentation on the Reservoir Street improvement project to the Commission at a future meeting.

Other Business/Announcements

3. Update on Old Town Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program

Mr. Reed presented the results of the April 2013 traffic study in the Old Town Neighborhood, which was performed to assess the impact of the three speed humps installed in 2012 (two on Paul Street, one on Bruce Street). The results were very favorable, with no locations exceeding the 35 mph Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program's 85th percentile speed threshold at which there is considered to be a speeding problem. The combined traffic volumes of all counted streets decreased 4%, while the combined volume of all streets excluding S Mason Street decreased 14% as compared to 2011 values. These data were shared with the Old Town neighborhood representatives via email in May and can be found attached at the end of this summary.

The Police Department is gathering recent enforcement statistics for the neighborhood. Once this information is ready, city staff will consult with the neighbors to determine next steps and whether or not the neighborhood is ready to graduate from the Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program. After that, an update will be provided to City Council.

4. Introduction of Reservoir Street & Carlton Street roundabout project

Mr. Reed provided the Commission with an overview of the Reservoir Street & S Carlton Street roundabout project. For more information on the project, please visit <http://www.harrisonburgva.gov/carlton-street>.

5. Update on S Main Street median project

Mr. Williams informed the Commission that construction is currently underway on the S Main Street median, which will be between Bluestone Drive and Grace Street. Construction will be completed prior to the beginning of JMU's Fall semester.

6. Update on Erickson Avenue-Stone Spring Road project

Mr. Williams announced that Phase 3 of the project is anticipated to be completed by late August. Phase 3 connects Erickson Avenue from Pear Street to S Main Street.

Adjourn

Traffic Count Report

Locality: Harrisonburg, VA

Department: Public Works

Location of Count: Old Town Neighborhood - various locations

Reason for Count: Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program - Follow-Up Study after installation of 2012 physical traffic calming measures

Publish Date: April 2013

Neighborhood Speed Statistics

Street Name	NB/EB 85th Percentile Speed (mph)			2010 vs. 2013	2011 vs. 2013	SB/WB 85th Percentile Speed (mph)			2010 vs. 2013	2011 vs. 2013
	Sept. 2010	Oct./Nov. 2011	April 2013	Difference (mph)	Difference (mph)	Sept. 2010	Oct./Nov. 2011	April 2013	Difference (mph)	Difference (mph)
Bruce St (Mason-Ott)	34.1	32.5	25.5	-25.3%	-21.5%	32.3	32.0	25.5	-21.0%	-20.4%
Bruce St (Mason-Ott) @ Speed Hump	-	-	23.0	-	-	-	-	22.7	-	-
Bruce St (Ott-Myers)	32.4	30.3	24.6	-24.1%	-18.9%	30.0	33.5	23.7	-20.9%	-29.2%
Franklin St (Mason-Ott)	33.8	28.6	27.5	-18.6%	-3.8%	34.4	27.5	28.0	-18.5%	1.8%
Franklin St (Ott-Monticello)	-	29.5	25.3	-	-14.3%	-	30.8	28.4	-	-7.7%
Mason St (Bruce-Newman)	30.9	29.1	28.4	-8.1%	-2.4%	31.1	28.9	27.5	-11.6%	-4.8%
Mason St (Paul-Campbell)	32.6	33.5	30.4	-6.7%	-9.1%	33.8	33.5	29.1	-13.9%	-13.1%
Mason St (West View-Paul)	34.6	29.3	28.9	-16.4%	-1.4%	32.6	30.9	28.9	-11.3%	-6.5%
Myers Ave (Bruce-Reservoir)	25.8	27.2	26.9	4.1%	-1.0%	24.1	27.6	25.7	6.6%	-6.7%
Myers Ave (Franklin-Bruce)	29.1	23.3	23.0	-20.8%	-1.3%	33.1	25.9	24.2	-27.0%	-6.6%
Myers Ave (Mtn View-Franklin)	43.1	34.2	31.8	-26.2%	-7.0%	39.2	29.1	31.8	-18.9%	9.3%
Ott St (Franklin-Campbell)	37.0	32.0	33.6	-9.1%	5.2%	-	-	-	-	-
Ott St (Water-Newman)	31.6	26.6	27.7	-12.4%	4.1%	29.7	24.4	26.2	-11.7%	7.4%
Paul St (Andergreen-Cantrell)	34.5	33.3	29.7	-14.0%	-10.8%	32.7	33.6	29.2	-10.8%	-13.2%
Paul St (Ott-Myers)	34.7	34.9	23.5	-32.2%	-32.7%	36.7	34.7	26.8	-27.0%	-22.9%
Paul St (Ott-Myers) @ Speed Hump	-	-	22.1	-	-	-	-	21.1	-	-
Paul St (Mason-Ott)	32.4	31.2	25.3	-21.8%	-18.8%	33.3	33.5	23.3	-30.0%	-30.4%
Paul St (Mason-Ott) @ Speed Hump	-	-	21.7	-	-	-	-	21.9	-	-

Neighborhood Weekday Volume Statistics

Street Name	NB/EB Direction Weekday Volume		2010 vs. 2011	SB/WB Direction Weekday Volume		2011 vs. 2013
	Oct./Nov. 2011	April 2013	Difference	Oct./Nov. 2011	April 2013	Difference
Bruce St (Mason-Ott)	1077	864	-20%	840	359	-57%
Bruce St (Ott-Myers)	1076	949	-12%	650	671	3%
Franklin St (Mason-Ott)	711	696	-2%	610	606	-1%
Franklin St (Ott-Monticello)	710	665	-6%	652	542	-17%
Mason St (Bruce-Newman)	2731	2963	8%	2575	2857	11%
Mason St (Paul-Campbell)	1279	1413	10%	2714	3052	12%
Mason St (West View-Paul)	1263	1214	-4%	2712	2915	7%
Myers Ave (Bruce-Reservoir)	1702	1542	-9%	1191	1263	6%
Myers Ave (Franklin-Bruce)	893	839	-6%	812	707	-13%
Myers Ave (Mtn View-Franklin)	373	341	-9%	335	307	-8%
Ott St (Franklin-Campbell)	237	269	14%	-	-	-
Ott St (Water-Newman)	**565	**754	**33%	**413	**453	**10%
Paul St (Andergreen-Cantrell)	640	586	-8%	666	594	-11%
Paul St (Ott-Myers)	696	662	-5%	758	757	0%
Paul St (Mason-Ott)	891	415	-53%	884	543	-39%

*Location of Ott St count shifted from E Market St - Water St block to Water St - Newman Ave block as per neighborhood request. Not included in total volume.

Count Date	All Locations Total
Oct. & Nov. 2011	29678
April 2013	28591
Difference	-4%

Count Date	Total excluding Mason Street
Oct. & Nov. 2011	16404
April 2013	14177
Difference	-14%