

Safety Commission MEETING MINUTES



July 10, 2024 - 6:00 PM
Conference Room A/B
3805 S. Casper Drive

Please note: Minutes are unofficial until approved at the next scheduled meeting.

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 PM, by Caleb Manske.

2. ROLL CALL; DECLARATION OF QUORUM; PUBLIC NOTICE

Present: Caleb Manske (Chair), Charlotte Kroupa (Alderwoman), Lucas Pichler (DPW), Tammy Simonson (Engineering), Justin Schulpus (NBFD), Matt Newman (SDNB), Mary English, Anne-Marie St. John, Dave Rocklewitz (NBPD)

Absent: Mitchell Lataille

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. June 12, 2024 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Motion to Approve

VOTE: Motion by: Alderperson Kroupa
Second by: Board Member English
Motion Passed 9-0

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. **24-10:** A resident has requested the addition of a stop bar and centerline pavement markings at the intersection of Mill Creek Trail and Barton Road.

Greg Alley spoke about the request for a stop bar and centerline pavement markings at the intersection of Mill Creek Trail and Barton Road. Alley advised that the intersection was dangerous for multiple reasons including: 1) Mill Creek Trail was used as a "cut through" for vehicles to travel to Racine Avenue, 2) vehicles traveling eastbound on Barton Road that turn onto Mill Creek Trail frequently cut the corner and turn into the oncoming lane of traffic of Mill Creek Trail, 3) because of the proximity of the hill on Barton Road, in relation to Mill Creek Trail, vehicles traveling westbound on Barton Road that turn onto Mill Creek Trail cut across the roadway into the oncoming lane of traffic of Mill Creek Trail, and 4) because of trees to the west of the intersection of Mill Creek Trail and Barton Road, drivers turning onto Barton Road from Mill Creek Trail have an obstructed of oncoming traffic.

Tammy Simonson presented a map of the intersection of Mill Creek Trail and Barton Road. Simonson further added that although the vision corners at the intersection of Mill Creek Trail and Barton Road were clear, drivers that must stop at the stop sign at the intersection still needed to slowly creep up to Barton Road, specifically because of the location of the stop sign, as well as the visibility issues caused by the trees to the west of the intersection. Lucas Pichler inquired if the trees that were creating the visibility issues were within the City's right-of way, as the Streets Department could clear some of the trees to improve visibility. Mary English asked about the requirements for adding yellow centerline

markings. Pichler advised that a stop bar could easily be added, but the primary issue with adding a centerline would be the City lacking the necessary equipment to paint the centerline, as well as ongoing maintenance of the painted centerline. Matt Newman asked about the location of a stop bar (at the stop sign or closer to Barton Road), if it was decided it would be added, or if the stop sign would be moved closer to Barton Road. Caleb Manske and Simonson both expressed their concerns with moving the location of the stop sign. Pichler again added that he would be more in favor of adding a stop bar, and not adding yellow centerline markings. There was no additional discussion regarding this request.

MOTION: Motion to take the following action:

1. Have the City analyze the location of the stop sign, to determine if it was placed at an appropriate location
2. Have the Streets Department trim trees within the City's right-of way to improve visibility
3. Have the Streets Department paint a stop bar at the stop sign on Mill Creek Trail, at the intersection of Barton Road

VOTE: Motion by: Assistant City Engineer Pichler
Second by: Alderperson Kroupa
Motion Passed 9-0

- Citizens providing comments on this issue:
- Greg Alley, 20650 W. Mill Creek Trail

B. 24-11: A resident has requested the installation of speed humps on Linfield Drive, near Weatherstone Park, additional roadway signage for Weatherstone Park, and a pedestrian crossing on Linfield Drive at the entrance to Weatherstone Park

Tammy Simonson presented an overview of the request. Lucas Pichler advised the primary pedestrian entrance to Weatherstone Park was on Linfield Drive, between Wilshire Drive and Avon Drive. Simonson also noted that there was a four-way stop sign at the intersection of Linfield Drive and Wilshire Drive, and that the intersection of Avon Drive and Linfield Drive was a T-intersection. Simonson further added that although there was a four-way stop sign at the intersection of Linfield Drive and Wilshire Drive, the park was obstructed by trees/brush and there was no signage near that intersection to alert drivers of the presence of the park. Mary English advised she was very familiar with the area of Weatherstone Park and did not believe there was significant problem with pedestrian traffic being impacted by vehicular traffic. Charlotte Kroupa asked if speeding was an issue in this area. English again added that she was very familiar with the area of Weatherstone Park and she did not believe speeding was an issue. Simonson also added that based on the location of the four-way stop sign at the intersection of Linfield Drive and Wilshire Drive, a traffic study would almost definitely not produce the necessary data to even consider further consideration of the installation of speed humps on Linfield Drive. Justin Schulpus asked if adding pedestrian signage would be appropriate. Simonson indicated that if signage was added, two "Park Ahead" signs would be most appropriate. Charlotte Kroupa asked if the trees/brush near the intersection Linfield Drive and Wilshire Drive could be trimmed to improve visibility. Pichler advised that the Streets Department could trim the trees/brush, but also noted that some of the trees/brush had been recently cleared. Matt Newman advised that he recommended adding the "Park Ahead" signs. Pichler spoke about the request for a pedestrian crossing on Linfield Drive at the entrance to Weatherstone Park, noting that mid-block crossings were generally discouraged, partially because they created a false sense of security for pedestrians. Simonson also added that even if a pedestrian crossing was added, it would most likely not be utilized by most pedestrians. There was no additional discussion regarding this request.

