

***** MINUTES *****
OF THE MEETING OF THE
CITY OF OKLAHOMA CITY
TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
JULY 15, 2002

Lyda Harrell, Ward 4, Chairman

MEMBERS

Phil Tow, Ward 1
David Burja, Ward 2
David Miller, Ward 3
Bob Nix, Ward 5
Louis Gonzales, Ward 6
Delphine Pilate, Ward 7
Leamon Freeman, Ward 8
Milford J. Clayton, At-Large

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Sheila Dees, P.E., Secretary
Amy Douglas, Attorney
Lt. Dennis Buckley, OCPD
Lt. Robert Sipe, OCPD
Sgt. R. D. Pratt, OCPD

I. CALL TO ORDER.

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Chairman Lyda Harrell, Ward 4.

All members were present at the meeting, with the exception of Commissioner Bob Nix, Ward 5 and Commissioner Leamon Freeman, Ward 8.

II. A. SWEARING-IN OF WARD 7 TRAFFIC COMMISSIONER;

B. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 17, 2002, MEETING OF THE TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION.

- MOTION by Commissioner Miller and SECOND by Commissioner Clayton to APPROVE the Minutes of the June 17, 2002 meeting. MOTION was APPROVED by the following votes: Ayes, Commissioners Tow, Burja, Miller, Harrell, Gonzales, Pilate and Clayton.
- MOTION CARRIES.

III. REPORT ON LICENSED TAXI AND WRECKER SERVICES, Sgt. R. D. Pratt, Oklahoma City Police Department.

Sgt. Pratt is on vacation and Ms. Dees will be giving the report. Ms. Dees reported that there was one complaint to report against Sammy's Wrecker. On June 19, 2002 Sammy's Wrecker was called by the OCPD to respond to an accident scene in their district. Upon arrival Sammy's Wrecker declined the vehicle because it was too large for their wrecker. The vehicle to be towed was a semi-wrecker and Sammy's Wrecker was too small. However, instead of informing the police department to get an alternate wrecker, Sammy's called Ferguson Wrecker to tow the semi. Ferguson's did in fact hook up and tow the semi from the scene for Sammy's Wrecker. This is in violation with the contract in that Ferguson's Wrecker is not an authorized police district wrecker. Upon receipt of the complaint, Sgt. Pratt contacted Sammy Potter, Jr., the operating manager for Sammy's Wrecker, and advised him of the complaint. Mr. Potter confirmed the incident and said Ferguson's Wrecker does all of their large semi-wrecker towing for them. It was informed to him that this is in violation and they are not authorized to haul vehicles in Oklahoma City no matter what the circumstances might be. Further, Sammy's was informed that if they could not make the call they are to immediately notify the dispatchers so that an alternate wrecker on a rotational basis could occur between Car Cab or Arrow Wrecker. No other complaints were confirmed or reported at this time.

Chairman Harrell stated she had a citizen call who lives southeast. Her name is Suzanne Monroe. Ms. Monroe said Sammy's Wrecker ran a stop sign at excessive speed and almost hit her and her grandchildren. Ms. Monroe said she was very upset.

Commissioner Tow asked Chairman Harrell if Ms. Monroe was able to get the tag number or the truck number. Chairman Harrell stated she didn't know. Chairman Harrell stated she referred Ms. Monroe to Sgt. Pratt.

Commissioner Clayton asked if they're going to further investigate the incident with Sammy's Wrecker in not following the procedures of the contract.

Ms. Dees stated that upon reading this she believes this has been taken care of. She stated the next wrecker that is closest should be called or they'll do it on a rotating basis. Ms. Dees stated she thinks Sgt. Pratt has taken care of this and if there are other calls he'll let them know.

IV. CONSENT DOCKET.

- MOTION by Commissioner Miller and SECOND by Commissioner Clayton to APPROVE the Consent Docket. MOTION was APPROVED by the following votes: Ayes, Commissioners Tow, Burja, Miller, Harrell, Gonzales, Pilate and Clayton.
- MOTION CARRIES.

V. STOP SIGNS RECOMMENDED FOR DENIAL.

- A. Keith Sossamon, Water/Wastewater Line Maintenance (Ward 4). Consider changing the existing north/south yield signs to north/south stop signs at the intersection of Klein Avenue and SW 48th Street.

Commissioner Tow asked Chairman Harrell if there is anyone there to speak on this. Chairman Harrell states no.

- MOTION by Commissioner Tow and SECOND by Commissioner Burja to APPROVE the Stop Signs Recommended for Denial Docket. MOTION was APPROVED by the following votes: Ayes, Commissioners Tow, Burja, Miller, Harrell, Gonzales, Pilate and Clayton.
- MOTION CARRIES.

VI. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSIDERATION.

- A. Linda L. Davis, 825 NW 66th Street, 73116 and Petitioners (Ward 2). Consider the installation of "No Parking Anytime" signs in the 800 block of NW 66th Street, both sides.

Ms. Dees stated the applicant is concerned with visitors and employees of an office building located at the corner of Classen Boulevard and NW 66th Street, parking on the street. Staff checked the area and found four vehicles parked on the north side and three vehicles on the south side. Staff recommends consideration.

Linda Davis, 825 NW 66th Street. She stated that reading this it sounds like they're going to be putting no parking all the way up and down NW 66th Street and that is not what they want. She stated they wanted it from where the residential area begins to Classen because people do have more than one vehicle and they have to park on the street at their home. She stated so they only wanted it from the beginning of the residential area, west to Classen on both sides of the street.

