

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMISSION  
February 26, 2019

The Vienna Transportation Safety Commission (TSC) met in regular session on February 26, 2019 in the Vienna Town Hall Council Chamber, 127 Center Street S, Vienna, Virginia. Chairman Ed Somers opened the meeting at 8:02 pm with the following Commissioners present: Leonard Ignatowski, Keith Aimone, Beth Eachus, Charlie Strunk and Tamara Redmon. Vice Chairman Becky Allison arrived late; Commissioner Julie Hays was absent. There is one vacancy. Also present were Jennifer Sigler, TSC Clerk, Christine Horner, Department of Public Works (DPW) and Sergeant Pete Elias, Vienna Police Department (VPD).

**Approval of the November 27, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Eachus made a motion to approve the November 27, 2018 meeting minutes, with one minor edit.

Commissioner Aimone seconded.

Motion carried unanimously, 6 – 0.

**Department of Public Works (DPW) Report**

**Lawyers Road NW Pedestrian Improvements (Malcolm and Holmes)** – Work has been completed.

**Tapawingo Road SW and Kingsley Road SW** - DPW has started coordinating with our on-call engineering consultant to begin survey and the design phase of the proposed curb extensions.

**Receipt of Petitions and Communications from the Public**

NONE

**DPW Recommendations: RRFB Request on Courthouse Road SW at Glen Avenue**

At their November 27, 2018 TSC meeting this commission heard the petition for a Rectangular Rapid Flash Beacon (RRFB) at the intersection of Courthouse Road and Glen Ave SW. DPW has completed an analysis of this intersection and recommends the installation of an RRFB and curb ramp improvements at the location of the current crosswalk on Courthouse Road. DPW is coordinating this effort with the Vienna Seventh Day Adventist Church (344 Courthouse Road SW). Items that were considered: the width of the road, which is 36 feet; proximity to a stop-controlled crossing - the nearest stop sign is at Locust Street which is over 1,000 feet away; the crosswalk's proximity to the school, church and park.

Michael Stenner, 318 Johnson Street SW, wished to share a recent incident he experienced at this crosswalk. He was walking his children home from day care and came to that intersection. They waited for a long time and eventually someone on the near side finally stopped to allow them to cross. Nobody on the far side stopped. Mr. Stenner stepped into the crosswalk in front of the stopped car to try to stop someone in the far lane. He told his children to wait, but his 5 year old son misinterpreted him and sprinted across the street, Mr. Stenner was screaming at the oncoming traffic, the stopped car was honking. The car in the far lane eventually did stop, but it was a full car length beyond the crosswalk. Fortunately, his son made it across safely, however it was extremely frightening and emotionally upsetting. He is very glad the RRFB and curb improvements are recommended for the intersection.

Dwight Morgan, principal of the school, was unaware they may be asked to provide some funding for the RRFB. No one from the Town has approached the Church/School regarding funding.

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMISSION  
February 26, 2019

Catherine Hardman, 524 Lewis Street NW, is in favor of this RRFB.

John Runyan, 315 Courthouse Road SW, believes the RRFB will be useful after the Maple Avenue construction increases the amount of cut-through traffic on Glen Avenue. He added that more stop signs would help as well.

Mike Ahrens, 207 Glen Avenue SW, agrees with the installation of the RRFB, but he asked if curb improvements would be included with the project.

Ms. Horner said curb improvements would definitely be part of the plan for the intersection.

Commissioner Ignatowski expressed concern that the RRFB may not be the correct solution to the problem.

Commissioner Strunk suggested Ms. Horner also look at the on-street parking and whether the parked vehicles would interfere with pedestrian traffic.

Commissioner Eachus made the following motion: The TSC supports the installation of an RRFB (Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon) and curb ramp improvements at the location of the current crosswalk on Courthouse Road SW at Glen Avenue.

Commissioner Strunk seconded.

Motion passed 6-0-1, Commissioner Ignatowski abstained.

**DPW Recommendations: Traffic Calming on Park Street NE**

At their July 31, 2018 TSC meeting this commission heard the results the traffic study performed by the Police Department for potential traffic calming along Park Street NE from Ayr Hill Avenue to Hilltop Road. Due to the timing and location, DPW was asked to perform a secondary study. The secondary study was completed in October 2018. Please note that this location is not an emergency route.

Road Segments:	Local Road from Ayr Hill Avenue NE to Hilltop Road NE Not an Emergency Route 961 Vehicles Per Day (VPD) 33% traveling 5 mph or above speed limit (TCG = 15%) 85th Percentile is 32.5 MPH (TCG = 31MPH)
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The road does meet the Traffic Calming Guide qualifications for traffic calming. DPW is recommending the relocation of the existing speed hump and the addition of a second speed hump. DPW recommends the first speed hump be installed near 354 Park Street NE and the additional speed hump be installed near 322 Park Street NE. The exact speed hump location may vary and DPW will seek input from adjacent property owners.

Patrick Carney, 369 Park Street NE, is OK if a speed hump is located in front of his house.

Nathan Geesaman, 340 Park Street NE, agrees with the proposed locations.

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMISSION  
February 26, 2019

Commissioner Eachus made the following motion: The TSC supports the relocation of the existing speed hump and the addition of a second speed hump on Park Street NE between Ayr Hill Avenue and Hilltop Road.

Commissioner Allison seconded.

Motion carried unanimously, 7-0.

**BAC Report**

BAC Chairman Eachus said the BAC had been asked to look at potential locations for Bikeshare. They have identified several which they will share with DPW Director Gallagher: the Town Green, Navy Federal Credit Union, the Vienna Metro (even though it is not inside the corporate limits), the Vienna Shopping Center and near the apartments off Cedar Lane. The location of the Church Street bike corral is still up in the air. CHO's bicycle drive provided over 170 bicycles to people in need. Fairfax County is holding a ribbon cutting for the Vesper Trail that connects Northeast Vienna to the Tyson's Corner area. The BAC has proposed four community rides to be scheduled this spring and summer and coordinated with the Mayor – May 3<sup>rd</sup>, June 7<sup>th</sup>, August 2<sup>nd</sup> and September 6<sup>th</sup>.

**PAC Report**

NONE

**Reports of Commissioners**

Commissioner Ignatowski asked about yield signs at the T-intersections of Albrecht Circle and Johnson Street off Glen Avenue SW. He wonders why they are not stop signs.

Sergeant Elias explained yield signs mean traffic must yield to oncoming traffic. He feels these two signs may be legacy signs. If they need to be updated to stop signs, DPW can handle that.

Ms. Horner will investigate the intersections and share her thoughts at the next meeting.

Commissioner Strunk asked about the few double yellow stripes on Cherry Street SE next to the fire department. The stripes are not necessary and a work order will be prepared to have them painted over or removed.

**Report of the Chairman**

Chairman Somers asked if a candidate had been selected for the vacant position on the TSC. (It was announced on March 12, 2019 that Angela Sorrell will be the new TSC commissioner.)

**Adjourn** – 9:15 pm