

Summary of the Transportation Committee Meeting March 7, 2005 – 2:00 PM

Members Present: Mayor Wood; Lori Henry – Councilmember; Rick Chaffin – City Administrator; Steve Acenbrak – Director of Transportation; Angelia Parham—Deputy Director of Transportation; Ron Adderley-Construction and Maintenance Division Manager; Larry Crowe – Traffic Engineering Manager; Don Martin – Program Manager; and Marlee Press – Executive Assistant to Council. Chair, Councilman Terry Joyner was not present.

Mimosa Boulevard

- Larry said they took a look at it and surveyed it.
- Steve said Councilwoman Henry asked him to take a look at the parking on Mimosa Blvd.
- Lori said there is all this parallel parking along the street but all of the signs say “No Parking Except for Sunday” which she thinks is absurd, especially since we need the parking for the square. People ignore the signs anyhow.
- Lori had asked if they can take down the “No Parking Except Sunday” signs because everyone parks there anyhow. Either that or we enforce the no parking. Steve said there are some site distance and safety issues. Lori said Transportation started looking at it.
- Steve said there are 136 parallel parking. It was paved in 1997. There used to be some parallel lines along there but they got repaved over so they put the parallel parking signs up there but there were some private properties down there and that is why the No Parking except Sunday signs went up.
- Steve said the real issue is coming out of these side streets, the parallel parking presents a site distance problem. There are also mailboxes on the street. Mail will not be delivered if the car is blocking the mailbox so in order to not have that problem, they looking at doing three things: 1) it is safe; 2) simple and 3) consistent. Right now we don’t have any of that. They looked at what spaces must be crosshatched because they will block a mailbox.
- They are taking 14 No parking except for Sunday signs down but they are putting up approximately No Parking signs. Mayor wanted to know if they could just write it in the street. Larry said the problem with writing it on the street is if a car parks on top of it you can’t see it.
- Mayor said to just hatch them and put no parking on the street. Maybe a few signs but not for each space. He doesn’t want all those signs and either does Lori. Steve said it is only so the police’s tickets can be enforceable. Mayor said to try to mark the street and if you ticket these half of them will pay without contesting it.
- Mayor said before we do this, if we are going to do this, does this require Council action. Rick asked if there are any political things with the church because of the No Parking except Sundays.
- Mayor said we need to send out a flyer to let people know what they are doing. They need to have a hearing before they do that. Some of these people who have mailboxes, they probably park in front of it when the mail is not there. We need to let the people know they either have the option of a parking space or your mailbox but you are not going to have them both. The rule is either going to be in place or not. You may rather have the parking space. He wants to have a public hearing on this.
- Mayor said you need to get committee approval. You communicate every property owner and tell them what the plan is and tell them what we are going to do. Tell them when the meeting is or they can e-mail with their response. Mayor said we will see what the responses are. Mayor supports what they are doing. It is a good approach. He wants to make sure they go through the process. The process is approved by committee, notice to the property owners. Then it comes back to Council after it has gone out, with the comments we have gotten and give recommendation from the committee and Council will approve it or not approve it.
- Lori wants to review the letter before it goes out.
- Steve asked if Mayor would like them to coordinate with CD. Mayor said yes. Mayor said this is a short term thing and it needs to be done. Mayor said they need to make it clear to Council that whatever we do on Mimosa is not going to increase vehicular traffic and this is consistent with not increasing vehicular traffic.

- Steve said it will improve safety. It makes our message consistent and it allows for the mail to be delivered.
- Mayor said the people with the mailboxes need to know they can have a mailbox or you can have on-street parking but you can't have both. Lori said or they can relocate their mailboxes next to their driveway. Steve said there are spaces in front of mailboxes. If there is a car in front of the mailbox, the mail carrier bypasses them.
- Lori said basically what happens now and there are no parking signs, this is used as private parking for the businesses so nobody enforces it. They know not to park in front of their mailbox at around 2:00 when the mailman comes. Steve said but other people don't know that.
- Steve said they will advertise it in the paper. Steve said they will come back next to get committee's approval.

Norcross Street

- This is the highest rate street for paving. They have looked at improving the drainage at the area of the bridge on this project and they are going to move forward with that. There are a lot of driveways along this area that have substandard and encroached upon the curbs. They are going to rebuild some of these driveways with part of this project.
- Their intent is to do the full depth reclamation like they did on Riverside where they are going to actually rebuild this street. They looked at the intersection of Grimes Bridge and Norcross which desperately needs to add turn lanes but they don't believe it is going to be feasible to do it within the scope of this project because of utility lines and ROW. They are going to stop the paving right at the church parking lot.
- Mayor had asked staff to look at this corridor with respect to its bike friendliness. They have debated on how to restripe this road after they rebuild it. The good news is they have a pretty good compromise and that is to restripe the lanes at 10 ½ feet. That will give them at least a 2 foot shoulder along the entire lane. Steve wants to make sure when they cut the ribbon on this project that it is acceptable to the Mayor. If the Mayor wants to move the curbline, it is about a \$500,000 project and it would be another \$500,000 if you want to move the curbline. Mayor said no. He is fine with the 2 foot shoulder. Lori thought our policy was 11 feet. Mayor wants to know if we can squeeze a little bit more. Steve said we really need to have a consistent striping plan. It will be at the minimum of 2 feet.
- Mayor asked if there is anything else they can do to make it bike friendly. Steve said no. The only thing they can do is move the curbline.
- Steve said it is basically going to be put back the way it is now. Steve said the pavement will be better
- Steve said they are going to send this out to contract. They would like to start the project when school is out.

Eves Road

- Eileen Seidman has brought this up. She brought up Eves Road and the schools. Steve said their first priority is to get a mile radius around all the school districts. On Eves Road that is two schools. There is River Eves and Centennial.
- They are going to make progress on Eves on the next budget cycle. They have asked for this in the 2006 budget under a sidewalk program for \$250,000 to do all these different things. They hope that will pass through the budget process.
- Mayor is looking at a specific project which is a good project. He has to look at the overall priorities of which projects come first. He doesn't know if this project has higher priority than another project.
- His first priority (Mayor) is connecting Eves Road to East Roswell Park.
- This design for this project he supports. Whether he supports this project over other projects that depends.
- Steve said this is one of the sidewalks around the schools.