Ms. Davis stated there is substantial parking for that building. They have a parking lot at the building and they also own a building across the street on Classen that has parking available there, and it is usually the customers that go to that building that are parking on the street. Ms. Davis stated there is substantial parking without their customers parking on each side of the street and that is the reason for the petition. She stated there are small children and also a speeding problem through the area. She stated there is a 25 mph speed limit, but the people that work in that building also speed through the neighborhood. She stated there are small children that play in the neighborhood and it is a dangerous situation.

Commissioner Burja stated that no parking will not help the speeding problem. Commissioner Burja stated he isn't sure that this is properly before them if it is put on the agenda as the 800 block and it really needs to be the 900 block because he did review that this morning, at which time he noticed only one vehicle parked on the street.

Ms. Dees stated that their petition did state the 800 block.

Ms. Davis stated she has always considered that block the 800 block.

Commissioner Burja stated it isn't numbered, but unfortunately it is the 900 block.

Amy Douglas stated that they can not vote on the 900 block today, since that is not how it was on the agenda. She stated it will need to be re-docketed for next month.

Ms. Davis asks if they need to sign another petition.

Ms. Dees stated that all of the signatures on the petition are in the 800 block. There is nothing on the petition in the 900 block.

Ms. Davis stated the only thing in the 900 block are businesses.

Commissioner Burja asked if there are any businesses present today that occupy the corner of NW 66th and Classen.

Chairman Harrell states there is another citizen to speak on this, Geneva Walker.

Geneva Walker, 816 NW 66th Street, 73116.

Commissioner Burja asked Ms. Walker what is her story concerning this "No Parking Anytime" application.

Ms. Walker stated that if she had company they couldn't visit her. Ms. Walker stated if her grandchildren or her son came to visit her they need a place to park.

Commissioner Burja asked Ms. Walker if she is speaking against the application as they've heard it so far in the 800 block.

Ms. Walker stated yes. She also stated she feels that the big tractor trailers shouldn't be coming down that street. They could go down Classen.

- MOTION by Commissioner Burja and SECOND by Commissioner Gonzales to DENY Item VI.A.. MOTION was APPROVED by the following votes: Ayes, Commissioners Tow, Burja, Miller, Harrell, Gonzales, Pilate and Clayton.
- MOTION CARRIES.

B. David Clark, 36 Quail Haven, Blanchard 73010 (Ward 2).
Consider the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Harvey Avenue and Britton Road (NW 93rd Street).

Ms. Dees reported that this location meets warrants #1, #2 and #3 for traffic signals as outlined in the MUTCD 2000 Warrants for Traffic Signals. Staff recommends consideration.

David Clark, 36 Quail Haven, Blanchard. Mr. Clark stated the intersection of Harvey and Britton is extremely dangerous. He has seen numerous wrecks. He stated on one incident the OCPD came out and worked an accident, but before they could write that one up another one occurred at the same intersection. He stated he has watched numerous accidents occur at that particular location. He stated if you're traveling eastbound on Britton and trying to turn northbound on Harvey, you can't see cars coming if another car is turning south.

Commissioner Burja asked Mr. Clark if he is employed near this intersection.

Mr. Clark stated he works at 301 W. Britton.

Commissioner Burja stated he drove by that location today and noticed there was a lot of traffic. He stated it has been his experience that it is heavily traveled day in and day out. Commissioner Burja asked Ms. Dees if it would be appropriate to place a signal at Harvey and Britton since there are lights at Walker and Broadway Extension, which would make three signals in a row in a span of about 300 yards. Commissioner Burja asked Ms. Dees if this would be in the best interest of traffic flow for that entire stretch.

Ms. Dees stated that putting signals that close together will create delays and back up traffic. Ms. Dees stated as far as accidents go, there have been three left turn accidents reported in the past year and that would not meet the warrants on a signal light as far as accidents.

Commissioner Burja stated he wanted to be clear that by and of itself that one intersection it would perhaps justify some kind of traffic control, perhaps in the future.

Ms. Dees stated that by installing this you would actually decrease the traffic flow and you could increase your rear-end accidents.

Commissioner Burja thanks Mr. Clark.

Terry Underkoffler, 239 W. Britton Road. Mr. Underkoffler owns the business at this location which is the northeast corner of the intersection of Britton and Harvey. He stated they jokingly call themselves the first responders. He stated that on the average there has got to be at least one to two a week. He stated they spend a lot of time out there working accidents. He stated there are several problems involved. He stated it is not just the stop sign. He stated there is a tremendous amount of left-turn traffic going eastbound into the post office and westbound into the Highlands area. He stated there was a man from the City taking count and he made a comment to him that he could not believe the amount of traffic turning left to the south into the Highlands. He stated that he is a little surprised that only three left turn related accidents have occurred at that location. He stated that he believes someone is going to die at this intersection very shortly. He stated there have been a lot of near fatal accidents there. He stated there is more than one problem there in reference to the stoplight. He stated the speed is a huge problem. He stated ever since Wilshire was closed and Hefner closed, Britton has taken all of the traffic. He stated even though Hefner is now open he has not personally seen any slow down in traffic on Britton. He stated as motorists are exiting off of Broadway Extension, there is a 40 mph speed zone as you travel to the west on Britton Road.

He stated people do 40 mph and never slow down until past that sign. He stated people do not pay attention there and there are a lot of left turns there. He stated his other concern is they've been wanting something done there for their safety as well as their customers safety, but he thinks a stoplight without left turn signals is not going to solve the problem. He stated the street is not wide enough for left turn lanes and you are still going to have people backed up waiting to make left hand turns. He stated even though there may not be that many left hand turn related accidents, most of the accidents are because people are making a left hand turn and people in the outside lanes are shooting through, so they are still indirectly related to left turn problems.

