



FROM Chief Jim Armstrong
TO: Traffic Commission Members
SUBJECT: March 3, 2023 Traffic Committee Meeting
DATE: March 6, 2023

The March 3, 2023 Meeting Minutes were approved as written.

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Mike Grissom	Police Department
	Jim Armstrong	Police Department
	Mark Wessels	City Council
	John Nilges	Engineering
MEMBERS ABSENT:	Chad Briggs	City Council
	Mark Piontek	City Attorney
VISITORS:	Andrea Lueken	Engineering
	Tony Bonastia	Street Department
	Mark Skornia	Emergency Management
	Darren Lamb	City Administration
	Duane Reed	City Council
	Al Behr	City Council

OLD BUSINESS:

4A 22-10-0019 Portable 25mph signs: The committee discussed the current placement of our portable 25mph speed limit signage. Engineering will move the signs based on existing lists that they have. This item will be removed from the agenda and staff will continue to use the signage as needed. (CLOSED)

4B 23-02-0004 Pedestrians in and around traffic: The committee reviewed and discussed ordinances that other local municipalities have adopted which address pedestrian's presence around traffic and interaction with motorists. At the end of the discussion, the committee did not recommend that any of the model ordinances be sent to council for consideration. The committee noted the following concerns:

- Mark Piontek expressed concerns in reference to whether these ordinances would hold up to legal challenges in court. Since these ordinances are fairly new

concepts, they have not been challenged and litigated. The concern is that they may expose the city to civil liability if they were to be challenged in court.

- Additionally, the Police Department shared additional concerns with Mark Piontek about how these ordinances could practically be enforced. In general, they tend to be a bit ambiguous from an enforcement standpoint, and options would be limited for the courts on the back end.
- These ordinances would also impact other activities that have traditionally been allowed, in addition to some activities that are arguably constitutionally protected such as street collections for charity and lawful protest on shoulders and sidewalks.

The committee's concerns will be sent to City Council in the form of a letter for review at the next council meeting. (CLOSED)

NEW BUSINESS:

5A 23-03-0006 Congestion along 5th Street: The committee discussed congestion in the area of 5th and Cedar along with 5th and Burnside. This item will be left on the agenda for the next meeting for further discussion. Mike Grissom will provide traffic crash data at the next meeting. (OPEN)

5B 23-03-0007 Request for additional speed limit signage on Madison Avenue: This request came from a resident in the area. The committee agreed that additional signage was needed. Street Department will take care of placement. (CLOSED)

5C 23-03-0008 Crosswalks around the old South Point Elementary: The committee discussed crosswalks located at E 5th and Old 100 as well as South Bend Drive near the new baseball fields. The committee agreed to leave the crosswalks in place for the time being since they may be used as part of future expansion of the greenway project. (CLOSED)

5D 23-03-0009 Bus loading sign near Immanuel Lutheran: The committee agreed that the bus loading zone on 6th Street could be removed since it belonged to the old 5th Street Elementary School. Administration from Immanuel Lutheran were consulted and they indicated that they have no use for the loading zone. Engineering will send the ordinance amendment to council to have that item removed, and Street Department will remove the signage. (CLOSED)

The next scheduled meeting will be held on April 7, 2023 at 8:00 am in City Council Chambers.

Respectfully,

Chief Jim Armstrong
Washington Police Department

CC:
Each Member
Sherri Klekamp