MOTION: Motion to take the following actions:

1. Refrain from pursuing further consideration for the installation of speed humps
2. Refrain from installing a mid-block pedestrian crossing
3. Have the Streets Department trim trees/brush near the intersection of Linfield Drive and Wilshire Drive to improve visibility
4. Because of the tree/brush removal, refrain from installing "Park Ahead" signs on Linfield Drive

VOTE: Motion by: Alderperson Kroupa
Second by: Assistant City Engineer Pichler
Motion Passed 9-0

5. OLD BUSINESS

- A. None

6. TABLED ITEMS

- A. **23-18:** A resident has expressed concerns about speeding vehicles on Church Drive. The resident has requested consideration for the installation of speed humps. **(Tabled for traffic study)**

MOTION: Motion to Take item from table

VOTE: Motion by: Alderperson Kroupa
Second by: Staff Designee Rocklewitz
Motion Passed 9-0

Tammy Simonson provided an overview of the complaint, as well as speed study data for Church Drive. Lucas Pichler provided a synopsis of the speed study data, which was collected between 06/17/24 – 06/24/24. The speed study data showed the average speed in the 4100 block of Church Drive was 30 mph, the 85th percentile speed was 35 mph, and the percentage of enforceable violations (35 mph or greater) was 13 percent. The speed study data showed the average speed in the 4300 block of Church Drive was 27 mph, the 85th percentile speed was 31 mph, and the percentage of enforceable violations (35 mph or greater) was four percent.

Simonson explained that the next steps for consideration of speed hump installation, which would be requiring the district's Alderperson to petition the residents in the area and obtain approval from at least 50% of the affected residents before installing temporary speed humps. Kroupa advised that she was the Alderperson of the district affected. Pichler noted that if speeds humps were installed on Church Drive, additional traffic issues could be created on Pleasant Drive and/or Mayflower Drive. Simonson and others agreed that the addition of speeds humps on Church Drive would potentially create additional traffic issues, therefore, it would probably be appropriate for the Alderperson to consider speaking with the residents on Pleasant Drive and Mayflower Drive. Kroupa inquired about other possibilities for speed reduction, to include police department enforcement. Dave Rocklewitz advised the police department had monitored Church Drive for traffic violations over the years; however, the enforcement efforts were only temporary, therefore, the police department would be a non be a sustainable long-term solution. Justin Schulpus asked if a sign to alert drivers of their speeds could be installed. Lucas Pichler advised that the police department had a few Speed Sentry signs, which were used to alert drivers of their speeds; however, he also advised that those signs were not permanent installations due to the cost and requests for them to be installed at other locations. Schulpus asked if another speed study would be appropriate, particularly because some time had passed since the major road construction had ended. The idea of conducting a second speed study was considered, but there was additional feedback that it was probably worth seeking out area residents' feedback about the consideration of installing temporary speed humps

MOTION: Motion for the district Alderperson to conduct a poll of the residents that would be impacted by the installation speeds humps to determine if the majority would support proceeding with the speed hump installation request

VOTE: Motion by: Alderperson Kroupa
Second by: Board Member English
Motion Passed 9-0

- B. **23-19:** A resident from 1725 S. Elm Grove Road has requested signs be added in the area to attempt to limit traffic and/or alert drivers of an at-risk child in the area. **(Tabled for information gathering)**

Item not discussed

- C. **24-5:** Alderman La Fever (via a resident) has requested the installation of stop signs at the intersection of Riviera Drive and El Dorado Drive. **(Tabled for traffic study)**

Item not discussed

- D. **24-8:** A resident has requested an evaluation of 149th Street, between Cleveland Avenue and Janice Place, to determine if the installation of speed humps is warranted.
(Tabled for traffic study)

Item not discussed

7. SET MEETING DATE

- A. Wednesday, August 14th, 2024

8. ADJOURN

MOTION: Motion to Adjourn at 7:22 PM

VOTE: Motion by: NBSD Representative Newman
Second by: Alderperson Kroupa
Motion Passed 9-0

Captain Dave Rocklewitz, Safety Commission Secretary