



City of Florissant

Honorable Timothy J. Lowery, Mayor

****MINUTES****

MAYOR'S ADVISORY TRAFFIC COMMISSION TUESDAY, AUGUST 8, 2023

The Mayor's Advisory Traffic Commission met at the James J. Eagan Center, Room 3, on Tuesday, August 8, 2023, at 7:00 p.m., with Zach Schneider presiding.

Members present were: Donna Smith-Pupillo (Ward 1), Al Schneider (Ward 3), Teri Reiter (Ward 5), Zach Schneider (Ward 7), Dave Clasby (Ward 8), and Kim Redden (Ward 9). Also present were Officer Feldman, Police Department; Kyle Rachow, Street Department; and MaryAnn Fitzpatrick, Recording Clerk. Pete Fischer (Ward 6) was excused. Don Adams (Ward 2) and Greg Keil (Ward 4) were absent. Also in attendance were residents Robert Taylor, Jr., 3580 Tremont Dr.; Keith Bell, 3590 Tremont Dr.; and Leon Reams, 1435 Hollywood.

A quorum being present the chair declared the Traffic Commission was in session for the transaction of business.

Minutes of the May 9, 2023 meeting were approved as published.

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UNDER OLD BUSINESS:

All old business was addressed and dropped from the Agenda at the May 9, 2023 meeting. The June 13, 2023 Traffic Commission Meeting was cancelled due to the lack of Agenda items, and the July 11, 2023 Meeting was cancelled due to the lack of a quorum.

UNDER NEW BUSINESS:

**05/23 REQUEST WAS MADE TO PLACE STOP SIGN AT THE CREST OF THE HILL
ON MARQUETTE
Denied – Alternate recommendation was approved
Ward 6**

Request was made to place a stop sign on the crest of the hill on Marquette to slow down speeding vehicles. Zach Schneider read the email from Councilman O'Donnell dated April 19, 2023, and from the Chief of Police dated April 19, 2023. Teri Reiter wanted to know if the police had been over there to do surveillance. Dave Clasby told her that the digital sign was there when he drove by there. Kyle Rachow said the digital signs are usually left up for a month and then they have to take the signs down to pull the data. Officer Feldman said the data he has starts on July 8th and ends on August 6, 2023. The total vehicle volume was 6,759 vehicles and he does not show anybody exceeding the posted 25 m.p.h. speed limit. Kyle Rachow said it is a short street. Dave Clasby said coming from the other way it is a long turn and goes along the hill. He said the problem he has with this is that there were cars parked on both sides and it is a narrow single lane. He said if you were driving slow you could probably see a car coming from the other way, but if they are doing 70 m.p.h., that's not going to help you. Certainly, stop signs are not going to stop people from going 70 m.p.h. Kim Redden said that stop signs aren't used for speeding anyway. Dave Clasby said he doesn't see any data that shows any speeding anyway.

Officer Feldman said the average speed on that advisory was 19.6 m.p.h. He said this information is recorded 24 hours a day. Al Schneider said he has a suggestion. Rather than a stop sign, which he doesn't believe is the correct means of traffic enforcement, maybe just a caution sign at the bottom of both sides of the hill. Teri Reiter said the sign could read "limited view" or something such as that. Dave Clasby said something along those lines would be a better solution. Al Schneider suggested no parking on one side only so that you are not down to a single lane on that hill. It was asked if there were any accidents over there. Officer Feldman said he is not aware of any accidents at that location. Zach Schneider asked Kyle Rachow what he would suggest. Kyle Rachow said he thinks "limited visibility" would be the correct sign for traffic. He said if you go with stop signs you are going to wind up having to do no parking in between at least two houses. Zach Schneider said he doesn't think stop signs are going to do anything. He said if you want to put caution signs up, that wouldn't be a problem at all, but he doesn't think that is going to slow anybody down. Al Schneider said St. Lawrence and Redwood are the exact same elevations. They run parallel to Marquette and no one is complaining about those streets. Those streets also have the blind hill. Dave Clasby said there are going to be blind hills everywhere you go. A lot of streets have that. But he doesn't agree with putting a stop sign in the middle of the street. Zach Schneider said it is not necessary to put a stop sign right in the middle of the street. Kim Redden made a motion to deny the request for the stop sign. Teri Reiter said she feels we should address the limited sight issue. She said she gets that nobody looks, but that's not our problem. Resident Mr. Taylor suggested a flashing light. Dave Clasby said he doesn't know that there is enough traffic on that road to require that. Zach Schneider said it's a small side street, and over a month's time there were only 6000 cars and not one of them was

