

**MINUTES of the
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Meeting held: Wednesday, April 4, 2018
Leawood City Hall- Main Conference Room, 7:30 AM

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Andrew Osman, CHAIR and Councilmember Ward 1
Drew Alingh
Ken Conrad
Abbas Haideri
Todd Harris
Mandi Hunter
Marsha Monica
Jim Rawlings, Councilmember Ward 2
Chuck Sipple, Councilmember Ward 3
Christopher White

ABSENT:

Julie Cain, Vice Chairman, Councilmember Ward 4

STAFF PRESENT:

Sgt. Mark Hackathorn, Traffic Supervisor, Police Dept.
David Ley, P.E., Director of Public Works
Julie Stasi, Public Works Admin. Services Manager, Sr.

GUESTS: (by order of sign in sheet)

William & Gwenn Venable, 3519 W 93rd Street, Leawood, KS 66206
BJ Peterson, representing McCarthy Building Companies
Tami Lorenzen, representing Johnson County Waste Water
Mike Kalis, representing HDR Engineering
Dustin Elliott, representing HDR Engineering

Chair Osman called the meeting to order at 7:31 AM. Chair Osman introduced new Committee Member Mandi Hunter. Committee Members, staff and guests introduced themselves.

FIRST ITEM OF BUSINESS (OLD BUSINESS): Review/approve the previous meeting Minutes.

ACTION: Marsha Monica- Motioned to approve the Minutes of the Public Works Meeting of February 7, 2018.

Abbas Haideri had one word correction on Page 6.

Chris White- seconded the Motion to approve the Minutes as corrected.

All members present were in favor.

Motion passed. Minutes Approved.

Chair Osman mentioned that the Committee's comments went directly to City Council. We extensively debated the topic discussed, we very much appreciate everyone's comments on the record. We read every single thing in here and got a feel as well as summarized out to the facts in chambers what the overall feeling and going back and forth on this project. I want to thank everyone for their comments.

Question:

Chuck Sipple asked about one of the past assignments recorded in the February 7th Minutes. Asking about the status of the Bruner Contract and were the extra details outlined yet. David Ley-advised Staff is working with the contractor to provide us with a cost and details of the project. Information for their contract will be reviewed and would be collected. Staff anticipates this going to Council probably in May at the earliest with the items previously discussed.

Chuck Sipple-You will meet your building window as far as this summer?

David Ley-This fall, yes.

SECOND ITEM OF BUSINESS (NEW BUSINESS): Traffic Issues at 93rd & Mission Road-School Pickup and Church Traffic. Chair Osman-We recently worked on street improvements that to be happening later this year along Mission Road. We have residents that have asked us to take a look at the 93rd & Mission Road school pick up in front of Cure-of-Ars School.

David Ley-gave a description of the area. Staff received a request for No Parking signs from the property owner at the SE corner of 93rd & Mission. With a request for No Parking signs installed along 93rd with the hours of the school pick up times. The residents concern is the number of vehicles and people parking on 93rd and the congestion that is happening at 93rd & Mission. The other concern is of the students that are being picked up on 93rd. The students are walking down the resident's driveway and cutting through the front yard. We will let them speak to that too. We have photos that they have provided for today for your review.

William Venable-In scanning through the first three pictures you can see the congestion that it causes. There is a lot of construction in the area with tear-downs of homes and things like that. Big trucks have a problem when the cars are trying to get off of Mission onto 93rd and there are parked cars on both sides. The parked cars have traffic stopped and it backs traffic up onto Mission Road. It is a 2 lane road, so when there are cars parked on the side, there is only one active lane. So it depends on who gets there first (showing more pictures of congestion caused by the parked cars).

Gwenn Venable-We will have cars parked on both sides of the street. There is a picture of a car door open, which is a parent getting into a car. Not sure why she got out of the car, but here is a picture of a landscaping vehicle (with trailer) which is very common through the spring, summer and fall. Another picture is one of a parent who chooses to park in one of the neighborhood drives. A photo of trash day. Sometimes our trash has been missed because of parking in front of the cans on trash day. We have had to call to get additional pick up. Picture of the parking lot as the school at about 3:15 PM and there are open spaces. Not sure why they are not parking in the parking lot at the school. I did go out and speak to one of the parents on the advice of Councilmember Debra Filla. She said to ask them why they are parking there. One parent said she "didn't want to have to wait in line to get into the school". And then another parent said "I'm not doing anything wrong, this is a public street." Which is true. I understand that. And I kind of backed off as it started to get heated. More pictures of cars down the street and another picture of the parent that chooses to park in someone's drive again. Sometimes she parks on the other side of the street.

Jim Rawlings-That is almost a block long during pick up time of cars.