He stated that while he is for this and something needs to be done desperately, it will shut down his operation because he only has one entrance and it is less than a car length from the corner. He stated cars will completely block his only entrance off to his business. He stated he does have a long stretch along the west side of the property that could possibly be used as an entrance if a stoplight was put in. He stated it is a severe problem and one that he witnesses on a weekly basis.

Commissioner Burja asked Mr. Underkoffler where he was located on Britton.

Mr. Underkoffler stated on the northeast corner of Britton and Harvey.

Commissioner Burja stated that was right across the street from the post office.

Mr. Underkoffler stated directly to the east of the post office.

Commissioner Burja asked Mr. Underkoffler how he would feel if this intersection were to be renovated and he would lose 12 or more feet off of his property.

Mr. Underkoffler stated he has thought about that and that will hurt him too, but he is more concerned about the safety of his customers and his employees. He stated they have almost been hit two or three times personally just out there directing traffic. He stated the speed has been a constant problem and he knows the police department has done the best they can do, but they can't be there 24 hours a day. He stated people just do not slow down. He stated if it involved coming into his parking area by 8 to 12 feet, they would just have to find a way around that. He stated he doesn't know of any other solution.

Commissioner Burja thanks Mr. Underkoffler.

Commissioner Burja asked Ms. Dees if traffic is projected to abate off Britton Road once Wilshire is re-opened.

Ms. Dees stated that it is predicted that the traffic counts would go down. She stated again that putting a signal at this intersection would actually increase the accidents.

Commissioner Burja asked what about changing the speed limits.

Ms. Dees stated that they do have a speed problem from east to west and they could use some enforcement in that area.

Commissioner Burja moves to deny the request but asks for special enforcement of the area and perhaps in the future lowering the speed limit to 35 mph from Broadway to Western.

- MOTION by Commissioner Burja and SECOND by Commissioner Miller to DENY Item VI.B. with SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT. MOTION was APPROVED by the following votes: Ayes, Commissioners Tow, Burja, Miller, Harrell, Gonzales, Pilate and Clayton.
- MOTION CARRIES.

C. Traffic Management Division (Ward 2).

Consider changing the existing angle parking to parallel parking on Britton Road (NW 93rd Street), from Classen Boulevard to Military Avenue, both sides.

Ms. Dees reported this area has recently been resurfaced. Staff is convinced traffic congestion will be alleviated if the angle parking is changed back to parallel parking. The current angle parking was approved in 1954 and it only allows two lanes of traffic between Olie Avenue and Classen Boulevard. The traffic volumes have been steadily increasing in the past years, from 16,120 adt in 1987 to 23,141 adt in 2002. Staff believes the traffic will continue to increase in this area. Staff recommends approval.

Jack Powell, 17 Raton, Oklahoma City. He stated he is a retired policeman and came down to support the Britton business people. He stated he worked that area for 30 years and never saw any problem with the angle parking. He stated he thinks it should stay that way. He doesn't remember that many accidents or any real traffic delays because of the angle parking and he thinks it should continue that way.

Brenda Russell, 904 W. Britton Road, Oklahoma City. She stated she owns the shopping center at this location. She stated she has the majority of the parking in this area. It comes with her lot and the lot behind her business. She stated she has four businesses there. She stated the businesses up and down the street only have the parking in front of their businesses. She stated if you do away with the angle parking and put parallel parking in, you have less than half of what they have now and all the businesses would suffer. She stated she would have to hire somebody to keep people out of her parking lot for the businesses she has. She stated she can't imagine trying to parallel park going through that strip of road and people flying through there going 30-50 mph. She stated the speed limit is 25 mph. She stated she can't imagine people trying to parallel park with people flying down the road like that. She stated there will probably be more accidents. She stated the main problem is the parking they already have. They don't have enough of it. She stated they need what they have and if it is changed to parallel, they're cutting away all the parking for all the businesses not just hers. She stated she thinks it is going to create a major problem.

Commissioner Burja stated he misspoke earlier when he was talking about changing the speed limit. He stated he forgot it went down in this area. Commissioner Burja asked Ms. Russell where exactly here business was located.

Ms. Russell stated it is at Britton Road and Francis.

Commissioner Burja stated he is familiar with where that is and he drove by there this morning to see what the effect might be. He stated he noticed that most of the businesses were open.

Ms. Russell stated that is correct, all the businesses are open. She stated they already have a parking problem as it is and if they put the parallel parking in, they're really going to have a battle on their hands.

Commissioner Burja thanks Ms. Russell.

Darrell Wall, 908 W. Britton Road, Oklahoma City. Mr. Wall stated he rents one of the buildings that Ms. Russell owns and he does have a problem with parking because of the limited parking they have on the street now. He stated it would create a big problem going to parallel parking. He stated they just resurfaced downtown Britton and when they took the barricades down, everybody thought it was four lanes and motorists have been going 45-50 mph. He stated it is not a four lane street and can never be a four lane street because of the width of the road. He stated they do need to keep the angle parking.

Commissioner Miller asked Mr. Wall what the nature of his business was.

Mr. Wall stated appliance repair.

Commissioner Miller stated so you have people coming and going during business hours.

Mr. Wall stated yes he does.

Commissioner Miller thanks Mr. Wall.

