

Arkansas City Traffic Safety Committee
4/10/20 Minutes

A regular meeting was held Friday, April 10, 2020, via GoToMeeting due to a pandemic. The meeting was called to order at **10 a.m.**

Roll Call: **CITY STAFF MEMBERS**

City Manager	Nick Hernandez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fire-EMS Department	Bobby Wolfe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Management Assistant	Mike Crandall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police Department	Dan Ward	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Principal Planner	Josh White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Public Information Officer	Andrew Lawson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Public Services Department	Tony Tapia	<input type="checkbox"/>

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

City Commission	Karen Welch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chamber of Commerce	Mark Chickadonz	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cowley College	Matt Stone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Equal Opportunity Board	Frances "Rags" Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Planning Commission	Andy Paton	<input type="checkbox"/>
School Board / Chamber	Jon Oak	<input type="checkbox"/>
USD 470 Public Schools	Jeri Crumbliss	<input type="checkbox"/>

*Others participating via GoToMeeting included **Ken Harader** and Principal **Lisa Holland** (Ark City Christian Academy).*

1. Approve January Meeting Minutes:

Bobby made a motion to approve the minutes of the **January 10, 2020**, regular meeting. Dan seconded the motion, which was approved **9-0** on a voice vote.

2. Traffic Safety Committee Purpose and Duties:

Andrew briefly mentioned the resolution and bylaws establishing the Committee. Rags, our new member, had no questions.

3. ACPD Traffic Safety Report:

Dan said there were 42 non-injury accidents in the first quarter of 2020, compared to 46 in 2019. Crash numbers began to drop off significantly in late March after the "stay at home" order took effect. It will be interesting to see the April numbers.

Injury accidents were about the same year over year, with seven in the first quarter of 2020 and eight in the winter of 2019.

Dan noted that the "hot spot" is migrating south from its usual location on North Summit Street, between Kansas Avenue and Radio Lane, to an area centered more on the intersection of Madison Avenue and South Summit Street, south of downtown.

He also said there was a "cooling down" in the North Summit hot spot even before the COVID-19 pandemic, which indicates increased education and enforcement may have been starting to have an effect, but the crash numbers just shifted to the south.

Dan said to take the predictive analysis with a grain of salt, due to the pandemic impact, but it continues to project a hot spot to the south in the area of Madison and Summit, with a secondary area of interest just southwest of Kansas and Summit.

4. C Street Canal Bridge Guardrails:

Nick said the item was postponed in January to obtain a second bid, because staff thought the Wells Construction bid (around **\$30,000**) was too high. A second bid from Waller Construction, of Ponca City, Oklahoma, came in at around **\$17,000**. He said that it will be taken before the City Commission on an agenda in **April** or **May**, with work projected during the summer.

5. Cost Share (Round 2) and North Summit Street:

Andrew said the application deadline for Round 2 of the KDOT Cost Share Program was delayed from **April 15** to **May 18**, but the City still needs to decide if it wants to pursue funding. There is more money available in Round 2 than we expected.

During a previous City Commission study session, the commissioners had indicated interest in pursuing a simple mill-and-overlay resurfacing project on North Summit Street, from Kansas Avenue to Radio Lane, with no widening or sidewalks.

Nick said he thinks it will be too difficult to put a good project application together in the time frame allowed, especially considering most City employees are still working from home and many offices are closed. Smith & Oakes is too busy, too.

6. Radio Lane School Zone:

Andrew said the Traffic Safety Committee's recommendations from October, in response to former Commissioner Jim Sybrant's requests, were on a City Commission agenda, but were tabled. As a result, this particular item did not advance.

The Committee decided to wait until July to finalize this change between school years. Nick has said flashing stop signs can be added at the intersection of 8th Street and Radio Lane. The crosswalk dead-ends around 10th or 11th Streets, and this needs to be addressed, according to Nick. The City also needs to look at the crossing area between the baseball fields and ACHS.

7. Skyline and Eighth Street Parking:

Nick said one parking lot under construction to the east of Creekstone will be for box trucks and shipping traffic, and a second gravel lot to the west will be for the cattle trucks. Both lots should be completed by the time of our next meeting in **July**. Some signage has been placed on Eighth Street, but staff recommends holding off on Goff Road until we see how the lots work out.

8. West Taylor Avenue Improvements:

Mike said Tony's crews have trimmed the trees to the north, but the "slow for pedestrians" sign and lowered speed limit of **15 mph** have not been posted yet. Mike said he will check. Nick said the City Commission has to change the speed limit.

Andrew asked if the gate had been moved on the Veterans Lake trail. Nick said new bollards were placed to prevent vehicles.

Nick said the Veterans Lake trail also could use a new overlay, if there are funds left over from the Hike-Bike Trail Phase 2.

9. Other Miscellaneous Items:

Mike gave an overview of street sign replacements by the Public Services Department in the first quarter of 2020.

A total of 70 signs were repaired or replaced by the Street and Stormwater Division during this time frame, including a couple of stop signs, six new "no parking" signs on Eighth Street from Goff to Skyline roads and new "pick up after your dog" signs on the Poplar Walking Trail. Graffiti was removed by City crews from a Hike-Bike Trail sign, as well.

Andrew said Phase 1 of the Pathways grant is winding down. He is still working on the application for RISE Cowley funds for a transportation master plan process in 2020-21. This will need to be finished in the next month or the money will be gone. He also received lighting quotes for the Poplar Walking Trail and is working on that RISE Cowley grant application.

RISE Cowley has applied for Phase 2 of Pathways and will hear on that by July. If awarded, this second grant cycle could yield up to an additional **\$400,000** total for Cowley County, including **\$100,000** for community policy and planning work.

Andrew said the vast majority of the comments received back from citizens on their Capital Improvement Plan project forms concerned street repairs, even more than in previous years. He takes this as a sign that we have addressed many other issues.

He relayed an Equal Opportunity Board member complaint that the new sidewalks on Kansas Avenue have no ADA ramps.

Nick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Bobby seconded the motion to adjourn. The motion was approved **9-0** on a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at **10:52 a.m.** The next meeting of the Traffic Safety Committee will be at **10 a.m. Friday, July 10, 2020.**