Gwenn Venable-Yes. That is our sidewalk in the front but there are also pictures of cars parked almost to the corner. There are some pictures of children standing next to cars. What kind of anticipated this whole thing besides the parking in front of the property during the school days, it is also on the weekend. During Mass time, there are cars there on Saturday and Sunday. Not to the extent of school days. I am a real estate agent and my concern is property value as well. The main concern is the children cutting through the driveway. I had an incident last year. I got in my car and I saw the children on the sidewalk and I got in my car and put my seatbelt on and started to back up and I saw two heads, one behind while backing the car. And I almost-I could have hit them. I could have caused some harm and that is the majority of the problem besides the congestion. We have asked the children not to go through the yard and the driveway but if one child goes, they all go. And I have to back up into the circle to pull out to go forward. There are four cars in our driveway. There are three adults that live in our house who leave the property numerous times throughout the day. We are now at a point where we are avoiding leaving during the school hours or during mass time. So we are confined to the traffic congestion and the children walking through the driveway. I have grandchildren, and sometimes I have to go sometimes at 3:30 to go pick them up. I do not want any harm to come to these children. You know? We've notified Father at the Church. We've notified the Principal. I do not know what else to do. Thank you.

Chair Osman-Thank you for bringing it to our attention.

David Ley-As part of the Mission Road Project we will be completing this summer, we are going to mill the length and approximately 2' push the curb over and then we will be widening the sidewalk down to 5 feet. It is currently 4 feet wide. We will also move the sidewalk further away from the street so we will have about a 3 ½ foot green space. At this location (the very north end of the Venable Property), there is a power pole that sits right in the sidewalk, so that might also keep students from really wanting to use the sidewalk. We have also talked with Gwenn and potentially with the project the City would remove this driveway that goes out onto Mission. This is right near the schools exit. And the City will actually come in with the project and construct a driveway out to 93rd Street for them so they could be able to do landscaping in this area and try to keep people on the sidewalk and not cutting through their property.

Chair Osman-The other thing was the utility poles and burying utility poles we are bonding separately. So from 92nd up to Cure/south side of Cure. I have kids and we live near 86th Street & Mission. When my children were little I did not let my kids go on that sidewalk because it was right next to the street. When you see a kid wobbling back and forth the last thing you want to do is be right on Mission Road. That alleviates our concern starting later this year because we do have a set back and green space there that we didn't have for years/actually never. Which is a positive thing.

Ken Conrad-Real quick and maybe I have forgotten. Can you update the status on that? You said that is going to be constructed? We had issues about obtaining easements and the power poles?

David Ley-There are concerns that we would have issues with the easements. I have sent letters out and I have met with homeowners. There are two people I have not met with. But everyone else I have met with and they are okay with signing easements for the sidewalk. So we are proceeding forward with that project. If we cannot obtain an easement then we will put the back of the sidewalk - and it will stay where it is at, but we will still have at least a 1 ½ foot space between the new curb and the new sidewalk.

Ken Conrad-So the milling of the street is going to occur and we are still trying to develop a plan to do something with the sidewalk?

David Ley-That is correct. Well we have a plan. We are going to go out to bid in about four weeks.

Chair Osman-This was approved through City Council and part of a joint project with Prairie Village. So we approved it last City Council.

Ken Conrad-And the sidewalk improvements that is going to go all the way through 92nd?

David Ley-Yes, 92nd Street.

Ken Conrad-And does the plan? The plan does not require the poles to be moved?

David Ley-We have to move the poles or bury the power lines.

Ken Conrad-So what have we decided to do?

David Ley-The Governing Body wants to bury the power lines.

Chair Osman-There are two things. There is a budget for the street and there is a budget for burying the power poles.

Ken Conrad-Correct.

Chair Osman-The Council budgeted for burying the power poles up to 92nd. And then if and when street improvements happen with curbs from 92nd through 84th Street, at that point in time, we will take a look at burying those power poles. But that potentially is not scheduled for another 10 to 12 years.

Ken Conrad-Really? So how much does it cost to bury those lines?

Chair Osman-A lot. About \$350 a linear foot.

Ken Conrad-And what other utilities? Does that include telephone, cable, power?

David Ley-yes.

Marsha Monica-Is there anything that the Police Department can do to go out during these times to encourage people to keep moving down the street? Or not to stop because it is creating a hazard? Has that route been tried?

Sgt. Hackathorn-Often such as a case such as this since it was brought to our attention I tried to get people from the Traffic Division down there to take a look and move people along or sight violators or whatever needs to be done and their just have not been any lately. But yes it certainly is something we are aware of and we are trying to get down there on a daily basis to see what kind of a problem there is and try to help alleviate it. Especially if they are parking out near Mission Road like we see in the pictures. We have not seen anything lately, but it doesn't mean it is not happening.

