

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMISSION
November 26, 2019

The Vienna Transportation Safety Commission (TSC) met in regular session on November 26, 2019 in the Vienna Town Hall Council Chamber, 127 Center Street S, Vienna, Virginia. Chairman Ed Somers opened the meeting at 8:02pm with the following Commissioners present: Leonard Ignatowski, Keith Aimone, Loginn Kapitan, Angela Sorrell, Beth Eachus, Donna Smith and SallyJean Penna. Absent was Charlie Strunk. Also present were Jennifer Sigler, TSC Clerk, Andrew Jinks, Department of Public Works (DPW) and Sergeant Pete Elias, Vienna Police Department (VPD).

Approval of the October 29, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Eachus made a motion to approve the October 29, 2019 meeting minutes.

Commissioner Kapitan seconded.

Motion carried unanimously, 8 – 0.

Department of Public Works (DPW) Report
Kingsley Road and Tapawingo Road SW Traffic Calming

- DPW hosted two on-site project meetings on November 19th and November 20th. The first meeting was held at the intersection of Tapawingo Road and Meadow Lane and the second meeting was held at the intersection of Kingsley Road and Meadow Lane. DPW will review the comments from the meetings and continue with the design process utilizing applicable comments.

Park Street NE Speed Tables

- Speed tables have been installed.

SMD (Shared Mobility Devices) Pilot Program - The following is a summary of the modifications made to the SMD Pilot Program documents:

- o Language was added to the MOA requiring operators to provide the Town and third party vendors MDS data specification. MDS or Mobility Data Specifications is the data use by the Town and its third party vendor to analyze Shared Mobility Device data.
- o Language was added to the MOA requiring approval from the Town for dock locations if an operator is to utilize docks as a part of their operation. Docks cannot interfere with normal pedestrian traffic, any ADA access, and may not interfere with snow removal.
- o Language was added to the MOA requiring operators to limit the speed of scooters to 10 mph along the Nutley Street SW and Maple Avenue corridors in anticipation of scooters users utilizing the sidewalk due to safety concerns.
- o Language was added to the MOA stating that the operator shall ensure SMDs are parked in a manner that does not impede snow removal. It also states that it is highly recommended to remove the SMDs to avoid impeding snow removal.

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- Language was added to the MOA stating that the town has no authority to regulate the use of SMD on private property and/or property not owned by the town.

Answering Questions from Last TSC Meeting (October 29th) -

- What is the general cost for each ride on a scooter?
 - Answer: The cost for a ride can vary based on the operator, city, day of the week, and time of day. An example cost is \$1.00 to unlock a scooter plus \$0.15 for each minute of use.
- Will scooters be allowed on the W&OD Trail?
 - Answer: NOVA Parks, the organization that owns and maintains the W&OD Trail, has confirmed that they do not have any plans to put into place specific regulations regarding e-scooters. They will use the rule of thumb that where bikes can go so can scooters.
- Where are the scooters supposed to be parked?
 - Answer: Scooters are supposed to be parked on the sidewalk but not in a manner that will impede pedestrian movement or access. Scooters should not be parked in landscape or buffer strips along the sidewalk.
- Can pavement markings be added to Maple Avenue at the W&OD Trail crossing?
 - Answer: The Maple Avenue Multimodal Study report will propose a reconfiguration of the W&OD Trail crossing at Maple Avenue which includes pavement markings. DPW will utilize the proposed reconfiguration and coordinate the proposed reconfiguration with NOVA Parks.

Commissioner Sorrell asked if any companies have shown interest in setting up e-scooter rentals in Vienna.

Mr. Jinks said no operators have reached out to him.

Vice Chairman Eachus suggested lowering the speed on Maple Avenue and Nutley Street to 6 mph. She asked if the scooters parked on the sidewalk would cause problems for wheelchair users.

Mr. Jinks replied there is language in the MOA that states the parked scooters must not impact ADA access. Most operators do not allow one to log out until a photo is taken of the parked scooter.

Commissioner Penna requested Park Street be included in the lower speed limit list.

Commissioner Ignatowski proposed adding Church Street NW between Lawyers Road and Mill Street to the lower speed limit list also.

Commissioner Kapitan asked what the fidelity of the geofencing is; can it distinguish between the roadway and the sidewalk.

Mr. Jinks stated it cannot distinguish between the roadway and the sidewalk.

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Chairman Somers asked who was in favor of or opposed to the proposed 6 mph speed limit on Maple Avenue and Nutley Street.

Commissioners Sorrell, Aimone and Smith are opposed. Chairman Somers is on the fence at this time. No motion was made regarding the 6mph speed limit. The subject will be revisited by June 2020.

Vice Chairman Eachus made a motion to add language to the MOA in Section 5 stating that the scooters must be parked in an ADA compliant manner and that vendors should encourage users to submit of a picture (or use of other technology) at the time of “checking out” to prove the parking guidelines in the MOA are met.

Commissioner Kapitan seconded.

Motion passed unanimously, 8 – 0

Chairman Somers asked if Park Street and/or Church Street should be limited to 6 mph.

Commissioner Sorrell suggested not adding Park Street and/or Church Street at this time until data can be gathered.

The TSC unanimously agreed to review the speed limitations by June 2020.

Commissioner Eachus made a motion that the TSC supports the SMD Pilot Program and documents associated with the program as amended. The documents include SMD Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), SMD Permit Application and SMD Pilot Summary. The TSC recommends Town Council to support the SMD Pilot Program and documents associated with this program.

Commissioner Kapitan seconded.

Motion passed unanimously, 8 – 0.

Receipt of Petitions and Communications from the Public

John Runyan, 315 Courthouse Road SW, has observed the intersection of James Madison Drive and Maple Avenue W is very difficult for students to cross the street. Students don't pay attention to the traffic and they don't use the HAWK signal, which is confusing for drivers anyway.

Commissioner Smith has seen an increase in the number of students using the HAWK signal.

Vice Chairman Eachus has heard positive feedback about the HAWK signal.

Chris Hogan, 226 Glen Avenue SW, has concerns about the exit from the Chik-fil-A parking lot. There is a five-foot tall transformer just a foot off the sidewalk to the right of the exit that blocks the view of any pedestrians or cyclists that may be using the sidewalk. He suggested adding signage or other treatment to enhance the safety of the pedestrians.

Chairman Somers asked Mr. Jinks to look at it from a pedestrian safety standpoint and to report back at the January 2020 meeting.

BAC Report

There was no BAC meeting held.

PAC Report

PAC Chairman Sorrell shared the PAC discussed the decorative benches that were recently auctioned off by the Vienna Arts Society, whether the society made any money from the sales and if any of the benches were remaining in the Town. The PAC has requested a change to Virginia State law which would allow the Town to mandate all new construction projects be required to install sidewalk as part of their project. The Street Safety Guide will be presented to Town Council in February 2020.

Reports of Commissioners

Vice Chairman Eachus asked why the RRFBs on Marshall Road SW are not working.

Mr. Jinks said the Dominion work order estimate for completion is mid-December.

Report of the Chairman

NONE

Adjourn – 9:07 PM

The next meeting is January 28th, 2020.