



Transportation Advisory Board Regular Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

City Hall Commission Chambers
401 S. Park Avenue

Present

Catherine Reischmann, Peter Gottfried, Andrew Irvin, Jeffrey Sievers, and Ruben A. Paige. Absent: Kenneth Lineberger and Jeffrey Osleeb.

Staff Present

Director of Public Works Charles Ramdatt, Transportation Manager in Training Hong Lim, Transportation Planner Keith Moore, Sergeant Luke Hofer, and Deputy City Clerk Kim Breland.

1. Call to Order

2. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve the minutes of December 2, 2024

Motion made by Jeffrey Sievers to approve the December 2, 2024, meeting minutes, seconded by Peter Gottfried. Motion carried 5-0

3. Public Comments (for items not on the agenda)

4. Action Items

5. Non-Action Items

6. Staff Updates

- a. Police Update

Sergeant Hofer noted that most incidents in the city occur on state roads. He provided the following Signal 4 Analytics crash data from October 17 to December 17, 2024:

- 235 no injury in time period reported
- 43 crashes w/possible injury
- 12 non-incapacitating (transported with visible injury i.e. cuts, scrapes, bruises)
- 2 incapacitated (in a state that required medical attention)

Sergeant Hofer pointed out that of the 288 recorded crashes, 4 were associated with DUI or alcohol-related incidents. He also noted that most accidents occur from Tuesday to Thursday, with Thursday being the busiest day for crashes. Most of these incidents take place in the late afternoon and evening.

Statistics from the City's database provided the following (limited) crash data from Jan 1, 2025 to present:

- 177 crashes with 9 DUIs
- 1,794 citations issued

- 1034 warnings given

In response to questions, Sergeant Hofer stated that out of 177 crashes, 3 involved pedestrians and 5 involved bicycles. He mentioned that issues related to e-scooters are becoming increasingly common, with a rise in significant crashes. He highlighted the challenges of laws keeping pace with technology and expressed concerns about child safety. Recently, there have been notable crashes in the city, including a near-fatal incident. He stated that the city is working diligently to inform parents and children about e-scooter safety, emphasizing the importance of helmet use and speed. He noted that the same rules that apply to bicyclists also apply to e-scooters and e-bikes.

Sergeant Hofer spoke about issues related to low-speed vehicles (that people refer to as golf carts), which can reach speeds of 25 mph or more. He said once the vehicle is registered and tagged, it becomes a low-speed vehicle. He highlighted public misconceptions about vehicle use and safety and noted that Governor DeSantis has updated the law to prohibit minors from operating low-speed vehicles without a proper license. These vehicles are considered motor vehicles, so the same rules and regulations apply as with cars.

Sergeant Hofer continued reviewing crash data from the beginning of the year:

- 48 sideswipe crashes (people not looking when changing lanes, cutting people off)
- 78% of crashes are rear end (people not paying attention, on phones, eating, etc.)
- 34 left turn lane crashes

Brief discussion was held on the traffic issues in the city and the mitigation efforts.

b. Traffic Studies Update

Transportation Planner Keith Moore reviewed the following traffic studies:

- Arbor Park Drive – A traffic counter was placed between Hibiscus and Pine Avenues, near Chestnut Palm Avenue, for seven days to monitor speeds, volume, and crash data. Results of the study indicated that speed and volume were within acceptable limits and no traffic calming devices were warranted for the area.
- Welbourne Avenue—A traffic counter was placed between Virginia and Pennsylvania Avenues to monitor speeds, volume, and crash data. The study's results indicated that speed and volume were within acceptable limits, and no traffic calming devices were warranted for the area. Mr. Moore mentioned that the request for the study originated from a daycare center located on the road. As a result, along with the presence of two nearby churches, the speed limit has been reduced from 25 to 20 miles per hour.

c. Lakemont Ave Resurfacing project update

The resurfacing project starts on March 17 during spring break. Due to its size and scope, Mr. Lim said it will require extensive coordination with FDOT and Seminole County.

In response to questions, Mr. Lim stated that before any pavement resurfacing project, the city's utility and stormwater divisions collaborate to ensure that no sewer or stormwater lines need repairs. He stated that sidewalks will remain open unless ADA issues arise.

d. FDOT SR 426 Update

FDOT held a final community meeting to show their proposed plan before they move forward with the full design. Mr. Lim has requested FDOT give a presentation to the City Commission at the March 27 work session.

Mr. Ramdatt spoke about the proposed traffic signal at the Cortland Avenue/426 intersection. He gave background on the reason the signal was considered, and a resolution to add the signal was approved by the commission in 2024. However, the resolution was repealed by the commission on February 12th. Staff will be working with FDOT to update and revise plans for remediation in the area. Discussion followed on options for pedestrian safety in the corridor.

Mr. Lim will inform the board once FDOT confirms the work session date for March 27 and encouraged all board members to attend. He presented an aerial map of the corridor and discussed proposed improvements. Discussion continued on roadway improvements for the corridor.

e. FDOT Orange Avenue project updates

Mr. Lim mentioned that the FDOT has completed its project on Clay Street to Orlando Avenue, which included a lane reduction on the Orange Avenue side. He noted that the city has received questions regarding the raised crosswalk. Additionally, he discussed the FDOT guidelines, specifically addressing the slope criteria for the proposed raised crosswalks on State Road 426.

f. FDOT SR423/Lee Rd Pedestrian Safety Study Results

FDOT conducted a pedestrian safety study for Lee Road, covering the area from I-4 to Wymore Road and extending to US 17/92. They proposed both short-term and long-term recommendations. The design phase is scheduled for FDOT's fiscal years 2025 and 2026, with construction planned for fiscal years 2027 and 2028.

Short-term improvements include refreshing stop bars and regulating the entire length of Lee Road to maintain a speed limit of 35 mph. Long-term goals encompass addressing lighting deficiencies along the corridor, reconstructing the intersection at Country Club Drive, introducing pedestrian hybrid beacons for enhanced pedestrian crossing opportunities, and adding blank-out signs. Additionally, while FDOT is in the design phase, they are considering removing the school pavement message sign on the westbound approach and may rebuild the entire traffic signal at the Wymore intersection to include a blank-out sign.

Mr. Lim presented an aerial map and outlined the areas for short and long term improvements.

7. Board Comments

Board member Peter Gottfried spoke about his initiative to create an integrated trail system through Winter Park that connects to the Cady Way, West Orange, and Orlando Urban trails. He asked the board for nods to present and discuss the concept at an upcoming meeting.

This item will be added to the March 17th TAB meeting agenda as a non-action item for discussion.

8. Upcoming Agenda Items

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

Regards,

Kim Breland
Recording Secretary