



Citizens Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes March 26, 2024

A regular meeting of the Royal Oak Citizens Traffic Committee was held on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, in the commission chambers at City Hall, 203 S. Troy Street, Royal Oak.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Godek at 6:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call:

Present

Dan Godek, Chairperson
Carl Laubach, Vice Chairperson
Thomas Allen
Sean Dunlop
Samantha Grant
Joe Labataille
Austin Schneider
Clyde Esbri, Alternate

Also Present

Holly J. Donoghue, City Engineer
Amy Kelly, Municipal Clerk III
Jacob Theisen, Police Dept

3. Approval of Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2024

Moved by: Thomas Allen

Supported by: Carl Laubach

Motion adopted unanimously

4. Public Comment

Chairperson Godek opened the floor to public comment. No one came forward.

5. Rescheduled Items/Old Business

5.A Results of January Traffic Committee Recommendations to city commission

Staff brought the January 23, 2024 Citizens Traffic Committee recommendations to the February 12, 2024 commission meeting. The city commission approved all items as recommended by the traffic committee.

6. Agenda Items

6.A Request to install flashing school signs for Addams Elementary

The Royal Oak School District requested the installation of electronic school zone signage on Webster Avenue adjacent to Addams Elementary. They have noticed unsafe driving during student drop-off and dismissal.

The findings of the Staff Traffic Committee were presented by Holly Donoghue, P.E.

Chairperson Godek opened the floor to those interested in speaking on this issue:

- Graham Walker of 2503 Woodland – stated the sign would be an additional sign on the side of his house (existing yellow cross walk sign), however he was ok with it and in addition to the extra sign he recommends no parking between Woodland and Linwood because the parked cars are obstructing sight distance for pedestrians crossing there.
- Tim Boyers, Principle of Addams Elementary School – stated that there are many pick-up and drop-off challenges, he agree the parked cars are a safety hazard. Crossing guards have told him cars are running the traffic light. He is in favor of the signs.

Chairperson Godek closed public comment.

- Chairperson Godek noted that the parking could be looked at, but should be discussed separately from this issue.
- Ms. Donoghue noted that parking on Webster between Woodland and Linwood was recently studied, and that we typically require one year before studying a location again. The resident should submit his request using the traffic committee request form online.

The Traffic Committee recommends adopting the staff recommendation to install two (2) solar-powered sign assemblies on Webster Road near Addams Elementary which include “Speed Limit 25 MPH” R-21 signs, “School” S4-P plaques, and programmed to flash during school arrival and dismissal periods.

Estimated cost: \$11,000

Moved by: Carl Laubach

Supported by: Thomas Allen

Motion adopted unanimously

6.B Request to improve site distance on Forestdale Road near Woodward Avenue

A request was received from Lauren Ayles of 805 Forestdale Road requesting that some on-street parking spaces be removed from the north side of Forestdale Road near Woodward. She notes that these vehicles block the sight line of oncoming traffic in both directions due to the road curvature. She also notes that it is difficult to turn onto Woodward Avenue from Forestdale Road due to business parking in the Woodward right-of-way south of Forestdale Road.

The findings of the Staff Traffic Committee were presented by Holly Donoghue, P.E.

Chairperson Godek opened the floor to those interested in speaking on this issue:

- Lauren Ayles of 805 Forestdale – stated she agrees with the changes. She noted that several large white vans park in 3 to 5 spots on the street closest to Woodward, and their height makes it harder to see vehicles. She also noted that cars turning from Woodward often turn into middle of road because they know they curve is coming up, which can cause a traffic conflict.

Chairperson Godek closed public comment.

The Traffic Committee recommends adopting the staff recommendation to relocate the existing “no parking beyond” sign on the west side of Forestdale Road just north of Woodward Avenue to be an additional 20 feet further to the north.

Estimated cost: \$300

Moved by: Joe Labataille

Supported by: Thomas Allen

Motion adopted unanimously

7. Information Only Items

Ms. Donoghue noted that the next scheduled meeting is the day after memorial day and wanted to confirm that there would not be several members absent. The committee agreed to keep the meeting as scheduled on May 28, 2024.

Samantha Grant noted that this will be her last Traffic Committee meeting as she has accepted an engineer position with the city.

8. Adjourn

Upon the motion of Thomas Allen, seconded by Sean Dunlop, and adopted unanimously, the regular meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.