speeding. Kyle Rachow said that if you are doing flashing lights in a neighborhood like that 24 hours a day, at night those LED lights are very bright and are flashing into people's windows. Al Schneider said he would be in favor of a limited sight sign. Zach Schneider said that would be his only suggestion if we would do anything. He said the signs should go on both sides of the hill. Teri Reiter said she would rather do the signs than to do nothing. She asked if this was our decision or if the City Council would make the decision. She was told that we would make a recommendation and the City Council would make the decision. We are an advisory board. Teri Reiter said she would rather do something as opposed to not doing anything. Kim Redden said it has already been stated that if you put a stop sign at the top of the hill, then you have to have no parking 30 feet on either side of that stop sign. Zach Schneider said he thinks that we are all in agreement that there should be no stop sign; but he thinks that if we put caution signs on either side of that hill that would help. The signs should read "Limited Visibility" and placed at the bottom of both sides of the hill.

Motion was made by Kim Redden to make a recommendation not to place a stop sign at the crest of hill on Marquette. Motion was second by Dave Clasby. Motion was made by Teri Reiter to recommend placing "Limited Visibility" signs at the bottom of both sides of the hill on Marquette. Motion was seconded by Al Schneider. On the roll call the commission voted:

Donna Smith-Pupillo – yes, Al Schneider – yes, Teri Reiter – yes, , Zach Schneider – yes, Dave Clasby – yes, and Kim Redden - yes. Motion carried. Item 05/23 was dropped from the Agenda.

06/23 REQUEST WAS MADE TO PLACE STOP SIGN ON SURREY AT TREMONT
Approved
Ward 9

Request was made to place a stop sign on Surry at Tremont. Zach Schneider read the email from Councilman Siam dated May 30, 2023. Mr. Bell, 3590 Tremont, said he lives in the house right there at Tremont and Surrey. He said if you come straight down on Tremont, Tremont has the right-of-way. Surrey runs right into Tremont. He said these guys in these Chargers are flying coming down Surrey and making a left or right turn right onto Tremont. He said his house is right there. He said when he was coming home there was a Charger coming down Surrey and turned right in front of him. He said he almost hit him. He said no one even stops on Surrey. He said it is a small street and no one ever really parks on that small street. He said those cars just fly by. He said someone is going to get torn up because Surrey traffic does not stop, but Tremont is the main street. He said the people on Surrey just come right around and don't even look. Zach Schneider said there is zero traffic enforcement there. There is no stop sign there dumping traffic into the main thoroughfare. Mr. Bell said there used to be a stop sign there on Surrey. Kim Redden asked Kyle Rachow if he could check on that. Kyle Rachow said he would check and see, but when he talked to Jason Timme, Street Superintendent, he said he doesn't remember how long it's been since there has been one there, if there was one. Kim Redden said it does seem a little confusing, so obviously, common sense tells you that Tremont has the right-of-way. Unfortunately, we have a lot of drivers out there that have no common sense. Al Schneider asked if these drivers are turning more toward Balmoral or turning the other way. Mr. Bell said they come down Surrey and they turn left on Tremont. Teri Reiter said it is a problem when two streets cross and neither one has a stop sign. Everybody thinks they have the right-of-

