



CITY OF COCONUT CREEK CITY COMMISSION MINUTES

Government Center
4800 W. Copans Road
Coconut Creek, Florida

Date: November 18, 2021
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Workshop Meeting No. 2021-1118WS

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rebecca A. Tooley called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m.

PRESENT UPON ROLL CALL:

Mayor Rebecca A. Tooley
Vice Mayor Joshua Rydell
Commissioner Lou Sarbone
Commissioner Sandra L. Welch
Commissioner Jacqueline Railey
City Manager Karen M. Brooks
Deputy City Attorney Kathy Mehaffey
Interim City Clerk Marianne Bowers

Mayor Tooley noted that the meeting was being conducted live with a quorum physically present. She explained that the meeting material was available online, and the meeting was being broadcast live on the City's website and YouTube channel.

DISCUSSION – SOUTH CREEK TRAFFIC CALMING STUDY

Director of Sustainable Development Scott Stoudenmire opened the discussion on the South Creek Traffic Calming Study. He noted the potential impacts of the other projects on any potential traffic calming implementation recommendations, including the Margate Water Main Improvements and the City's Comprehensive Street Improvements. He introduced City staff, consultants, and Margate staff, who were present and available to answer questions.

a. Consultant/Staff Presentation of Traffic Calming Study

Michael Righetti, Senior Project Manager, provided a background on the Capital Improvement Project (CIP) developed to conduct a review of traffic behavior within South Creek to address issues identified by residents and the Police Department. He stated the focus was on speeding, and not on mechanics of school pick up and drop off and other traffic concerns. He introduced the professional traffic engineering consultants from KCI, Peng Zhu and Jose Rodriguez, who conducted the study.

Mr. Zhu gave a *PowerPoint* presentation regarding the traffic calming study conducted, including purpose and needs of the study, data collection, analysis and selection criteria, and community meetings held. He outlined the research conducted and the recommendations for speed tables as traffic calming treatment at nine (9) potential locations. Additionally, he noted additional recommendations for signage, pavement marking, and coordination with the Police Department for enforcement.

Vice Mayor Rydell asked for additional clarification regarding enhanced crossings recommended in the report at four (4) locations. Mr. Zhu explained the efforts to improve awareness of upcoming intersections at the "hot spot" locations.

Vice Mayor Rydell stated he would like to see something more significant at those intersections and asked if lighted stop signs were considered. Mr. Zhu responded this treatment has been shown to increase compliance and reduce speed, and staff would review this during the final design stage.

Commissioner Sarbone asked how many residents had attended the community meetings. Mr. Stoudenmire stated there were approximately 50 people at the virtual meeting and about the same number at the in-person meeting.

Commissioner Sarbone asked for clarification on why the speed table was selected over the speed cushion, which would be moveable between identified “hot spots.” He noted his understanding would be that the cushions would be cheaper and more versatile. Mr. Righetti stated staff planned to recommend four (4) speed cushions to temporarily address the issues pending completion of the Margate water improvement project and City’s street resurfacing project.

Discussion ensued regarding the appearance, maintenance, cost, and effectiveness of the speed cushions versus the speed tables.

Commissioner Railey asked if traffic lights were being considered as a long term solution. Mayor Tooley commented lights would not be a good fit, and Mr. Zhu concurred, stating they were not being recommended.

Vice Mayor Rydell asked whether roundabouts were an option, and Mr. Zhu explained they were not feasible due to space and cost restraints.

Mayor Tooley shared access issues in the neighborhood related to school pickup lines. Mr. Righetti provided explanation on efforts to collaborate with the school on improvements. He noted the comment was not overlooked, and staff was continuing to evaluate the situation.

Mayor Tooley asked if school zone speed signs could be put up on Coconut Creek Boulevard. Mr. Righetti stated he would reach out to Broward County regarding the request.

Discussion ensued regarding increased police presence. Police Sergeant Donald Davis stated a data-driven approach would be taken to improve the quantity and quality of time spent in the area to address the speed issues and noted infrastructure changes.

b. Status/Impact of City of Margate Water Main Improvement Project in South Creek

Mr. Stoudenmire invited representatives from the City of Margate to discuss their water main project and invited discussion regarding the impact on any immediate or permanent installations.

Randy Daniel, Assistant Director of the City of Margate Department of Engineering and Environmental Services (DEES), provided an overview of infrastructure projects scheduled for award in early 2022.

Jennifer Schmidt, Chen Moor and Associates, provided additional detail of the plan to address 26,000 linear feet of water main built in the 1960s and in need of replacement. She discussed the three (3) phases of the project, including water main and sanitary sewer components. She stated the goal was to wrap up construction at the end of 2022.

Discussion ensued regarding disruption to neighborhoods, transition from septic systems to sanitary sewer in Coconut Creek Ranches, and the areas to be addressed.

Ms. Schmidt stated sewer laterals in bad condition would also be repaired while the roads were

excavated. Mr. Daniel provided additional detail.

Vice Mayor Rydell asked that staff communicate updates to the Commission throughout the Margate bid process, and Mr. Daniel noted he would work with Coconut Creek staff on communication efforts.

c. Status/Impact of Comprehensive Streets Milling and Resurfacing for South Creek

Mr. Stoudenmire stated staff's recommendation was to hold off on any permanent traffic calming treatments until the Margate project was complete. He noted staff believed there was a desire in the community to have traffic calming, and temporary devices could be deployed as an interim measure if that were the direction of the Commission. He added that the temporary devices would allow staff to evaluate the success and the effectiveness during the Margate project, and then a decision could be made regarding permanent solutions during finalization of the plans for the comprehensive streets project.

Mayor Tooley asked if stop signs could also be addressed. Mr. Stoudenmire responded that it was something that could be evaluated.

d. Next Steps

Mr. Stoudenmire stated the majority of those present at the community meetings were in support of traffic calming devices. He asked for direction from the Commission as to how to proceed.

Commissioner Sarbone asked whether adjustments to the speed limit was an option. Utilities & Engineering Director Osama Elshami briefly discussed the County policies for setting speed limits. Discussion continued regarding speeding in the neighborhood and the efforts of the Police Department.

Consensus was to deploy four (4) temporary traffic calming devices, two (2) each along NW 45 Avenue and NW 43 Avenue during the construction projects to evaluate effectiveness.

e. Questions and Comments

There were no further questions or comments.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Marianne Bowers, CMC
Interim City Clerk

Dated