

Rochester Hills Minutes - Draft

Advisory Traffic and Safety Board

1000 Rochester Hills Dr Rochester Hills, MI 48309 (248) 656-4600 Home Page: www.rochesterhills.org

Chairperson ______, Vice Chairperson Carl Moore
Members: Scott Hunter, Ken Krajewski, Thomas Neveau, Thomas Pozolo,
Julie Rogalski and Terry Schafer
Council Member David Blair
Staff Members: Paul Davis, Keith Depp, Paul Shumejko

Tuesday, July 13, 2021 7:00 PM 1000 Rochester Hills Drive

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:04 am

ROLL CALL

Present 6 - Ken Krajewski, Carl Moore, Thomas Pozolo, Julie Rogalski, David Blair and

Terry Schafer

Absent 2 - Scott Hunter and Thomas Neveau

Others Present

Non-voting members present:

Paul Davis, P.E. City Engineer/Deputy DPS Director Lori Hamilton, Recording Secretary Keith Depp, Staff Engineer

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBER

Terry Schafer stated he has recently joined the committee as a new member. He is a 30 year resident of Rochester Hills and recently retired from GM after 45 years and was a product process engineer. He stated he was called by the Mayor to fill a vacant position on the committee.

ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS

A motion made by Tom Pozolo to elect Carl Moore as chairman and was seconded by Terry Schafer. A motion made by Carl Moore to elect Tom Pozolo as vice chair and it was seconded by Julie Rogalski.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2020-0430 Draft Minutes from the March 10, 2020 Regular Meeting

Attachments: Draft Minutes.pdf

A motion was made by Morre seconded by Rogalski, that this matter be Approved as Presented. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye 6 - Krajewski, Moore, Pozolo, Rogalski, Blair and Schafer

Absent 2 - Hunter and Neveau

COMMUNICATIONS

2021-0272 Communication Items

- -Auburn at Midvale Crossing and Pathway
- -Blind person in area signage
- -Rochester Schools Traffic Study 3 schools
- -Traffic signal at Rochester Rd and Hamlin

In relation to citizens brining issues, recently a resident complained about a pathway gap on Auburn road near Midvale. This is something we would also discuss with the Pathway Committee. With Auburn being a high speed roadway the City typically puts pathway on both sides of the road. There is not a continuous pathway in this area. The resident asked if a mid-road crossing could be a possibility as well. A capital improvement project could be used to improve the area. Mr. Davis discussed the major project near Yates that will include pathway improvements. The Midvale pathway will be brought to the Pathway committee to be rated and put in the Capital Improvement plan. Pathways are expensive to build with the strict ADA compliance.

The next item under communications is the blind person in area signage. We were contacted by someone in the area that wanted sidewalks for a blind person which was not feasible. The City did agree to put up some Blind Person in Area signage. Mr. Davis introduced the Master Transportation Plan and some of the information that was included in there. One item was Drexelgate and the idea to put in a road diet to narrow up the road. With the narrow road we may be able to construct a pathway along Drexelgate but with the last millage that was approved it expanded our ability to construct pathway on non-mile roads. Mr. Davis stated we used road diets in the Kings Cove subdivision as well as on Powderhorn. The pathway on Drexelgate will most likely go along the north side. It may require that some trees need to be cut down and adding some retaining walls. You have to be cognizant of how these affect HOA's. Timeframe for this pathway will be 2023.

Mr. Davis stated that the next item is the Rochester Schools traffic studies. We worked with the schools and reviewed Hamlin Elementary, West Middle School and Van Hoosen Elementary. A resident on Belle Vernon was upset about traffic parking on her street at the end of the school day to pick up students for about 10-15 minutes. The schools don't always have enough room for stacking of traffic. We made an extended drop off land on Hamlin Road. We work well with the schools. Mr. Davis stated that the last item was related to a resident calling in about the traffic signals at Rochester Road and Hamlin. The Road Commission adjusts signal timing for MDOT. We made a request for RCOC to review the area. We should mention road ownership. Auburn Road by Midvale is owned by MDOT. At Harding and Livernois you cannot turn right on to Livernois because there was a bike accident there due to sight distance. Mr. Davis pulled up the City map on the

website that shows street ownership. The City owns the westerly section of Tienken but the Road Commission owns the rest. Mr. Moore mentioned that there are many private roads as well. David Blair stated that this map helps the residents know who to contact when there is an issue. The privately owned roads residents are the tough sells on road millages because it doesn't benefit them at their home.