Commissioner Burja asked what his business hours were.

Mr. Wall stated from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Commissioner Burja asked if he happened to know the business hours of most of the other businesses along that stretch.

Mr. Wall stated most of them were from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Commissioner Burja stated is there not a tavern or club somewhere along that stretch.

Mr. Wall stated yes there are five within a block and a half area.

Commissioner Burja thanks Mr. Wall.

Scot Sidwell, 912 W. Britton Road, Oklahoma City. He stated he is representing various businesses in this area. He stated he has a couple of issues, #1 he thinks the City at large is well served by having a nice diverse business climate there on Britton Road. He stated beyond just typical commerce there are also two amenities that serve the community in the form of non-profit missions in the area. This would be the Urban Impact Group, which is the First Christian Church of Britton, Oklahoma. He stated this group addresses the needs of many in the neighborhood. They are very well funded with the Kirkpatrick Family Fund and provide many services including Tai Kwan Do classes, food, counseling, otherwise. Another group is the Art Box, which is a non-profit organization that supports other non-profit in the form of office space, allied services, as well as art studios. Both of which would suffer greatly without the parking.

Mr. Sidwell stated he counted this morning and there were about 47 spots in this current format. To move to a parallel parking would decrease the number to approximately 21. As far as safety goes, in the many years he has been involved in the area, he has only seen a handful of wrecks immediately adjacent to the

businesses in question. None to his knowledge are related to people pulling out of the angle parking. He, like Darrell Wall and some of the other people who have spoken today, feel if there were four lanes through this area speeds would pick up. He stated if, through the wisdom of this Commission they feel that parallel parking is an answer, he would inquire that they explore the possibility of acquiring vacant buildings, unused buildings in the area in the form of public domain to create parking for the area. In summary, he thinks the only time you really see parking backing up is around the 5:00 hour. The arrival time is diverse enough in the morning as far as work flow goes, that there is no backing up of traffic with the exception of the railroad crossing when there is a train. But at 5:00 yes there is a backup. He thinks, as well as others that would agree with him, that it is a small price in the form of an inconvenience for the citizens of Oklahoma City who travel there to wait a few minutes even if traffic is backed up. There is no question it would adversely effect their livelihoods and property values if there were four lanes.

Commissioner Burja asked Mr. Sidwell what about when trains cross the Western/Britton intersection. Does it back up then?

Mr. Sidwell stated yes sir.

Commissioner Burja asked how many times a day does a train cross those tracks.

Mr. Sidwell stated every hour.

Commissioner Burja stated so that is something like an all day long kind of congestion problem, right?

Mr. Sidwell stated yes sir.

Commissioner Burja stated addressing a point Mr. Sidwell was making earlier whether the City should go in and acquire property for parking, it is not the business of this Commission nor the business of the City to provide what is essentially a privilege and not a right of motorists. Commissioner Burja stated they allow room on streets for parking, but they don't guarantee it or make it a right. It is not one of those protected things that comes with citizenship. He stated the traffic congestion in the area is a problem. He stated he doesn't know if even physically Ms. Dees can even explain how wide a street would have to be to accommodate four lanes and all that other business. He stated they do have some data, but he doesn't know if it would be physically possible without taking out some of the businesses.

Danny Witten, 905 W. Britton Road, Oklahoma City. He has an accounting practice at this address.

Commissioner Tow requests that Mr. Witten limit his comments to two minutes because there are several more people wishing to speak.

Mr. Witten passes out a picture for the Commission to look at. Mr. Witten stated his little town has been in business for a long time. He stated the picture was taken in 1911. The picture is looking to the east from the Britton Bank. He stated his main concern is that he has a lot of older customers. He does 1,000 tax returns, so he is quite busy during the tax season. He stated can you imagine an 80-year-old woman trying to parallel park with traffic coming 40 mph and he thinks it would cause a number of accidents. He stated his other concern is that his grandson was almost hit by a car in that area and if it wouldn't have been for the parking as it is now, he would have been hit because the traffic is just one lane. He stated if it had been four lanes through there he would have gotten hit. He stated the police used to come out there and run a sting operation for speeders, but it has been a number of years since he has seen anybody work that area. He stated the speeds have increased there considerably in the last year. He stated he would say the average speed going through there right now is 40-45 mph and it is a 25 mph zone. He stated there is a school a block east and motorists are going 40-45 mph through there too. He stated you might install some blinking lights to indicate that the area is 25 mph, because he stated he has to cross that street daily to visit businesses and he has to run across the street when it's just one lane. He stated if they change it to four lanes he wouldn't be able to get across there at all. He stated when motorists get to the light at Britton Road and Western, they're floor boarding it through there. He stated they need some more police in there to get motorists to slow down.

Commissioner Burja thanks Mr. Witten.

Chairman Harrell asked if there is anyone there who has signed up to speak that wants to change the parking to parallel. She asked if anyone has anything else to add that hasn't already been said.

Buck Barnett, 919 W. Britton Road. He has a business at this address. He stated he does a lot of furniture repair for elderly people in Nichols Hills. He stated they bring their things to him and if parallel parking is put in it would be very difficult to park and unload something. He stated people are not going to pull in to the alley and they don't want to park in the parking lot by the bank and carry their stuff. He stated another thing he is concerned about is that the Fire Department comes down Britton Road two to three times a day and they're going 40-60 mph. He stated if it is changed to four lane they're not going to be able to get through there at all. He stated they will have to find a detour.

Commissioner Burja asked Mr. Barnett how do they get through there now when there are two lanes.

