

Arkansas City Traffic Safety Committee
7/12/19 Minutes

A regular meeting was held Friday, July 12, 2019, in the City Manager's Office at City Hall. 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"/>
Police Department	Dan Ward	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Principal Planner	Josh White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Public Information	Andrew Lawson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Public Works Dept.	Mike Crandall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

City Commission	Karen Welch	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chamber of Commerce	Paisley Howerton	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cowley College	Matt Stone	<input type="checkbox"/>
Planning Commission	Dr. Scott Rogers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
School Board / Chamber	Jon Oak	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
USD 470 Public Schools	Jeri Crumbliss	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. Approve April Meeting Minutes:

Bobby moved to approve the minutes of the **April 12, 2019**, meeting. Mike seconded the motion, which was approved **8-0**.

Jeri Crumbliss joined the meeting in progress a few minutes late. Other USD 470 representatives attending were Amy Pinion (Frances Willard), Braden Smith (ACMS) and Jeremy Truelove (ACHS). Also present were Adam Butler and Ken Harader.

2. ACCA and Sacred Heart School:

Andrew said the ACCA principal had a death in the family and could not attend, but he introduced Sacred Heart Catholic School principal Adam Butler, who said he would like to have a crosswalk painted directly west of the school on B Street.

Nick said the crosswalk would have to be somewhat diagonal in nature and emphasized the importance of crossing guards.

Nick made a motion to paint the crosswalk as requested. It was seconded by Bobby and approved **9-0** on a voice vote.

3. Chestnut and Crestwood Bridge Updates:

Mike said the Crestwood Drive bridge was completed **May 16** and it is wider than the preceding bridge. It opened in perfect time, he said, considering the closure of the East Chestnut Avenue bridge due to flood damage, causing detours to the south.

Chief Ward passed out copies of a memo detailing the findings of a speed monitoring sign on Crestwood Drive. ACPD found there is not a significant speeding problem and most speeds are closer to 20 mph than 30 mph. He had no recommendations.

Scott moved to table this issue until the Chestnut bridge reopens. It was seconded by Jeri and approved **9-0** on a voice vote.

Nick said he has communicated with the county and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers concerning the Chestnut bridge.

4. Frances Willard Elementary School:

Andrew said Matt looked into this further since the last meeting and determined that there is no school zone on Chestnut Avenue. It's just on Fourth Street. That is why the Chestnut signals were removed. Dan said there have been no issues there.

5. Roosevelt's Request for Crosswalk at C Street and Chestnut Avenue:

Mike presented a couple of options for moving the 20-mph sign further west. Dan said he just wants it behind the school zone sign, closer to the intersection of A Street and Chestnut Avenue. Jeri said the crosswalk has been requested for several years.

Nick said the City will need to check on signage in the area, as well as the quality of the intersection's ADA sidewalk ramps.

Jeri made a motion to paint a crosswalk at C Street and Chestnut Avenue. Scott seconded the motion, which was approved **9-0** on a voice vote. Mike said the City starts repainting crosswalks in the first week of August and this will be added to the list.

Jeri raised an issue with the location of the 35-mph speed limit sign for eastbound traffic on East Kansas Avenue, in front of Arkansas City Middle School. Andrew suggested moving it east of the D Street intersection to prevent premature speeding.

6. Kansas Avenue and Summit Street Road Diets:

Nick said there is no new information or plans right now. The three-lane option is still on the books in the future CIP plans.

7. Other Miscellaneous Items:

Dan said ACPD issued 138 citations during the Memorial Day “Click It or Ticket” campaign. Seat belts are still a big issue.

He has found no accidents whatsoever at any of the intersections where stop signs have been added. There only has been one accident at Chestnut Avenue and Summit Street since the light cycles were changed, but it was someone running a red light.

Dan handed out a six-month review of traffic accidents. There has been a 15-percent reduction in injury accidents and 3-percent reduction non-injury accidents since last year. Thursday is beginning to displace Friday as a higher-crash day.

Due to several recent hot spots on First Street, he wants to look at parking options there to reduce side swipes and rear-enders.

The Arkansas City Police Department has won a Traffic Safety Platinum Award from AAA for the second consecutive year.

To deal with the ongoing issues with semi-truck traffic avoiding the bypass it should be using (except for local deliveries),

Dan is conducting a media awareness campaign in August that will be followed by heightened enforcement in September.

Nick said he and Cowley First have been trying hard for years to bring a truck stop to Arkansas City, which would help with keeping semis out of the core areas of town. Up to this point, however, it apparently has not been economically feasible.

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

The meeting was adjourned at **10:55 a.m.** The next meeting of the Traffic Safety Committee will be at **10 a.m. Friday, Oct. 11, 2019.**