

TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMISSION
February 23, 2021

The Vienna Transportation Safety Commission (TSC) met in regular session on February 23, 2021 via Zoom. Chairman Beth Eachus opened the meeting at 8:02 pm with the following Commissioners present: Leonard Ignatowski, Loginn Kapitan, Angela Sorrell, Donna Smith, Charlie Strunk, SallyJean Penna, Peter Hartogs and Joe Lowther. Also present were Emily Goodman, (acting) TSC Clerk, Andrew Jinks, Department of Public Works (DPW) and Sergeant Pete Elias, Vienna Police Department (VPD).

Chairman Eachus read the Resolution for Continuity of Government into the record. By roll-call vote, members voted unanimously to approve the resolution, 9 – 0.

Approval of the January 26, 2021 Meeting Minutes

No minutes were approved at this meeting, January 26 and February 23 minutes will be approved at the March 30, 2021 meeting.

Department of Public Works (DPW)

Answering Questions from Last the TSC Meeting (January 26th)

Can the trail access at the parking lot on the other side of the Freeman Store Bridge be reconfigured to align with the proposed bridge? This would make crossing the trail to access the bridge easier.

Answer: NOVA parks owns the parking lot and DPW will need to coordinate with their planning and design department. DPW will reach out to NOVA Parks to make the request.

Petitions - Recommendations to be discussed at the March 30, 2021 TSC meeting.

- 1. Orchard Street NW Traffic Calming**
- 2. Tapawingo Road SW Traffic Calming Removal Petition**

Receipt of Petitions and Communications from the Public

NONE

BAC Report

BAC Vice Chairman Strunk announced Supervisor Elkhorn has organized a community bike ride scheduled for May 15, 2021 which will be called "Tour d'Hunter Mill." There will be a family ride which will stay in Reston and be less than 5 miles, and a loop ride starting in Reston, then through Vienna, then through Tysons and back to Reston again, approximately 21 miles.

BAC Chairman Eachus reminded the TSC there is a gathering limit of 100 – 150 people due to Covid-19 restrictions.

BAC Vice Chairman Strunk submitted the renewal application for the Bicycle Friendly Community status with the League of American Bicyclists. The BAC should hear back mid-May if the Town's

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“bronze” status would continue. Additionally, there is a LAB survey which will be available online for the community to fill out.

Commissioner Lowther asked if there is a plan for more bike lanes within the Town.

BAC Vice Chairman Strunk said the BAC is committed to improving bicycling in the Town. One of the major obstacles is the size of the roads. Fairfax County is in the process of updating their Bicycle Master Plan and the County-wide Trails Plan and they’re adding a Pedestrian Master Plan which will all merge together into an Active Transportation Plan. The Town should stay apprised of Fairfax’s progress.

PAC Report

PAC Chairman Sorrell stated Town Council has voted to move forward with a change of ordinance that all new construction must build sidewalk whether there is sidewalk adjacent to the site or not. If for some reason sidewalk cannot be built at the time of construction, escrow money must be put aside for future sidewalk.

Regarding the Robinson Trust sidewalks, there are 8 million dollars to spend in five years, it’s been two years so far and no sidewalks have been built. Twenty projects were identified and only five have moved forward. The other 15 have a majority of residents opposed to having the sidewalk in front of their home. The Town has asked only those residents living on the streets where sidewalk is proposed whether they want the sidewalk or not. If there is opposition, the Town Council puts that project aside and moves on to another project.

Mr. Jinks suggested since the targeted sidewalk projects are in the right of way and not on private property, asking for input from residents who walk in the area (not just those who live on the actual street) may increase the public approval for the projects.

Commissioner Hartogs said he would like to know what are the reasons for not wanting a sidewalk.

Commissioner Lowther suggested Town Council should be given some criteria for moving a sidewalk project forward.

Commissioner Penna asked why the Town doesn’t just install the sidewalks without public input.

Commissioner Ignatowski pointed out that when streets are upgraded, the Town does not ask for public input.

Mr. Jinks said public meetings are held for DPW projects to explain impacts and receive input. He also said Fairfax County and VDOT do not work nearly as much with the public when developing new projects.

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Reports of Commissioners

Commissioner Ignatowski shared the newly renovated Cedar Park Shopping Center has new bike racks installed. He asked about the recording device located in the parking lot of Money and King Funeral Home.

Commissioner Penna asked about the Courthouse Road, Nutley Street, Maple Avenue safety study.

Mr. Jinks said because of the Covid-19 situation, there was limited funding for the study and it was put on hold until conditions return more to normal.

Commissioner Sorrell mentioned an article that said in the next 5 years the number of people working remotely will double, which will change the traffic patterns.

Report of the Chairman

None

Adjourn – 8:42 pm