Mr. Barnett stated there is enough room there for them to pull over and let them through. He stated they have to go down the center. He stated that street is approximately 55 feet across. He stated approximately 48 feet are taken up which leaves about 6 feet left. He stated if you get four lanes going through there and you parallel park, pull up and stop, you stop the whole lane of traffic and motorists are going to be upset.

Amy Douglas asked Mr. Barnett if he has any private parking for his customers.

Mr. Barnett stated no he doesn't. He stated it is in the front or in the alley.

Commissioner Miller asked Mr. Barnett if the alley was behind his property.

Mr. Barnett stated the alley was behind his property and he is afraid to go out there half the time.

Commissioner Burja asked Mr. Barnett if he used the alley as his delivery point.

Mr. Barnett stated on big deliveries yes. He stated semis will come in and bring freight.

Commissioner Burja thanks Mr. Barnett.

Delores Strider, 925 W. Britton Road. She stated the Commission made a comment that the traffic should lessen once Broadway Extension is taken care of, so with that in mind, maybe you won't need the four lanes. She stated second the only accident she has seen there is because the striping is not there. Her husband got hit. He knew it was two lanes and was turning into that parking lot and a woman who didn't know it was four lanes was over in the parking area where there were no cars parked at the time and he started to turn and she hit him. She stated they need the parking stripes right away and she thinks the angle parking should remain the way it is and it seems to be the consensus of the businesses around there.

Commissioner Burja thanks Ms. Strider.

Herbert Miller, 918 Britton Road. He stated his wife has an antique dress shop at 918 Britton Road. He stated they just have a one lot building but it is 3,000 square feet because it goes back quite a ways. He stated without parking his wife can't operate. He stated if they park their car in front, they wouldn't have parking.

He stated the thing that scares him is when they're backing out leaving the business, they wait until the light at Britton is red and go east. He stated if they were trying to pull in, they would have to stop and backup and would tie traffic up. He stated they couldn't run the store without some parking. He stated Britton is a really nice ethnic area. He stated the bank is the oldest location in Oklahoma City for a bank. He stated it was founded there in 1907 and has been operating since 1907. He stated the whole area there is churchy, historic. He stated there used to be a railroad station there. There were theaters there. He stated to wipe it out would be a crime, in addition to the parking problems it would create by having parallel parking.

Commissioner Burja thanks Mr. Miller.

Commissioner Burja asked Ms. Dees what are the City requirements for street width for four lanes.

Ms. Dees stated each lane should be between 10 and 12 feet. She stated in order to stripe this with four lanes and parking, these lanes will be approximately 11 feet wide. She stated to make the maneuver into the parallel parking would require one lane and maintain the other through lane for traffic. She stated it would actually increase the amount of traffic that could move and maintain a lane the fire trucks could use at all times.

Joe Hooker, 816 and 915 W. Britton Road. He has a business at each of these locations. He stated if you put parallel parking in there still wouldn't be enough room for four lanes. He stated all you're doing is letting motorists go faster through there. He stated like everyone else says they need the parking because there is relatively no back parking at all. He stated the amount of traffic and fast speed would be ridiculous to parallel park and cause more of a problem.

Darlene Smith, 815 W. Britton Road. She stated every dime she has is invested in this property and she recently signed a lease there. She stated the parking issue is very vital to her business. She stated there was a sign east of Classen that says the road narrows. She stated it is not there anymore so nobody knows the street narrows down to one lane. She stated the police pull over cars in front of her business at 815 W. Britton Road all the time for speeding. She stated she does have two or three parking spaces in the back for deliveries. She stated the alleys are in poor shape with big potholes. She stated the side street between the 800 and 900 block has huge potholes. She stated she had a wreck one month ago. She stated she had just pulled into the angular parking and she got plowed in the side and behind. She stated the man who hit her was going 60 mph. She stated he didn't slow down, he didn't see angular parking, he just plowed into the back of her car when she had already parked. She stated there is no indication that it narrows there.

Commissioner Miller stated he has a question about the speed limit through that area. He stated on their documentation it shows to be 40 mph, but his understanding is that it's 25 mph in some areas through there.

Ms. Dees stated it drops through the business area, but at each end it's 40 mph.

Commissioner Miller asked if the business area extends west of Ollie or west of Francis. He asked if between Francis and Classen it was 40 mph. He asked where is it 40 mph?

Citizen stated when you come off of Broadway Extension going west on Britton Road it's 40 mph. He stated when you get to the school, which is in the 700 block, it drops to 25 mph and it should be 25 mph all the way to Western.

Ms. Dees stated it was up on the screen for everyone to see.

Commissioner Tow asked if the school was still open. He stated there seems to be a signage problem out there as well as striping.

Ms. Dees stated it has been overlaid recently and the striping was removed. She stated they are waiting for today's action to complete the striping. Ms. Dees stated they issued a work order to start the striping and then they realized they did not have parallel parking approved, so they did not complete the striping.

Jack Powell stated they have taken out all of the bank parking spots on the south side of the road in the 1000 block illegally. He stated in the 800 block they've taken out angled parking spots there. He stated they've illegally striped it from Francis east. He stated the only part that is not striped is the 900 block that they're complaining about.

Commissioner Tow asked if the bank has parking in the back.

Brenda Russell stated she has 900, 902, 904 and 908 W. Britton. She stated she has the parking center which holds 25 cars and has 20 parking spaces in the back. She stated besides that the other people have the street, they have no parking.

Commissioner Tow thanks Ms. Russell.

Commissioner Burja asked if there are any other speakers.

