

Minutes of
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
Meeting held: Wednesday, February 9, 2022
Leawood City Hall-Council Chambers, 7:30 AM Via Zoom

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Andrew Osman
Julie Cain- Via Zoom
Chuck Sipple
Jim Rawlings
Marsha Monica
Abbas Haideri- Via Zoom
Ken Conrad

ABSENT:

Christopher White
Kyle McCawley

STAFF PRESENT:

David Ley, P.E., Director of Public Works
Kristen Love, Administrative & Contract Supervisor
Abigale Shepherd, Administrative Support Specialist
Captain Brad Robbins

Andrew Legler, Cure of Ars Principal

Andrew Osman called the meeting to order at 7:37 AM.

Announces that Julie Cain is now the chair of the committee.

FIRST ITEM OF BUSINESS: Review/approve the old business: Approve minutes from the January 12, 2022 meeting.

ACTION: Marsha Monica- Motion to approve. Chuck Sipple Seconded. Approved. Motion passed.

SECOND ITEM OF BUSINESS: Review Cure of Ars Parking Lot Pick-Up

David Ley Police took drone video in January and we haven't noticed any improvements. We're not sure what the school has changed. There is actually more queueing on Mission Rd now. The drone video shows that the queues are now through the RanchMart driveway causing the entrances being blocked. It's more of an internal issue for the school to address. The footage shows that the gate has been removed, but there are no cars going around the back of the school. The school could utilize their parking lot to reduce the queueing. Chuck Sipple Have alternative been suggested to the school? It seems like 2 lines could be used for the entrance. David Ley It's up to the school. Andrew Osman Is there a reason all of the cars are lined up where they are (in front of the school)? David Ley There is a pick up location there.

Andrew Legler As discussed in the November meeting, we've removed the barrier at 3:10. There are 3 car lines. The cars driving around the backside to the east side of the building are picking up preschool students. K-4 are picked up in front of the school, and 5-8 are picked up in front of the church. When we first started removing the barrier earlier, we weren't having any queueing. When the weather was nicer, we would have 150 students that would walk or ride their bikes. Because of the cold weather, there is an uptick in the number of cars. We have a designated staff member at the east side of the church to encourage cars to use the 2 lanes available. We've also started staggering release times; our K-2 are getting out 5 minutes early. On average, traffic is being queued out for 5-8 minutes based on what I've seen in the past few weeks.

Chuck Sipple Have there been any accidents on Mission due to the queueing? Captain Robbins No, we haven't. Chuck Sipple What would prevent parents from pulling into the parking lot and parking in the spaces for pick up? Andrew Legler it's a strategy we can consider.

David Ley based on the footage, it looks like the biggest issue is how short the queue in front of the church is. There just isn't a lot of room for many cars in that short line. Which grades are being picked up there?

Andrew Legler 5th-8th grade. Jim Rawlings Are the parents just as frustrated with this issue? Andrew Legler It's the most discussed topic in my 5 year tenure. The 2 best solutions that haven't been tried yet are the parking lot parking that Chuck brought up and staggering dismissal. The issue with parents parking is that there are more cars than spaces due to the construction in the past 2 years. The issue with staggering dismissal times is that we have 430 families, and many have students in different grades. There are challenges on both ends of the parking lot, getting in and getting out. Marsha Monica Are cars allowed to turn left out of the exit? Andrew Legler Yes, they are. They used to only be allowed to turn right, but that increased the traffic in the neighborhoods.

Abbas Haideri Is there a way that you can divert cars to lesser used lanes? Andrew Legler It's an option we can look at. We can look at which grades have the most cars. There should be 2 pick-up lines on the west side, and 2 in front of the church.

Chuck Sipple If they can't resolve this issue, is there a punishment? David Ley Staff would stipulate 2 different release times, but that has to go to Governing Body and Planning.

Jim Rawlings Would this be too small for a traffic study? David Ley A traffic study was done when they came in for the construction/expansion. The queue was never anticipated to reach out onto Mission Rd. The study also didn't address the queueing on 93rd St. The school is most familiar with their pick up/drop off, but it looks to me, that if they could move maybe 1st and 2nd grade to the east of the school for pick up, that would pull some of the people from the longer queues.

