

MEETING MINUTES



City of WEBSTER GROVES POLICE DEPARTMENT

4 E. ELM AVE. | WEBSTER GROVES | MISSOURI | 63119
314.963.5300 | WWW.WEBSTERGROVESMO.GOV

8/15/2022		PM	Gordon Conference Room
Meeting called by	Chris Redford 5:30 PM		
Type of meeting	Police Traffic Advisory Board		
Facilitator	Chris Redford		
Note taker	Erin Klippi		
Timekeeper	Erin Klippi		
Roll Call/Speakers In Attendance	Captain Greg Perks Chris Redford Anne Barenkamp Carrie Falkenrath Robert Fox Clark Hotaling Steve Ruzycki Council Member David Franklin (Zoom)		
Agenda Item 2			
Approve 12/2021 Minutes and 6/2022 Minutes	Motion for 12/2021 approval by: Carrie Falkenrath Second by: Robert Fox Motion for 6/2022 approval by Robert Fox Second by: Anne Barenkamp All in Favor on both accounts		
Discussion	All approved		
Conclusions	Approved		
Action Items	Person Responsible		
Submit to the City for upload to the website	Erin Klippi		

Agenda Item 3

TO VIEW THE FULL TEXT OF ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, AND MINUTES, PLEASE CLICK THEIR TITLES.

Old Business Parking Ordinance Project		
Discussion	<p>Chris Redford presented the results of the July 13th 2022 work session. Information provided from the meeting is attached.</p> <p>Proposed additional elements to existing parking ordinances were presented (attached). No vote was taken as further discussion was needed. Subcommittees addressing Safety, Guidelines and Policy, Parking, and Proactive action by the TAC were proposed. Carrie Falkenrath agreed to address safety issues, and all agreed that safety was the priority in policy and benchmarks and evaluation process need to be in place.</p> <p>Clark Hotaling agreed to address a Statement of Purpose for the TAC.</p> <p>Carrie Falkenrath, Anne Barenkamp, and Clark Hotaling agreed to work with Jamie Hassiemeier from the sustainability committee to address walkability and bike lanes.</p> <p>Issues regarding WGHS parking were tabled until a cohesive process to evaluate the current and proposed parking issues was in place.</p> <p>Carrie Flakenrath and Chris Redmond agreed to work on evaluation guidelines.</p>	
Conclusions		
Action Items	Person Responsible	
None		
Agenda Item 4		
	New Business	
Discussion	<p>The citizen request for a review of the current signage and parking regulations at the intersection of Lockwood and Westboro. Although Captain Perks provided pictures of the current signs, it was unclear what specifically the citizen was requesting. Captain Perks will review with the complainant and the Traffic Sergeant and re-present at the next meeting.</p> <p>Chris Redford will review the letter presented by Ron Zager and present his findings at the next TAC meeting.</p>	
Conclusions	No votes nor recommendations to City Council	
Action Items	Person Responsible	
Captain Perks will review with the complainant and the Traffic Sergeant and re-present at the next meeting.	Captain Perks	
Chris Redford will review the letter presented by Ron Zager and follow up with neighbors	Chris Redford	
Off Agenda		

Discussion	<p>Comments regarding parking in bike lanes from David Franklin</p> <p>Requests for the next agenda listed in action items.</p> <p>Ron Zager asked that a workorder to restripe the crosswalk on Rockhill at the entrance of Southwest Park to comply with the no parking regulations since the entry to Southwest Park has been widened and the crosswalk is no longer in compliance of the 20' ordinance.</p> <p>Ron Zager discussed the offramps for I44 and Elm (west bound). Captain Perks referred Mr. Zager to the MoDOT since they maintain the intersection. Carrie noted that MoDot will be redesigning the intersection within the next two years.</p>		
Conclusions			
Action Items	Person Responsible		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Tom Moore wants to discuss a proposal to re-stripe North Elm between Lockwood and Kirkham – reducing the street from 4 lanes to 2 lanes. 2. TAC Member, Anne Barenkamp, wants to discuss ways we might slow the traffic along South Elm between Lockwood and Big Bend. 			
Adjournment			
Discussion	<p>Motion by Robert Fox</p> <p>Second by Carrie Falkenrath</p>		
Time			
		Person Responsible	

Public Comment was made prior to agenda item 3

Ellen Newman 226 North Elm

Please consider reducing lanes on North Elm from 4 to 2 and to consider creating a median. Both safety issues and aesthetics were cited. Captain Perks advised that a petition of all homes involved would need to be submitted for the issue to be reviewed by the TAC.

Ron Zager 334 Dobbin Road

a letter to the TAC to request the TAC consider a 3 way stop at the intersection of Rock Hill and Dobbin Road (attached)

Meeting Summary
Traffic Advisory Commission – July 13th Working Session

The working session participants were: Clark Hotaling, Steve Ruzycki and Chris Redford.

Draft Statement of Purpose: Develop a set of rules and/or guidelines that can be applied when determining how and where automobile parking may safely and fairly be located. While these parking guidelines may be applied anywhere in Webster Groves, they are most needed where public or private institutions are located adjacent to residential neighborhoods causing localized congestion and threatening public safety.

