

TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

April 12, 2022

A hybrid meeting of the Traffic & Transportation Committee was held this date beginning at 3:34 p.m., at City Hall and by video conference.

Notice of this meeting was sent to all local news media.

PRESENT

Committee Members: Councilmember Brady (Chair), Councilmember Seekings, Councilmember Parker, and Mayor Tecklenburg (Councilmember Gregg not present)

Also Present: Andrea Derungs, Velvett Simmons, Robert Somerville, Lt. Krasowski, Michael Mathis, Julia Copeland, Rick Jerue

1. Invocation

The meeting was opened with a moment of silence led by Councilmember Brady.

2. Approval of Minutes

On a motion of Councilmember Seekings, seconded by Mayor Tecklenburg, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the February 22, 2022 meeting.

3. Charleston Car & Limo Service, LLC Application for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, Limousine

On a motion of Councilmember Seekings, seconded by Mayor Tecklenburg, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the item above.

4. Prestige Transport of Charleston, LLC Application for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, Taxi

On a motion of Councilmember Seekings, seconded by Mayor Tecklenburg, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the item above.

5. Update on Frampton Street/Police Department Traffic Study

Mr. Somerville said this was an update from their meeting in January. Since then, folks from the Traffic & Transportation Department had verified that there were still signs on Frampton Street that said “do not block the driveway.” Mr. Somerville said he had also been in contact with someone from the security operations team for CCSD, who had indicated that parents were receiving email blasts reminding them of appropriate pickup times and requesting that they not block driveways. As directed by the Mayor, CPD had conducted a speed study for the area. Lt. Krasowski reported they had completed a traffic study using a concealed radar device, called a stealth box, from January 26, 2022 to January 30, 2022. He said that was a good window for capturing speed data because you had several days of work week traffic and a full day of weekend traffic. He noted that heading away from the school, along Burning Tree and Fairway Drive, the stealth box captured 950 vehicles with an average speed of

16.58 mph and an 85th percentile of 23 mph. The speed limit on those roads was 25 mph. Heading toward the school, the stealth box captured 1,178 vehicles with an average speed of 16.78 mph and an 85th percentile of 23 mph. He said the data did not reflect any speeding issues in the area and that the problem could be perception based due to the high volume of vehicles. In conjunction with the study, CPD had also reached out to CCSD to request that some of their SROs help mitigate traffic issues. He said that there was a proposal in progress to double-stack traffic in the drop-off and pick-up lines to help relieve some of the traffic in the roadway. Mayor Tecklenburg clarified that the number of vehicles Lt. Krasowski reported included the total number of vehicles from January 26-30th. Councilmember Parker asked if any additional measures would be taken, or if this had just been a study. Lt. Krasowski said it was just a study to assess if there were any speeding issues, but knowing that part of the complaint had been the volume of traffic, they had reached out to CCSD to help with the orderly flow of traffic. Mayor Tecklenburg asked Mr. Somerville if there were any additional measures he would recommend, aside from supporting the school's decision to double-stack. Mr. Somerville said they had treated Fairway Drive with traffic calming measures in 2018 and that 16 mph didn't even meet their threshold for additional measures, so he had nothing further to suggest.

6. Presentation and approval of Charleston County Transportation Sales Tax (TST) – Raised Crosswalk request for Coming Street and St. Philip Street, College of Charleston Green Way

Mr. Somerville said this was a TST project approved by the County, which the College of Charleston had requested for additional safety measures. Currently, there were high visibility crosswalks in those areas, but this would convert them into raised crosswalks. Councilmember Seekings said they had been working on this project for 10 years. The City, County, and the College had all liked the plan, it had just been a matter of finding the funding. He noted that it would greatly improve safety since Coming Street was the main artery for afternoon traffic heading out of the City and St. Philip brought in a lot of morning traffic. He said it was a terrific project. Mr. Somerville said this was before them because the DOT wanted City approval before proceeding.

On a motion of Mayor Tecklenburg, seconded by Councilmember Seekings, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the item above.

Having no further business, the Committee adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

Andrea Derungs
Clerk of Council's Office