2021-0273 Newcastle Ct. Traffic Study

Attachments: Finalized Traffic Study Results.pdf

Mr. Davis stated that the next item on the agenda is the New Castle Traffic Study. This may come to the committee at some point. There are pictures and information in the packet. This is the background and the study that the City prepared. The resident called and complained about cars parking in the cul-de-sac. The teenage neighbor has friends parking there. Mr. Davis pulled up pictures and explained how that resident complained that these cars could affect emergency services. Mr. Davis suggested the cars park on the edges and not in the middle. This caused a car to park on the complaining neighbors grass. The resident wants the city to install no parking signs. Other cities do have parking restrictions on cul-de-sacs. Mr. Davis stated that if we put up restrictions in it may cause issues in other areas. We do not have an ordinance against it but this is really the first time this issue came up. Mr. Blair discussed the new opportunity for a Chick-Fil-A possibly coming in. He stated this is for the greater good and a good thing for Rochester Hills. He would support this but expects the city to do its due diligence. Mr. Davis stated that some of the improvements up by Papa Joe's at Tienken and Rochester has really been a good development for the community. Mr. Davis stated is it meets City ordinance we are obligated to approve it or you may be setting us up for a lawsuit. Mr. Blair stated that the City does not get to pick and choose what people can build on their property. If it meets zoning requirements the City doesn't have much choice. We have to be careful not to stifle development. People want to live and work here. We don't see tons of houses for sale or vacant businesses. There are some areas they do not want drive-thrus like on the Auburn Road corridor for instance.

2021-0270 2021 Strategic Plan Meeting Minutes

Attachments: Updated 6-29-21 - 2021 MtgSum Rochester Hills.docx

2021 Strategic Plan Meeting minutes. Mr. Davis stated that the City meets with the Road Commission of Oakland County every 2 years to go through projects and roadway concerns. You can read the minutes provided.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2020-0435 Hamlin Road between Livernois and Crooks Uniform Speed Limit

Mr. Davis stated out last item to discuss is Hamlin Road, an old carryover for uniform speed limits. Mr. Moore stated the committee did a study a long time ago from Ryan to Squirrel and approved the 85 percentile at 45 miles per hour. When it went before City council the residents and parents near Hamlin Elementary complained and City Council went with the residents instead of the TCO. Mr. Moore suggested we now try to change it to cover from Livernois to the west on Hamlin Road. Mr. Davis stated that we may hold off on doing anything until the construction is complete.

NEW BUSINESS

2021-0264 Eddington Blvd. Signage

Attachments: Proposed Eddington Blvd. Intersection Signage.pdf

SS-152-18 TCO.pdf

We are going to skip ahead to an item in new business, the Eddington signage. This is an item brought up by one of our committee members. Mr. Krajewski stated that he lives in the neighborhood and talks about the new road alignment and all the stop signs at the drive into the subdivision. Some of these stop signs are unwarranted because there is no traffic to stop for. All these stop signs are causing people not to stop at them anymore. There are pedestrian crossings. We could suggest Yield to Pedestrian signs. Mr. Davis said they can check on accidents and review this and make a recommendation at the next meeting to change these out. Mr. Davis stated that at one time there was supposed to be more development but that has not happened. We may have to revisit it in the future but it does seem like there are too many stop signs. We would have to rescind the previous approval made by this board.

2021-0275 Belle Cone Gardens Traffic Study

Attachments: Stop Sign Information.pdf

Stop sign and yield locations.pdf

Mr. Davis stated that the last item on the agenda is this Belle Cone Gardens Traffic study. This is a resident request to add additional stop signs and get rid of yield signs in the neighborhood. The City follows the MMUTCD which says stop signs are not effective speed control. We have two options, Sherriff enforcement or speed humps. This is an older neighborhood and doesn't have an HOA. It's more difficult to install speed humps in subs without an HOA but it's still possible. I told the resident we would review this area to see if it warrants any changes for yield signs

or stop signs. The City has a program for speed humps and it's a 50% contribution from the homeowners. We require that the residents with the speed humps in front of their house has 100% participation. Mr. Davis stated that we work with data and not emotions and will not put in stop signs if they are not warranted. There is not the option to change the speed limit like there are on private roads. I've provided some more information in the packet about stop signs for the group to review. We will review for consistency.

Mr. Moore stated that there is still an issue on Rochelle with vehicles parking on both sides of the road approximately 6 times a year. He's concerned that emergency vehicles cannot get through.

NEXT MEETING DATE

August 10, 2021

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting ended at 8:50 p.m.