

TRAFFIC COMMISSION MINUTES
NEW CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
May 27, 2015 – 4:00 P.M.

I. Meeting called to order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers (212 SW 9th St.) by Barry Ezerski, Traffic Commission Chairman. The meeting notice and agenda were posted on the City Hall (212 SW 9th St.) bulletin board as required by State law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Carl Dentler, Barry Ezerski, David Means and Randy Somerlott

ALSO PRESENT: Sagar Medisetty, Traffic Engineer, Councilmember Cherry Phillips and Cindy Porter, Traffic Commission Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT: Johnny Owens, SGT Nicolas Jenkins and Lt. Brad Davis, LPD

II. Approval of minutes from previous meeting (March 19, 2015) MOVED BY: Means;

SECOND BY: Somerlott to accept the minutes as written.

AYE: Dentler, Ezerski, Means and Somerlott; **NAY:** None

III. Consent Item(s)

- 1) Consider a request **(15-06)** from Kevin Stelmashuk, 2407 SW Oxford Drive, to install 'Dead End' signs on eastbound SW Cambridge Drive near SW Oxford Drive and on eastbound SW Greenwich Drive near SW Oxford Drive;

MOVED BY: Dentler; **SECOND BY:** Somerlott to accept staff recommendation to install 'Dead End' signs on eastbound SW Cambridge Drive near SW Oxford Drive and on eastbound SW Greenwich Drive near SW Oxford Drive.

AYE: Dentler, Ezerski, Means and Somerlott; **NAY:** None

IV. Old Business

None

V. New Business

- 2) Consider a request **(15-07)** from Councilmember Cherry Phillips, 6931 NW Eisenhower Drive to improve the traffic safety on NW Cache Road between NW 67th Street and NW 82nd Street by lowering the speed limit from 40 mph to 35 mph;

Traffic Engineer Sagar Medisetty explained that NW Cache Rd is a 4-lane roadway between NW 67th St and NW 82nd St with no turn lane. Traffic safety problems are observed in this 1-mile section of Cache Rd. This issue has been discussed at the Traffic Commission meetings several times. The past 5 years crash reports indicate that there are a considerable number of accidents on Cache Rd. The traffic on NW Cache Rd has been growing steadily probably due to new development on the west side of Lawton. The 2011 ODOT traffic counts on NW Cache Rd showed 15,350 vehicles per day between NW 67th St and NW Hunter Rd. The traffic counts that the City collected on Cache Rd near Hunter Rd in the year 2013 showed that the daily traffic had increased

to about 18,000 vehicles per day. The capacity of NW Cache Rd is 22,000 vehicles per day. Currently, the City is looking at other options to improve the flow of traffic on Cache Rd. An option being considered is to possibly add a center turn lane by widening on the south side (similar to the ongoing Ft Sill Blvd project). In the meantime, it is recommended that the speed limit be reduced from 40 mph to 35 mph to address the safety concerns.

Ezerski stated that the committee has previously asked Council to look at future CIPs to make that section of NW Cache Road into 5 lanes.

Medisetty stated that the issue was discussed by the commission in 2013. At this time staff is looking at other options for improvements, for example widening NW Cache Road on the south side and adding a left turn lane. This could be done in a similar manner as Fort Sill Boulevard is currently being reconstructed and widened. About 1/3rd of the accidents currently occurring on this section of NW Cache Road could probably be reduced by adding a center turn lane.

Means asked about the outcome of the previous discussions about putting a traffic light at the intersection of NW Cache and Hunter Avenue.

Medisetty stated that a study done in 2013 determined that lights were not warranted at that intersection, at that time. Perhaps as traffic increases it may be warranted in the future.

Ezerski stated that it may be warranted now.

Means stated that a fifth lane would be a good idea.

Ezerski agreed that a fifth lane is the smartest idea and asked how much a traffic light cost would.

Medisetty answered that the cost is approximately \$150,000 to \$175,000.

MOVED BY: Means; **SECOND BY:** Dentler to accept staff recommendation to improve the traffic safety on NW Cache Road between NW 67th Street and NW 82nd Street by lowering the speed limit from 40 mph to 35 mph.

AYE: Dentler, Ezerski, Means and Somerlott; **NAY:** None

VI. Audience Participation

VII. Adjournment

4:09 p.m.

The City of Lawton encourages participation from all of its citizens. If participation at any public meeting is not possible due to a disability, please notify the City Clerk at (580) 581-3305 at least 48 hours prior to the schedule meeting to make the necessary accommodations. The City may waive the 48 hour rule if signing interpreters for the deaf are not necessary.