Citizen states when they did re-stripe after the resurfacing, they made changes to the 800 block to four lanes of traffic which it was not before.

He stated when he walks out his front door onto the sidewalk there is four lanes of traffic within six feet of his front door. He stated he doesn't know why they extended that to four lanes of traffic in the 800 block when it wasn't before. He stated that should not be there because if someone walks out his front door and goes across the street knowing it's two lanes the motorists think it's four lanes because there are no signs that say merge, changing to two lanes or nothing on the whole strip.

Commissioner Burja thanks citizen.

Commissioner Burja states to Chairman Harrell as he pointed out before parking on the street is a privilege it's not a right. He stated there is a great deal of traffic congestion and speeding at this location of 800, 900 and 1000 blocks of West Britton Road. He stated times have changed since Britton was incorporated and the bank was established and the City has grown up around them. He stated unfortunately that is going to work a hardship on them because they will in effect be squeezed out. He stated the greater good of the City is what they have to think about and he is going to move that Item VI.C. be approved.

- MOTION by Commissioner Burja and SECOND by Commissioner Tow to APPROVE Item VI.C.. MOTION was NOT APPROVED by the following votes: Ayes, Commissioners Tow, Burja, Harrell, Naves, Commissioners Pilate and Gonzales and Abstained, Commissioners Miller and Clayton.
- MOTION DOES NOT CARRY.

Citizen asks when they're going to get they're parking stripes back.

Ms. Dees stated they will issue a work order and it should be started within the next two weeks.

- D. David W. Ellis, Secretary, Calistoga Crossing Homeowner's Association, Inc., 1517 SW 137th Terrace, 73170. (Ward 5).
Consider lowering the speed limit from 50 mph to 40 mph on SW 134th Street (SH 37) from Pennsylvania Avenue to Western Avenue.

Ms. Dees reported the 85 percentile speed of 55 mph does not support the lowering of the speed limit to 40 mph. She stated Commissioner Nix called and he does not support lowering the speed limit.

She stated this is a state highway and if a recommendation was made today it would still require ODOT approval. Staff recommends denial.

Commissioner Tow asked if there is anyone there to speak on this. Chairman Harrell stated she has no blue slips.

- MOTION by Commissioner Tow and SECOND by Commissioner Miller to DENY Item VI.D.. MOTION was APPROVED by the following votes: Ayes, Commissioners Tow, Burja, Miller, Harrell, Gonzales, Pilate and Clayton.
- MOTION CARRIES.

E. Pastor Albert Poteat, First Free Methodist Church, 1900 NW 13th Street, 73106-2010 (Ward 6).
Consider the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Indiana Avenue and NW 10th Street.

Ms. Dees reported that this item was deferred from the May meeting to allow staff to conduct more traffic counts. The recounted warrants show this location meets warrant #3 of the MUTCD 2000 Warrants for Traffic Signals. She stated they have shown only three accidents in the past 12 months. Staff does not have any funding available for this at this time. Staff recommends consideration.

Mary Scott, 1935 NW 13th Street. She stated they have always had traffic lights there since the beginning of the street in the 1940's. She stated she and her husband came to the area in 1959 and she remembers going down the street even before that and there was always a traffic light. She stated they have depended on that light terribly going to work and everything. She stated it is essential. She stated she and her husband always attend the neighborhood association meetings and when the street was going to be worked on they would always ask the engineers who came to the meetings if they would still have this light at 10th and Indiana and everyone of them said yes you will have it. She stated she and her husband talked to Paul Brum on the telephone and he said if you had a light before you'll have a light again. She stated she doesn't know why they're so misinformed about this. She stated people zip up and down the street just like the Indianapolis 500 because more people are learning about that mile in there. She stated when you make a left hand turn you can't see anything and you're taking your life into your own hands. She stated there have already been quite a few accidents on that street (10th and Indiana).

She stated it is desperately needed and taking the light away was the worst thing to happen to their neighborhood. She stated she agrees the street is more beautiful but it was much safer when the traffic light was there. She stated it is scary not having that light there anymore and she begs them to put the light back. She stated what did they do with the old traffic lights that were working perfectly. She stated they must be somewhere else and she's sure they would still work. She stated she doesn't understand why they were so misinformed over the whole thing. She stated the people don't live in the area that make some of these rules or they would understand how desperately they need those lights.

Commissioner Tow asked Ms. Dees how long the light has been removed.

Ms. Dees stated the light was removed during construction. She stated the construction has been completed approximately four months. She stated the street was closed approximately a year and a half to two years.

Commissioner Gonzales asked if there were anyone there to speak against the installation of the light.

- MOTION by Commissioner Gonzales and SECOND by Commissioner Burja to APPROVE Item VI.E.. MOTION was APPROVED by the following votes: Ayes, Commissioners Tow, Burja, Miller, Harrell, Gonzales, Pilate and Clayton.
- MOTION CARRIES.

F. Tim Hopkins, Vice-President, Refrigerated Delivery Service, Inc., PO Box 50247, Tulsa, 74150 (Ward 7).
Consider the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Grand Boulevard and SE 15th Street.

Ms. Dees reported that this location meets warrants #1, #2 and #3 for traffic signals as outlined in the MUTCD 2000 Warrants for Traffic Signals. Staff recommends consideration.

Tim Hopkins, Vice-President, Refrigerated Delivery Service, Inc., 1401 SE Grand Boulevard. They have been at the present location since 1976. They have 80 employees on staff to include 50 drivers, 30 warehouse and staff members working 24-hour shifts at two terminals in Oklahoma City and Tulsa.