Marsha Monica-So you are saying they are not doing it now?

Sgt. Hackathorn-I'm saying we have not seen it when we have been down there.

Marsha Monica-Are they not doing it now Gwenn?

Gwenn Venable-Well, I you know the Father and the Principal again-I've been monitoring the kids walking through the yard. I've asked one child four times not to do it because again it is like a herd. If one goes then they all go off the sidewalk. It has subsided.

Marsha Monica-This is on Mission Road right?

Gwenn Venable-No on 93rd Street in front of our property.

Marsha Monica-Okay but it looks like here you exit your drive onto Mission. And that is where you are concerned that a lot of the kids are.

Gwenn Venable-Yes (if you can show a picture of our driveway). There is the driveway and there is the corner and they start over where the corner is and cut across the yard and behind and then walk over to the cars. The children who walk home I've noticed walk across the sidewalk and go across 93rd Street and on down. The 10 to 14 children that go into the cars are crossing the yard.

Marsha Monica-So I guess my question is putting No Parking on 93rd – you are wanting that because you do not want them to go through your yard to get to the cars.

Gwenn Venable-The yard and the driveway. Because between the circle is yard and they cut across there and they are behind the cars that are parked there in front of the garage. My car is not parked there, I have a big SUV. Some of the children are so small you can barely see the top of their heads when they go behind the car.

Chris White-One of the things I wanted to say and it's not pertinent to the topic but it's real important. I wanted to thank the Mr. and Mrs. Venable. Because it sounds like they spoke to the individuals that were parking. They spoke to the Church. They spoke to the School. I want to commend you on following a process and not coming to the City initially. I think that is really a good thing and it is something I talk to a lot of people who come in here. Of trying to deal directly with the issue first before going up the ladder. I want to complement you and thank you for trying to deal with this individually before bringing it to this level. The other question I wanted to add is, what is the impact of putting a No Parking sign there? What is the cost? What is the difficulty of doing that? I'm sure there is some reason why it is in front of the Committee and not just putting a sign there.

David Ley-Well in front of schools where we would put No Parking signs: we've done this around Brookwood and some other schools. Due to the issue with people parking for east bound close to Mission Road, we could put up No Parking signs for east bound within the first 60 feet of the intersection. That would keep the intersection clear for east bound. Typically we do not sign both signs of the street for No Parking. We would sign one side for No Parking during the school pick up hours. The school pick up hours would be on the No Parking signs. But we would propose if we did that, at West bound 93rd Street because we do not want the kids to be forced to cross the intersection; if there is a potential. I think if they people are parking for East bound 93rd street that would keep the kids from having to cross 93rd Street to get into their vehicle.

Chris White-I would think the problem with backing traffic up onto Mission would be on the east bound 93rd if you're getting people parking on east bound side. That would cause the back up onto Mission, kind of the domino affect and create more problems.

Chair Osman-The majority of the people are either going north or west, and then to have to turn that car around if you are facing east bound. If you are sitting there and parked on one side, so you are having to change it up.

Chris White-I would think that the biggest problem with parking would be on the east bound whether you are coming from the north and south depends if you are picking up your kids, you are going to turn in and then park on the east bound side on your first stop. The benefit really would come from the No parking on the east bound. Then again, I do not know what your standard is the first time.

David Ley-Right. The first 60 feet, there would be no parking allowed, we would install permanent No Parking there; and it would not be just during school pick up. There would be No Parking at all for east bound within 60 feet of that intersection. We did that at Brookwood School. If you look at the pictures, most people are parking for east bound so I do not know if there are neighborhood people coming in to pick their kids up but that is where most people are currently parking. Just a few are parking west bound.

Chris White-I think that makes sense, you come in down Mission either south or north and you are turning in there and they are taking the first stop that they can get to. So it is not uncommon, it is fairly within the realm of City Standards.

David Ley-Now we will obviously be impacting their properties.

Chris White-Can you just put in no parking during school hours?

David Ley-Yes during the pick-up times.

Marsha Monica-And you said during Mass it is also a problem.

Gwenn Venable-Yes but not as extreme as the school time during the school day.

Drew Alingh-A comment on the times and during school I thought that was appropriate but the one thing I'm thinking is if you have that 60 foot and the Venables one of their concerns is people cutting in through their yard. I would think that that would maybe increase the want of kids to want to cut through the yard if their parents are parked further down the street. They try to find the straight line, so they would want to just cut through the yard even more. I do not know if there is a way to prevent anyone from parking on that street at any given time but if you are just pushing cars down the street I would think kids would just want to cut through the yard even more so.

Mandi Hunter-The first 60 feet is No Parking at all. And then after that is a time limit issue on it?

