Traffic Commission

Meeting Minutes

November 9, 2023 @ 6:00pm

602 S. Main St, Joplin, MO 64801, 5th Floor Council Study

Roll Call:

- Members Present: John Bowling, Cassandra Maxfield, Shawn Hull, Richard Schurman, Melissa Zolnierz
- City Staff Present: Dakota Rusk, Civil Engineer; Sergeant Delzell, Traffic Sergeant; Michael Chase, Administrative Assistant

Approval of Minutes:

- Approval of the Minutes of the September 14, 2023 meeting.

Discussion Topics:

- Meeting Frequency
  - The bylaws say that there should be a minimum of once every two months.
  - Stay with a meeting every two months with the option to call a special meeting based upon need.
- West 26th Street
  - Between Jackson Ave and Maiden Lane, problems with speeding and with turning out onto 26th Street.
  - The road is designed to carry more traffic that there is and could possibly be better served by being reduced.
  - During the active transportation study, this street was identified as a candidate for a road diet.
  - There is currently not a timeline for a road diet project.
  - The next Capital Improvement Program is planned to have more maintenance programs and this could enable the city to pursue more maintenance/sidewalk type grants.
  - The number of wrecks on 26th Street is relatively low for an arterial road.
  - Issues with the signals at Joplin and Wall. There have been some improvements to these signals and the signals on 20th Street at Joplin and Wall.
  - With the proximity to the Dental and Medical School to 26th Street it would be a good candidate for bicycle related improvements.
- Capital Improvement Projects
  - The program project list should be finalized soon.
  - This program should include more maintenance type projects and less large road widening projects.
- Crosswalks
  - There was a presentation at a Third Thursday about crosswalks through Missourians for Responsible Transportation.
  - This included a mock mid-block crosswalk and other displays.
  - In Missouri, there are 4 lending libraries that include materials that can be used for the traffic calming displays.

- Using these libraries, temporary traffic calming can be set up to have a "trial" project that would not require large expenditures.
- Temporary traffic calming could also be deployed in neighborhoods for a period of time to help reduce issues and then could be removed after a set amount of time.

- Crosswalks
  - There are multiple places around town where the crosswalks are faded especially at signals.
  - The main reason is that the sign shop is still not at full staff. There have also been an increase in other projects that has came up that has pulled them off normal projects.
  - The crosswalks are usually thermoplastic which takes longer to apply but lasts longer than paint.
- Project updates
  - Zora Project – Looking to bid the project possibly in Spring at least for the first phase which is the roundabout.
  - Connecticut Ave at 32nd Street – Construction has just started and some tree clearing has been done. The project is being done in phases and should be open to through traffic for the majority of the project.
  - 32nd Street west of Shifferdecker – The final lift of asphalt is to be placed soon and then striping to follow.

7-10-2024

Traffic Commission Chair

Dakota Rusk, Traffic Engineer