Mr. Hopkins stated they take delivery of 110 carriers weekly delivering perishable products for further distribution within the state of Oklahoma. He stated there are 12 more trucking companies in this area that handle this amount or more. He stated they serve 40 cities daily. He stated the intersection of 15th and Grand Boulevard is kept very busy with their traffic needs to their terminal as well as other terminals in the area. He stated it is a huge safety issue in regards to traffic as it carries daily. Today he's representing 30 businesses which the Commission has documentation of that. They employ approximately 370 people in the area plus 391 tenants that come from Oak Crest Park Apartments that use the intersection of 15th and Grand Boulevard. He stated they desperately need a light at this intersection. He stated with the addition of the bike walk and run trail in Ward 7, safety has become a major issue concerning children and the elderly attempting to cross this intersection. He stated they've seen people on bikes and walking attempt to cross this intersection. They have to stop in the middle of the intersection while traffic is passing on both sides of them before they can continue to cross this intersection. He stated that the addition of signs for the trail has not slowed traffic nor caused motorists to yield for people crossing there. He stated there have been numerous accidents including fatalities at this location. He stated without a light there it is only a matter of time until someone else will be hit. He stated recently they have seen police officers on 15th Street between Bryant and Eastern. He stated a traffic light would greatly decrease the speeding traffic and ensure more safety, not only for every person especially children and elderly that cross this intersection. He stated that the survey which was done was taken place over three days. He stated that 15th Street is a main artery to Del City. He stated it runs parallel to the freeway and 15th Street is the first intersection that goes into Del City.

Commissioner Tow asked Mr. Hopkins how long he has been at this address.

Mr. Hopkins stated since 1976.

Commissioner Tow asked Mr. Hopkins if he planned on staying at that location from now on.

Mr. Hopkins stated yes.

Commissioner Tow asked Mr. Hopkins if this area was building quite heavily at this time.

Mr. Hopkins stated the area is pretty stable from the existing operating businesses and tenants that live in the area. Mr. Hopkins passes around some pictures to the Commission of an accident which happened this morning. He stated on his way to work he was pulling into the drive and there was an injury accident at that intersection at 9:20 this morning.

He stated a lady pulled out from 15th and Grand on the south side and a truck came down over the top of the hill and turned her completely around about three times. He stated she is in the ambulance in the picture.

- MOTION by Commissioner Pilate and SECOND by Commissioner Tow to APPROVE Item VI.F. with Special Enforcement. MOTION was APPROVED by the following votes: Ayes, Commissioners Tow, Burja, Miller, Harrell, Gonzales, Pilate and Clayton.
- MOTION CARRIES.

G. Council Response Team (Ward 7).

Consider the installation of traffic signals at the following locations:

1. Fox Hollow Ridge Road and Memorial Road
2. Eastern Avenue and Oaks Way

Ms. Dees reported that this item was deferred from the June meeting. These locations meet warrants #2 and #3 of the 2000 MUTCD Warrants for traffic signals. Some of the residents living on the east side of Eastern Avenue were concerned about the impact of the proposed signal at Oaks Way. The president of Fox Hollow and the person concerned indicated their interest in studying the situation further. Staff recommends consideration.

Ron Trent, 13200 N. Eastern Avenue, Oklahoma City. Mr. Trent has pictures to pass out to the Commission so they can see the area. He stated that he feels like speed is the problem. He stated that Eastern Avenue has very fast moving traffic. He stated a lot of it has been diverted from Broadway Extension. He stated from Britton Road there is a stoplight on Eastern, one on Wilshire and Eastern, none on 122nd, one on Memorial. He said there is a two mile stretch where there are no stoplights at the main intersections. He stated the biggest problem, however, is Kilpatrick Turnpike empties on and off going both ways at Eastern just halfway between Memorial and 122nd. He stated there have been several accidents where people are coming eastbound off of the Kilpatrick that want to turn back north and there's a hill coming up the south side. He stated they get hit because they look back one way and then they pull out and get hit. He stated there have been several people going south on Eastern, turning left onto the Kilpatrick. He stated he has seen three accidents there in the last year. He stated the people in the Oaks Addition want a traffic light right across the street from his house. His stated his house is 13200 N. Eastern. He stated he doesn't want a stoplight in the front of his house. He stated the logical place to put a stoplight to slow the traffic down would be at the Kilpatrick Turnpike.

He stated there is a 40 mph speed limit sign directly across the street from his house, but no one goes the speed limit. He stated he thinks it needs to be monitored. He stated the police department should put a radar monitor there to show motorists what their speed is. He stated the signage is confusing there because most of the signage pertains to the Kilpatrick Turnpike and as people are looking at the signage on the Kilpatrick Turnpike they're not looking at the speed limit. He stated both northbound and southbound traffic never goes anywhere close to the speed limit.

