



CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

10/27/2016

Public Safety Committee

October 27, 2016

Minutes

Committee Members: Councilors Sara Giannoni (SG) (chair); Selene Coburn (SC); David Hartnett (DH)

Additional City Staff: Richard Haesler (RH), City Attorney's Office; Lt. Jon Young (JY) BPD; Nicole Losch (NL) DPW; Tom Ayers (TA) City Council

At 5:43 p.m. Chair Giannoni commenced the meeting.

1. **Agenda:** motion to adopt by DH, second by SC – passes.

1. **Approval of minutes of 9/22/16:** Motion to Adopt by DH; Second by SG – passes 2 to 0 w SC abstain/recuse

1. **Public Forum:**
 - Jim Carrier – lives on Plattsburg – looking for traffic counts in his neighborhood; better/more bike lanes
 - Joyce Walshavin – wants road opened for back way out to North Ave from Plattsburg
 - Patrick Therrien – wants traffic study for speed re Ethan Allen Prkwy

1. **Committee Discussion re Traffic safety:**

SG: Last year's Public Safety Tour to all Districts – Traffic Safety came up in every district.

DH: Lined up DPW & BPW to help the public understand how to assess various traffic calming measures.





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TA: What is the science of speed mitigation? What works? What doesn't?

NL: speaks to DPW approaches to traffic calming; Note - DPW will be hiring a new traffic engineer

- Bump-outs, etcetera – list of features to redesign streets – we look for designs that become self-enforcing re safety.
- Example: there are now four Radar Speed Feedback signs – placements? Ethan Allen will be on the list; Staniford also.
- Policy changes – recommending the Vision Zero Plan – eliminating crashes which result in serious injuries – there will be a Vision Zero conference this spring.

DH: How can a neighborhood seek redress for a problem?

NL: Neighborhood petitions – example: for a speed bump or bumpout – need at least 1/3 of the neighborhood – then work to develop the remedy – then goes to neighborhood vote.

SC: What is City initiated versus what is neighborhood initiated? How do those choices get made.

NL: Coity and State designated funds; e.g. City has its own transportation plan – studies trigger City action – the Neighborhood method is to assure that public concerns have a way of being heard.

Example: Mansfield requested 3 way stop signs.

SC: announces that she must leave for another meeting but first has a question for Lt. Young – What is the method for selection of location for the Radar Speed Feedback signs?

JY: We rotate thru hot spots as identified.

SC: Will there be a police response re reserve adjustments based on the results?

JY: We have 2 grants providing what is essentially unlimited overtime for officers to come in and work traffic.

Shareen Hart (citizen/police commissioner): How do I as a citizen call in something that is a regularly occurring traffic



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violation – e.g. running stop sign every morning

JY: Please call it in – we will respond.

(SC departs at 6:15 p.m.)

JY: We want to make the data from our studies public – the public should understand what we are doing; what the data is finding and what we do in response.

SG: Didn't budget call for a new position at DPW?

NL: Yes. Applications are in – we are looking to select and have the new person start this winter.

William McGrath (citizen): Sidewalk installations versus repairs – how is the choice made?

NL: We are relying on Grant funding for new sidewalks – the budget prioritizes repair work – the new capital projects budget may create a placeholder for more new sidewalks.

William McGath: Need Cottage Grove to Gray Meadow now that the street has been opened – safety problem with all the new thru traffic.

NL: Rapid Flashing Beacons at crosswalks are well liked – trying to budget for more.

William McGrath: Why were they placed at Pine instead of North Avenue?

NL: responding to change in the job marketplace – DEALER expanded their campus and leased lots behind BED – safety problem with workers crossing Pine Street.

DH – the business district expanded and there was a need.



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NL: Round-about considerations are still in play.

DH – Please approach me personally with North end concerns.

TA – me as well

NL – there are 5 miles of new sidewalk needs – the priority now though remains Repair.

DH – if ever a sidewalk was needed though, it's Cottage Grove.

TA – Traffic calming petitions are on the DPW website.

1. **Other Business**

Next meeting – Tentative – 12/6 @ 5:30 – Room 12 if possible.

1. **Adjournment**

DH Motion. SG seconds. Passes.

Meeting adjourned at 6:57 pm.