Andrew Osman suggests that another review is done once the weather warms up, after Spring Break. And reconvene before school begins in the fall. David Ley When is spring break? Andrew Legler The week of the 12th. Based on discussions today, adding additional grades to the back side will be one of my first steps.

David Ley One other request that the school do some communication with the parents to not park on residential streets, and to use the parking lot.

ACTION: Abbas Haideri makes a motion to reconvene on this topic after the school's spring break and more video footage has been captured. Chuck Sipple seconded. Motion passes.

THIRD ITEM OF BUSINESS: Review No Parking Signs on 93rd St.

David Ley In August, Public Works installed 'No Parking' signs on westbound 93rd St. It was discussed in the November meeting, but there are still a few residents who have concerns about people parking eastbound for 20 minutes to pick students up. Currently we have 'No Parking' signs on both sides of 93rd for approximately 100 feet of Mission Rd. We have footage of this intersection and see a few people dropping their kids off on 93rd St near Mission Rd. We've heard from a couple of the residents about wanting no parking on both sides of the street/ no pick-up on this section of street. It's unusual because we allow this in other locations adjacent to schools; it's open parking as long as it's not a safety issue. Staff doesn't see this as a safety issue now that there is parking on just one side of the street. Emergency vehicles can still get through. Marsha Monica Do the signs say no parking during certain hours? David Ley There is a specific time frame on there. I believe these say, "No Stopping or Standing". Chuck Sipple Is another issue that there are no sidewalks on 93rd St, so students have to walk on lawns or in the street? David Ley The only other school we have that issue with is Brookwood on 103rd St. The parents pick up on those side streets with no sidewalks with no issues. We'll show a video taken in the area we do allow for parking eastbound. It shows students walking down Mission, turning on 93rd, and most of them will walk in the grass to get into their cars. We haven't had any complaints of people parking illegally (wrong

side of the street, or within that 100 feet of the intersection). The only complaints we've gotten are from a few residents that want no parking on either side of the street. It gets up to about 10-12 cars parked at a time. We do have a few of those cars using driveways to turn around in. What you can't see is a lot of parking on the Prairie Village side as well.

Abbas Haideri wonders if the queueing issues are cleared up, if we'll see a decrease in pick-ups on side streets. David Ley That would be the hope. Abbas Haideri Should we tie this back with the first motion? See if that works and revisit this at that time? Andrew Legler Were people parking on both sides of the street before these 'No Parking' signs were put up? David Ley There was a tear down-rebuild on this street, so we had no parking signs up for a couple years. Late last year, the house was finished so we removed the signs. For a short time, people were parking on both sides of the street and the residents were pretty upset. That's when we had to decide which side of the street to put signs on. People are currently respecting the signs. Unless there is a public safety issue, I don't know that we need to review this again. If we decide to do no parking on both sides of the street, we're going to be hearing it around all schools. We can take new video here to see if the new queueing techniques are making a difference on side streets. Andrew Osman would like new video with a time/date stamp if possible. David Ley We will work with PD to have drone footage and this footage taken on the same day to see the full effect. Julie Cain In the correspondence from the school to families, could it be noted for people to walk on the same side of the street instead of walking on both sides? David Ley We see this quite often, people walking on both sides of the street. Not always from schools, but people out walking their dogs, or out for exercise. People are supposed to be walking to be facing the oncoming vehicles.

Ken Conrad Is there an easement on the south side of the street? David Ley We have 50 feet of Right-of-Way that is City property, the street is 26 feet in width, and the street is centered in the roadway. 12 feet behind the back of the curb is City property. We did look at putting sidewalks in a few years ago, but the issue was having to remove a few trees.

Marsha Monica Are there a lot of residents who want 'No Parking' signs on both sides of the street?

David Ley I've heard from 2. There was a petition signed last year by more residents, but we've only heard from 2 in the past 6 months.

Abbas Haideri makes a motion to recommend to reconvene on this topic at the same time as the previous item, as they are interconnected. Julie Cain seconds. Motion passes.

Meeting is adjourned at 8:34 AM.

Summary report submitted by: Kristen Love, Leawood Public Works Department