Lynnetta Trent, 13200 N. Eastern Avenue. Mrs. Trent stated if they put a stoplight there where the intersection is going into her addition if a car is coming north and going to turn to the west by the second car that is stopped there it blocks her driveway. She stated if they put a stoplight there, when they had a green light she would have a red light so she couldn't take a chance to get out. She stated when their light was red and hers was green, she could not get out of her driveway at all. She stated if they placed the stoplight on the other side of the intersection going into the addition and on the south side of her driveway, it wouldn't block her driveway. She stated there is another addition approximately 100 feet from her driveway on the east side and they wouldn't be able to get out of their drive because that is there only exit and entrance and she only has one way in and out of hers. She stated the people in the addition have four different entrances. She stated she has 12 grandchildren, five of which drive and she is concerned about the traffic there. She stated as far as 40 mph they don't even go 50 mph. She stated if she's going north and is going to turn into her driveway to the east, she has to continuously look into the rearview mirror because motorists will not slow down and they switch lanes at the last minute. She has had to start the car again and pass her driveway to keep from getting hit. She stated if a car in the outer lane is going to turn into the neighborhood across the street from her and stops just before this person switches lanes there is going to be an accident. She stated the majority of motorists are going 60 mph through there. She stated if they could slow the traffic down where the Kilpatrick Turnpike is they wouldn't go down the hill so fast and would be slowed down before they got to the intersection.

Ron Trent spoke again. He said there was a neighbor lady that wished to speak on this, but she had to take her mother to the hospital. The neighbor and others live in an addition to the east of Mr. Trent and they experience the same problems as Mr. Trent. The neighbor is in the process of getting a petition.

Chairman Harrell asked if the person he was referring to is Lola Hinkle.

Mr. Trent stated yes.

Chairman Harrell stated they had a copy of Ms. Hinkle's letter.

Commissioner Clayton stated since listening to these two people he thinks they should honor the request of the president to have further studies about what is going on there. He stated at the same time they should have some concentrated efforts there to slow down the traffic in the area. He stated it sounds like it is a dangerous place without a traffic light and to put a traffic light in there would compound the situation. He stated to honor the request of the president for further study of this area.

- MOTION by Commissioner Clayton and SECOND by Commissioner Pilate to DEFER Item VI.G.. MOTION was APPROVED by the following votes: Ayes, Commissioners Tow, Burja, Miller, Harrell, Gonzales, Pilate and Clayton.
- MOTION CARRIES.

H. Captain Phil M. Carr, Springlake Division, Oklahoma City Police Department (Ward 8).
Consider the installation of a southbound "No Left Turn" sign at the entrance to a private drive, Boat World – 14201 N. Broadway Avenue, in the 14200 block of N. Kelly Avenue.

Ms. Dees reported the Oklahoma City Police Department is attempting to prevent cut-through traffic from accessing Broadway Extension and vice-versa. Staff recommends consideration.

Chairman Harrell stated Commissioner Freeman is out of town, but called and stated he was for this item.

- MOTION by Commissioner Tow and SECOND by Commissioner Gonzales to APPROVE Item VI.H.. MOTION was APPROVED by the following votes: Ayes, Commissioners Tow, Burja, Miller, Harrell, Gonzales, Pilate and Clayton.
- MOTION CARRIES.

VII. COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Citizen came forward and said he applauded the light at 10th and Indiana, but he has noticed there are some other problem areas such as 10th and Virginia. He stated in reference to 10th and Virginia the lanes as they are painted do not line up and he's seen several vehicles almost have an accident there. He himself has almost had an accident there.

Leo Moulin, 1909 N. Villa Avenue. He stated Villa is between Pennsylvania and May and the traffic is really fast there. He stated Villa hooks onto Agnew south in Stockyards City and goes a long way north. He stated across the street from his house at 1909 is a 30 mph speed sign. He stated at 16th Street there is a stoplight and at 23rd Street there is a stoplight. He stated that is a drag strip through there. He stated because of this he has a hard time backing out of his driveway on Villa.

Ms. Dees stated they will look into some Enforcement there and thanked Mr. Moulin.

VIII. REPORTS FROM TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION COMMITTEES

Commissioner Tow stated Saturday he was up and down Northwest Highway going to Home Depot and he realizes that is a state highway. He stated they are doing resurfacing in certain areas from MacArthur to Rockwell and then to Council. He stated his question is, of course that's a six lane road, what is the necessity of blocking off two lanes of traffic while they're resurfacing at peak time hours. He stated couldn't they accomplish the same thing by just blocking off one lane of traffic. He stated they had Northwest Highway choked down to one lane on a Saturday.

Ms. Dees stated it was her understanding that they're doing it in off-peak hours and they're supposed to have it open during the peak hours during the week. She stated that means the off-peak puts them working on the weekends and during the week when the working people are coming and going downtown. She stated that's why they're allowed two lanes in the off-peak hours in order to speed up the project is what they were trying to do, but she will pass that along to ODOT.

Commissioner Tow stated he felt sorry for the business people in that area. He stated people couldn't even get into their neighborhoods because traffic was so backed up. He stated on a Saturday with that being a state highway they do have quite a problem out there.

Commissioner Burja has no comments.

Commissioner Miller stated he would like to welcome Commissioner Pilate to the Commission.

Commissioner Clayton welcomes Commissioner Pilate and stated he hoped the things they were doing there for the people's business.

Commissioner Gonzales welcomes the new Commissioner.

Commissioner Pilate says she is a frustrated English teacher. She stated the fact that Kelly Avenue is spelled two different ways all up and down Kelly. She stated she noticed even in this report sometimes it is spelled Kelly and other times it is spelled Kelley. She stated she would like to know what is the correct spelling and can they agree on the spelling.

Ms. Dees stated she appreciates Commissioner Pilate bringing that up and they will check that out and get the signs changed to the correct spelling.

VI. ADJOURNMENT.

- MOTION by Commissioner Tow and SECOND by Commissioner Burja to Adjourn. MOTION was APPROVED by the following votes: Ayes, Commissioners Tow, Burja, Miller, Harrell, Gonzales, Pilate and Clayton.
- MOTION CARRIES.