It was suggested that there are not currently a set of rules regarding parking in Webster Groves. Clark Hotaling offered to investigate with city officials to confirm this.

The group began by reading the three proposals submitted by Carrie Falkenrath, Steve Ruzycki and Chris Redford. It was apparent that these three proposals contained overlapping elements. And, we agreed that rather than basing our work on one proposal, we should instead break out and describe the individual elements of the proposals. Then, at our next TAC Meeting we can choose the ones we want to include in a proposed new ordinance. Additional elements may be suggested by other TAC members.

Here are the elements that have been proposed for consideration:

Safety Related

- Rules Related to Street Width – These rules submitted by Carrie Falkenrath define when a street may have two lanes of parking, one lane of parking, or no on-street parking. They are intended to ensure emergency vehicles and service vehicles may safely pass along the street.
- Rules Related to Public Safety – These rules define how close parked cars may be to other features such as fire hydrants, street corners, driveways and other potential obstructions.

Fairness Related

When public or private institutions (restaurants, parks, schools, employers, etc.) are located near residential areas, commuters and residents often compete for the available on-street parking. In the past, some homeowners have requested and been granted unique parking rules that discourage commuter parking. This practice is counterproductive. It results in underutilized parking and forces Webster Groves citizens to walk long distances to reach their desired destination. The rule described below is intended to encourage sharing of available on-street parking.

- In situations where commuters and residents regularly compete for available on-street parking, Webster Groves citizens may request that a selected street be designated as a “shared parking” street. This will result in the posting of special street signs defining where residents may park and where commuters may park. Normally the split will be approximately 50% homeowners and 50% commuters. But, unique situations may exist where the split could be different.
- In order to further identify which parking locations are for residents and which are for commuters, the individual parking spots may be outlined with paint on the street surface. The two areas will be distinguished by two noticeably different paint colors. The specific locations of these painted outlines must be approved by the City of Webster Groves. The cost of measuring and painting the outlines may be covered by interested Webster Groves citizens.

Parking Signage

- Rules for Parking Signs – The Traffic Advisory Commission will draft a standard set of parking-related signs and will propose a set of guidelines defining where the signs should be located in relation to designated parking areas.
- The purchase, location and installation of signage defining parking areas will be the responsibility of Webster Groves Police Department and Webster Groves Public Works Department.

Changes to Existing Parking Locations

- Once developed, edited, presented to and approved by the Webster Groves City Council, this proposed ordinance will not require the immediate upgrading of all parking in Webster Groves. Rather, the updating or improvement of parking will be completed only after 1) citizens request compliance on a specific city street or location; and 2) the Traffic Advisory Commission has reviewed and approved the requested improvement.

Many thanks to Steve Ruzycki and Clark Hotaling for contributing their time and deep knowledge of Webster Groves.

Chris Redford
July 14, 2022

Ballot for Selection of Elements for a New Parking Ordinance
Traffic Advisory Commission Meeting – August 15th

It has been proposed that a new Parking Ordinance be adopted to improve safety and fairness in areas where parking congestion from business and civic institutions spills over into residential neighborhoods. The Traffic Advisory Commission is considering what proposed elements to include in this new ordinance.

Safety Related

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Other Proposed Parking Ordinance Elements for Consideration

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- _____

- _____

- _____

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Webster Groves Traffic Advisory Commission—8/15/22 Proposal

To place a three-way stop sign at the corner of Rock Hill Road and Dobbin Road

Rationale:

This intersection, like that of Rock Hill and Reavis Place to the north, is just beyond an abrupt turn in Rock Hill (just North of Reavis and just south of Dobbin) and at the beginning of a lane shift due to the striped parking lane along the west side of Rock Hill between Dobbin and Reavis.

Dobbin is also a popular traffic cut-through between Elm at Glendale and Grant Road at Watson, carrying more traffic than does Reavis. It also is at the crest of a hill just to the south, making cars even harder to see as they round the turn heading north toward Dobbin.

Additionally, there are two limited line-of-sight restrictions that would be greatly relieved with the addition of a stop sign at this intersection. Traffic trying to turn from Wilsbire Terrace onto Rock Hill has to pull part-way onto Rock Hill to see traffic coming from the south due to the presence of a large oak tree right on the corner. Slowing the northbound traffic with a stop sign at Dobbin would be immensely helpful. And cars trying to turn onto Rock Hill from Firwood Drive must watch carefully for cars southbound on Rock Hill as they come around the curve and crest the hill.

In summary, while Reavis at Rock Hill has a four-way stop, Dobbin carries more traffic, has a hill just to the south, and has side streets just to the north and just to the south that would get much relief with the placement of stop signs on Rock Hill. Local drivers know to proceed with caution at this junction, but it is only a matter of time before an accident may occur here, especially if a car does not have its lights on in the dark or during inclement weather.

Please take the time to investigate this situation yourself and let me know if you would like a local guide during your visit.

Thank you,

Ron Zager
337 Dobbin Road
Webster Groves, MO 63119-4514
(314) 961-4279