David Ley-What Public Works is recommending if you want to put up signs, is for east bound, that first 60 feet is NO Parking at any time. Then the rest of it for east bound you can park at any time. It would be for west bound where we would restrict the hours and that will prevent having two cars across from each other. It also keeps the kids from having to cross 93rd Street to get to a waiting car that is parked on the north side of the street.

Ken Conrad-Certainly that whole area has got a lot of issues that are important. It seems that the whole problem needs to be looked at to be solved. I'm a little concerned the fact that we still do not have the sidewalk on Mission Road completely figured out. We're going to spend a bunch of money but how are we going to fix it? I think we talked about the driveway being something that needed to be addressed to help both the homeowner possibly and the flow. One of the issues is that when the kids go down there outside of being a kid and wanting to go in a straight line. I mean there is no sidewalk for them to walk on, it's a bad place to be picking up kids anyway. I think that-I live at the end of 93rd and during school that does get extremely congested if you want to go east back on 93rd when all those cars are there it is extremely difficult. I'm not sure 60 feet is enough a lot of times because if there is anything coming the other way it just stacks up and may get queued on Mission Road. I guess what my whole point is: Is that as a Committee are we looking at how to solve a problem or is there a solution that we are trying to approve if you will? Or are what we trying to do is to validate a concern and a need and then give direction to try to fix it? I kind of

feel like we are trying to do a lot of different things. If what we are trying to do is identify a situation I think we have all identified it. But now I'm not sure what our comprehensive plan is to fix it.

Ken Conrad-There is no question that I would be concerned about kids coming behind me and across my driveway if I'm backing up. It is a very tough situation. Today probably if you wanted to build that house you couldn't put that driveway there. Am I right?

David Ley-That's right.

Ken Conrad-Okay. Big issue. Cure-of-Ars has certainly been successful, their school is good. Kids don't ride busses anymore and they don't walk. You have parents with cars. It's every school. Same thing with Corinth. And as you said David. I think it really needs to be looked at. We are doing little bits and pieces but we do not have a comprehensive plan.

Chair Osman-And I understand your concern and I know we have three additional people, but I want to give you what happened several years ago. On 85th and 86th Street and Mission Road. That was directly across the street from Mission Valley Middle School. And one in which we had major problems with parents parking on 85th Street and waiting for their kids to come out of school and pop up across the street. What was done was it was determined we would put No Parking the first 60 feet and then No School Parking during these hours, and I believe those hours were 3 to 3:15 when school got out and early in the morning. And I believe that that alleviated a lot of those concerns, it just pushed the que down but people continued to park but at least it wasn't making a traffic hazard right at 86th & Mission. When the school was sold and demolished, we obviously don't have that problem. Some signs are still there, and some have been taken down. But the question that is posed here: One, do we have a problem? If we believe as a Committee that there is a justifiable problem then we go to step two which is how do we alleviate that problem? The next step I believe would be do we install signs and traffic enforcement on that?

Ken Conrad-Great explanation and I think you are exactly right and I think we have identified the problem. I think the need for some kind of signage is certainly the easiest and potentially the best one to do. I am not a traffic engineer and I haven't done any studies about where to actually put those signs. We can talk in general terms, okay? I think the next thing on this is there needs to be some, I would say a recommendation if we have to do more as a Committee, on where to put the signs.

Abbas Haideri-I agree with Ken that there needs to be a comprehensive solution. What also makes me wonder if we put times and do that right away regardless of that fact that it says the school hours, it will also impose upon the residents themselves if they have visitors or anyone else at that time when they will not be able to park because if says No Parking. I wonder if we start with the school themselves and hold them to a higher standard. And say your school is causing trouble to your neighbors and we would like you to step up and find a solution yourselves. Is that something we as a City or someone could write a letter to them and say to do this, or no?

William Venable-We have tried that. We have been to the school. The Police have, we talked to a patrolman that was running radar last year or the year before. And the Officer talked to the Police Officer at the school, they have a Public Safety Resource Officer and I think he talked to the kids. And it worked for week. The kids forget.

Chair Osman-I think as Chris said earlier is unlike most people that just come and say the sky is falling we have an issue, you have tried and exhausted your resources before you came before us and now they are at a position where.

Abbas Haideri-And I am asking as a City if we were to request the school to look at it, would that have a bigger impact than a resident?

Chair Osman-My opinion, without enforcement. We just as a City say there is a problem but we need some teeth behind it and that is an actual deterrent. Whether that is signage or whether that is No Parking, whether that is a change of habit, something.

Abbas Haideri-Is Jay-Walking just a term or is that enforceable?

Sgt. Hackathorn-If a cross walk is available you are supposed to use it. But if somebody is crossing in the middle of

the block where there is no cross walk, especially in a residential area and people are going back and forth across the street all the time. Realistically we are not going to site children.

Abbas Haideri-I'm just brainstorming prior to placing signage. Because if you do put signage than obviously it is going to infringe on their own freedoms to parking there too. So for 60 feet, instead of their house, they will be down in front of someone else's house and you will have other people coming in. Two, if you have so much traffic here, where does it dissipate? Does it come around? Does it go to the neighborhoods around it?

Gwenn Venable-There are seven blocks down 93rd street that funnel off of it. Two of them funnel over to 95th Street. The other ones go north bound and you can access out to Mission Road from other side streets. So they normally do not turn there. Normally they just go on down the street and funnel on out in the blocks. I wanted to mention that on the corner of our property between our house and the second property already is a posted speed sign so it would be easy to put a No Parking sign there, just for cost purposes. And if they wanted to put another sign up farther to keep the traffic from parking near that intersection we are fine with that. My main concern is the safety of the children. They are itty bitty kids, they are first graders. They do not understand what could happen. They get excited and they are talking to their friends and they are out of school. They are running into their parents cars. They are not paying attention to anything that is going on in the driveway. My husband drives a very large pick-up truck, my son who works for a grocery store and leaves at 1 o'clock and 11 o'clock during the day. We try to be mindful, but when you can't see. I put a back-up camera on my 2005 Highlander because I didn't have one and now I am at a point where I don't know what to do. I do not want to hurt a child. And I've asked the parents but I can't get in a conversation with them long enough. They get very offensive when I explain my point of view. I have had a confrontation and one of the parents called the Police. And I've called the Police. I sell real estate you know, list your property in Leewood, sure but if you are mad at me because I'm the mean old lady that lives on the corner, it's not going to happen. If I have to be the mean old lady on the corner to save a child's life I'll do it. Plain and simple.

Jim Rawlings-I am a firm believer in the people that have the power have the influence. And I'm thinking of the Church and you've talked to the Principal and the Father there. It seems to me you have 10 to 15 people that park along there and how many other people are in the parking lot picking up their kids? The people that don't want to park there are concerned about getting out of there fast enough out of the parking lot. In looking at the aerial view that I saw (I don't know the time it was taken) there were a lot of empty parking spaces in that lot. It is a big lot and I've been in there before. It's where we vote. My point is can we talk to the Church? Talk to the Father who has the influence. I understand the Principal you all are paying for his salary and his too but it just seems like they should be more reasonable about having their people for fifteen minutes a day pick up their kids in the parking lot. They have a Safety Officer that when it's time to leave they direct traffic. They have stop lights and they have everything in there and we just have 10 to 15 people that are thumbing their nose at an issue. That is why we are here. I think they could talk to the Home Owners Association, go talk to the Father, tell him you are not going to give him any contributions anymore, or something. I think we are missing something. The parking is there.

Chuck Sipple-Quickly, I would like to make sure this is a local solution rather than a City-Wide solution. Because every elementary school in town has the same issue. And we have to be consistent in terms of how we as a City approach this.

Todd Harris-To Sgt. Hackathorn, you are a supervisor of the traffic. So you have seen some things that may or may not work. Is there any intervention, signs this way, that way that you would predict would actually mitigate a calmer and have a positive effect on public safety?

Sgt. Hackathorn-I think that the signage on the east bound side 60 feet is going to impact the Venables the most. I think that would be on within their property line. I think that is a good idea in just looking at the pictures; when you have people queueing up on Mission Road and you have pedestrian traffic in with that and with all the distractions going on inside the vehicles. Now they have two or three things they are trying to concentrate beyond outside the car.

So that is a problem and you know we have a large City. Time to spread our resources around to several problem areas we cannot be there every day. I think the signage that has been proposed is certainly worth a try. It seems that that would be a workable solution.

Todd Harris-And would you support the signs on the east bound or west bound?

Sgt. Hackathorn-I think signing it east bound and then signing it for No Parking. And then signing it west bound during pick up times would be the solution otherwise if you just sign east bound, I think you will just shove them over to the west bound side and like David said you are going to have kids crossing to get over. Darting across the street. So we just shove everything down 93rd Street away from Mission Road. So we don't have the que problem, we don't have the distraction with the drivers. I am not an Engineer but that seems like a very comprehensive solution as far as alleviating the traffic problems in and around 93rd & Mission. As far as the kids taking whatever path they are going to take that is completely different topic.

Chair Osman-Real quick, yes/no. Does that give you a real tangible enforcement tool that you can use?

Sgt. Hackathorn-Absolutely.

Chair Osman-I hate to cut this off but we have a time frame. I want to ask David his opinion and then I have a final comment. And then I'll bring some items up. What is your opinion?

David Ley-I agree with what Sgt. Hackathorn said on the parking. The concern that we had when this was brought to our attention, I don't know if there is more discussion with Cure, but when we had staff go out and the PD went out there too and we had not noticed the problem that we see in these pictures. It is a short term solution when people talk to the Principal and they pass it on. The problem gets solved for one week or two weeks. And then after that it comes back again. We are not opposed to putting No Parking signs up, it would be similar to what we have at other schools, so it would be consistent, to what Chuck was saying.

Chair Osman-If the Committee approves and recommends it, it would then go to City Council- or no?

Julie Stasi-Committee recommendations go to Council for the final decision.

Chair Osman-And from that time frame, how long would it take to put up those signs?

David Ley-We could put them up today if we were directed. We would have to call for utility line locates, but they could be up within 3 days from direction.

Chair Osman-As a parent of an elementary and a middle school child, we had in the middle of the year an attempt by our school to change our traffic pattern for fire lanes and for access to the kids. I can tell you that that does not work. I can tell you that when you are parents and you are creatures of habit, you need to be told at the beginning of the school year. I think that we have five or six weeks left of school this year but I think it would be a benefit if we do something either we talk about it again and defer this for another Committee in the next month or two when we could have an assignment and think this out further. Write a letter and notify the proper school officials so they can notify in the packets to the parents in July or August when the new school year happens saying, if this is approved the City and Cure will enforce this so that the parents are put on notification for next year. It may seem like a long time but I don't think that we are going to have the impact if we do it now verses next school year which is coming up only in a couple months. Based off of that I wanted to get a vantage point first if we think we have a problem we'll just go around the room as to Yea or Ney if we have a problem at this intersection.

Marsha Monica-I think everyone in this room knows there is a problem.

ACTION: Ken Conrad-I think we make a Motion that Public Works consider installing "No Parking" signs during the end of school and beginning of school on both sides of the street of 93rd Street from Mission Road to Mohawk Lane in order to alleviate the issues of street traffic safety and the issues of safety for the residents on the corner of 93rd & Mission and their driveway.

No second. Motion fails.

ACTION: Marsha Monica made a Motion that the Public Works Committee recommend to the City Council to install “No Parking” signs in accordance with the recommendation from the Public Works and Public Safety Departments; which is “No Parking” signs be installed on the south side of 93rd Street (for east bound traffic) for 60 feet from Mission Road and “No Parking” signs installed on the north side of 93rd street (for westbound traffic) on 93rd Street.

Christopher White seconds the Motion.

[Discussion]

Ken Conrad-My question is: Do we believe that we are just pushing the problem down the street? Which is the reason that my recommendation being a non-traffic pedestrian travel engineer that we’re just going to push it down if it’s not going to change anything of the kids wanting to take a straight line to their cars. If I was a kid I’d go that way. Actually if I was an adult I’d probably go that way. The best way to determine where sidewalks go is look where there is no grass.

Chris White-I think that is where the public safety, I kind am looking on these guys to do, like I said I’m not a Traffic Engineer so I would look-I agree with you and he made a good point. It may be that then there actually is more, but I have to count on these guys (staff) to evaluate does it need to be 60 feet, 100 feet, 200 feet?

Ken Conrad- Is it truly safe? There’s no sidewalks on 93rd. So the kids either have to be in people’s yards or they need to be in the street. I mean the goal.

Chris White-The goal is to have people off 93rd.

Ken Conrad-The goal is to have no pick up there.

Chris White-Agreed.

Ken Conrad-So the signs should have No Parking.

Chris White-The question is now do we eliminate parking in a 1 mile radius or do we start incrementally? So that is, I mean I totally respect your opinion.

Ken Conrad-But I made the motion to try to make a point.

Marsha Monica-And I agree with your point.

Abbas Haideri-So I hear Chucks point that if you do it here then we are setting precedent. You put a sign in for the first 60 feet and you push the problem down. And some people now may come in saying why do we have a No parking sign in front of us? So go back to Andrew’s point about deferring this to a second discussion and finding a more comprehensive solution perhaps and start with the school or whoever we need to write a letter to. And pick this up again before the next school year starts where if it goes out in a packet that you are not supposed to do this then perhaps it will have a better impact.

William Venable-What is your assurance that they do this every year? That they send this packet out to the parents that it gets them and makes them aware of the problem. If it makes them adjust their pattern. I do not think it will. I think you could tell them this year but change in hands and change in staff and it gets lost. I just do not see the Church as being the solution.

Chair Osman-We have a Motion on the floor and a second. All those in favor for Marsha’s proposal say Aye.

Members for: (AYE voiced votes not counted before Members against voiced “NEY”)

All those opposed: NEY.

Members against: Osman, Haideri, Harris, Conrad, Alingh

Motion fails.

Chair Osman-Makes a proposal, we have acknowledged this and that we probably need more time before next school year. We have another agenda item that we table this for the next meeting.

Chris White-One comment. I think the idea of getting this done and making sure the school identifies this at the beginning of next school year is good, but I also think getting it done as soon as possible is important. To me, the

behavior may not change in the next school year but getting those things in place.

Chair Osman-But I think the timeline, it would go before City Council and we would not have it before the school year. This gives us an opportunity to reset, comeback for the next meeting and do it that way. That will be for our discussion. But we need a recommendation to go to City Council.

Marsha Monica-Can I just answer, his question is that we have done this in other school locations. So it is not like this is setting a precedent. But they have already said that it is done, he even gave an example so it is not something new.

Gwenn Venable-We have pictures of no parking at 103rd & Wenonga, across from Brookwood Elementary and I believe also at 103rd & Pawnee which is on the same side of Brookwood and down there off of 84th Street and 84th Terrace near Corinth Elementary. No Parking, No Parking during those hours.

Chris White-Everyone here agrees there is a problem, there is some disagreement in how to best resolve it.

Chair Osman-And I think that is the reason for the table until next time.

Todd Harris-I support some form of signage program I just have not resolved what the best idea is and I think that it should go into effect beginning at the next school year. So if we post the signs in July/August time frame. I agree we should table this and circle back on it.

Chair Osman-Thank you.

Chris White-Can David bring some more information to us next time? Is there some additional information that you brought regarding a traffic study or something that allows us... so if we are going to meet again that we have some additional information to work with other than just a bunch of more opinions? I don't know what that is but I'm trying to figure out if we are going to table it we should have something. Just some action between now and then.

Marsha Monica-Yes I do not see any difference.

Dustin Elliott-I am a Traffic Engineer (from HDR here for the next assignment). I think to start, the No Parking at the intersection on the east bound side for a distance and also on the west bound side for a particular time period is an important step and probably the best first step. The thing that everybody seems to be eluding to is that a long term plan. Is this-are we going to keep doing this? One thing to look at would be the school circulation. Do a traffic study. It does not have to be very elaborate but there could be some ways to improve the circulation and improve safety of that particular school to get them (the school) to encourage parents more to use the driveways and the circulation route. I'm sure parents don't want to park because that is a hassle getting in and getting into a parking space. If they have a very efficient circulation plan that could go a long way to keep people off the adjacent public streets. I do not know if that is something you all would want to consider assisting the school with; asking them to do a study but it might be good for a long term plan. I think a good first step would be the No Parking signs. This is a common problem, I have seen this at my kid's school.

Abbas Haideri-Looking back at the pictures and Mrs. Venable said she had talked to someone who didn't want to wait in line, but she is waiting out there on 93rd. So what is the difference whether she is waiting in line or waiting here? To me it appears that that is an opportunity for them to socialize because in some of the pictures I see them chit-chatting with each other. I think that is a bigger issue than them not wanting to do it. I agree some kind of signage or whatever. Whatever we do needs to alleviate that issue.

Chair Osman-We are taking all these things into consideration that we will come back to this in the next month or so.

Chris White-Is it possible to invite someone from the school to be here?

Chair Osman-We will talk about that in bringing additional materials or people to the next meeting. We have to go on to the next item.

Drew Elliott-I would just say your opportunity to study is limited. If you wait a month school will be done.

William Venable-It is different with the school than with the Mass, there are multiple Masses. The whole school starts at the same time. What you are talking about with a Master Plan is good but I think you need to bring the school in with the idea. Because they have a plan but what is supposed to be is not happening.

Chair Osman-Yes although I do not think we can force or do our own traffic study for a private school.

Marsha Monica-Could I ask since we are not doing anything, Could I ask that if the Committee would like to ask if Public Safety could go out and monitor the situation and see if they can help alleviate some of this problem?

Sgt. Hackathorn-And that is what we have been doing. Right now our challenge is enforcing parking laws that the City has incorporated. So basically within 20 feet of the intersection is about one car. So and then the other is voluntary on the part of the parents. Hey would you mind moving down here and certainly that is an approach that we like to use to get people to understand why we are doing this to get them to move on down the road.

Chair Osman- tables the discussion due to time and more information requested from Committee. Committee will continue the discussion of this assignment again at the May or a future Committee Meeting.

THIRD ITEM OF BUSINESS (NEW BUSINESS): Lee Boulevard and Mission Road Permanent Traffic Signals with Johnson County Wastewater Cost Sharing.

Chair Osman-The wastewater treatment facility and we have applicants here today. We did approve this project, it is an extensive project. We've had numerous discussions, numerous meetings over the years with Johnson County Wastewater and they are here today as well.

David Ley- As part of the Johnson County Wastewater Treatment plant reconstruction project, (the location is off of Lee Boulevard, east of Mission Road). This is a three year construction project and they want to hire a significant workers that will be working here. They will need to install temporary traffic signals at this intersection due to the added traffic from the workers that will be working on the project. Johnson County has approached the City to request a cost sharing to do permanent traffic signals at Lee Blvd & Mission Rd intersection. We had them do a traffic study and the future traffic counts did not warrant the traffic signal. In talking to them they are still concerned about vehicles trying to pull out on Mission Road with a limited sight distance and that if they have large vehicles that are trying to exit out onto Mission Road with limited gaps in vehicles. We talked to our Parks Department. The Parks Department is supportive of the traffic signal there for the same reasons. When they are trying to pull their trailers out of the City Park they have issues in trying to pull out and then also with all the events that the Park has, they feel it would be beneficial to them to have a signal.

The warrants are not a mandatory requirement; they are recommended though. The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control (MUTCD) states the warrants. There are nine warrants. The MUTCD does leave it up to the City to install the signals if the intersection could benefit from traffic signals to improve the delays. The cost for construction is approximately \$250,000. The County has agreed to pay \$150,000 and they will also pay for the design. The City would kick in the remaining portion and do the inspection of the signals; the remaining construction cost is estimated at \$100,000.

Chair Osman-Could you explain temporary verses permanent?

David Ley-The temporary traffic signals are on wood poles and then spanned wire. It is a much cheaper process. If we go in there with a permanent traffic signal, they will be in concrete footings and galvanized poles. It is twice as expensive to do the permanent signals.

Chair Osman-And a temporary signal is upon completion of the wastewater project, they would be removed.

David Ley-Yes they would be removed after three years if it was a temporary signal. The County is needing to move forward pretty quick. Their construction kicks in in October of this year. Signals take approximately 6 months to

design and construct, so we need to move on this pretty quick in order to meet the schedule for meeting the traffic signals.

Ken Conrad-You talk about the warrants, is there a projected out traffic study that would at some point require those signals?

David Ley-Dustin did the traffic signal and he just looked at the existing counts I believe.

Dustin Elliott-We assessed for the construction period, what the traffic volumes will be out there and then also for the existing conditions. We did not project traffic out but yea, traffic tends to grow over time. At some point, it is mostly dependent upon the volume of the minor road and in this case Lee Boulevard. So Johnson County Wastewater is anticipating some additional truck traffic and other traffic coming out of Lee Boulevard in the future after the plant is reconstructed. So there will be additional traffic there and other uses, the Park and Soccer fields and things that have pretty high traffic volumes that were not taken into consideration because they are not as regular occurrence as the wastewater treatment plant. Not sure if that answers your question.

Ken Conrad-I think if the City is going to pay for a portion of it we want to have a need and be able to justify it and if it is a future need I think that is okay also. I wondered if that had been done or projected. If you go up the road a little bit you know at Mission Farms. For a long time there was not a signal there. Then we put a signal in. I do not know how much more development is supposed to be up there. If there is a point and it can be tough to get out of the Park.

Marsha Monica-It is horrible to get out there.

Ken Conrad-Next question is with today's technology can the signal be initiated on a more demand if you will coming out of the Park? I mean if there is nobody wanting to come out of the Park, it doesn't turn, and stop traffic on Mission. Can we have that level of technology?

David Ley-We would. All our signals have that. So we would have radar detection. The other thing that we would include (the City) would be pay the inter-link to that signal to the north. And then Overland Park would actually do the program coordination north and south along Mission Road to try to minimize the impacts to people along Mission Road.

Dustin Elliott-Part of the study we did showed that there are pretty high delays coming out even with the relatively small existing traffic. And so as David mentioned, when you are a big truck trying to pull out, 10 seconds minimum to be able to do that and it is hard to find that gap in traffic on Mission Road.

Ken Conrad-And that is a stretch of Mission Road that can tend to go a little faster.

Dustin Elliott-It is an opportunity to take advantage of. If somebody is going to spend money of \$150,000.00 to put in a temporary signal and the City thinks it will need a signal here eventually it is an opportunity for you to save money and go ahead and do that now.

Marsha Monica-Absolutely.

ACTION: Christopher White made a Motion that we recommend to the Council to approve staff's recommendation to install permanent signals at a shared cost with Johnson County Wastewater.

Abbas Haideri seconded the Motion.

All members present were in favor.

Motion passed.

Chair Osman- Adjourned the meeting at 8:39 A.M.

Minutes transcribed by: Julie Stasi, Admin. Services Manager, Sr.
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