way. Mr. Bell said you don't want to put one on Tremont because that would be in the middle of the street. But he is asking for a stop sign on Surrey pulling out onto Tremont. Kyle Rachow said there are a lot of intersections like that within the City. It just depends on how much traffic you have and how fast are they going. Kim Redden asked if there would be an accident there, who would be at fault. Kyle Rachow told her it would be the person turning onto Tremont because you are turning onto another roadway. He said the person on Surrey should yield to Tremont because they are entering another roadway. Tremont has the right-of-way. Teri Reiter said she is not opposed to putting a stop sign there, but she doesn't think it is going to solve the problem. She said there is a much deeper problem over there with speeding. Mr. Taylor said he would like the stop sign because something bad is going to happen. He said there is a lot of traffic there. He said he would like to see a stop sign go up, or even a yield sign. He said a four-wheeler came down the street and came around the corner on two wheels. He said if someone comes around there and misses the turn, they will be up in Mr. Bell's house. Kim Redden said she is not opposed to a stop sign, but it is not going to solve the problem. She doesn't want to give a false illusion that this will solve the problem. Zach Schneider said it will solve the problem at that intersection. They will see the stop sign and more than likely they will stop. There are going to be people who don't stop and who won't obey the law. He said what he is hearing is a speeding problem. Kim Redden said if the people are not adhering to the speed limit laws, you can't expect them to adhere to the stop sign laws. She said this is a constant problem. She said on her way here tonight someone blew through the stop sign right in front of her and it was her turn to go. Mr. Bell said he agrees with her. He said the only thing is, there is no difference that on Hambletonian at Hollywood there is a stop sign. So he feels there should be a stop sign at Surrey. He wants to

know the difference between Hollywood and Surrey. He said it seems like the same scenario. Zach Schneider asked if the people are stopping or are they running that stop sign all the time. Mr. Bell said they are stopping. Al Schneider said but there is a yield sign at Tremont. Mr. Bell said there are kids out there that actually catch the bus right there at Hambletonian and Hollywood. The school bus stops right there and the kids get on and off the bus right there. Kim Redden said Hambletonian does get more traffic than Tremont and Mr. Bell agreed. Dave Clasby said this street is not unique to the City of Florissant. He said we are all having a problem with speeding and people just not paying attention to signs. He said it is not particular to Tremont. Mr. Taylor asked, as a citizen, what can he do. He was told what he is doing is a start. Dave Clasby said if the residents want a stop sign, he is all for it. If you ask for the traffic monitoring system up there, the police will monitor it. If there is a guy leaving for work every day and is doing 80 m.p.h. down the street at 7:00 every morning, ask for cop to be sitting there waiting for him. He said they will eventually get him. He said but if it is random people and they are just cruising through the neighborhood, that is more difficult. He said it's not just at Tremont, it's all over. He said he lives off of Derhake and you should see the cars flying up and down Derhake. He said we even have a Fire Department right there and they still speed up and down there. Al Schneider said he heard a key thing and that is a special time. He said he had a gal coming down his street every morning at 8:30. She was flying down the street. He set his phone up between the storm door and the frame and hit it on video when he saw her coming. He said he took the video over to the station and talked to an officer there. The office said that was his sector. He said he would be over there on Friday. When she came flying down the street and missed the stop sign, he came out of the dead end and got her down the street. Al Schneider said if you

have ring cameras they are great. Mr. Taylor said he just doesn't want anyone to get hurt. Al Schneider said nobody does. Zach Schneider said he would like to make a motion to recommend a stop sign to the City Council. Zach Schneider asked Officer Feldman if the speed monitors had been placed up there. Officer Feldman said not on Surrey, but they have been on Tremont. Kim Redden suggested to Mr. Bell to put big boulders around the edge of his yard so if someone does lose control, they won't come into his house.

Motion was made by Zach Schneider to make a recommendation to place a stop sign on Surrey at Tremont. Motion was second by Kim Redden. On the roll call the commission voted: Donna Smith-Pupillo – yes, Al Schneider – yes, Teri Reiter – yes, Zach Schneider – yes, Dave Clasby – yes, and Kim Redden - yes. Motion carried. Item 06/23 was dropped from the Agenda.

**07/23 REQUEST WAS MADE TO PLACE STOP SIGNS ON LAFAYETTE AT
ST. JOSEPH TO CREATE A FOUR-WAY STOP INTERSECTION
Denied – Alternate recommendation was approved
WARD 6**

Request was made to place a stop signs on Lafayette at St. Joseph to create a four-way stop intersection. Zach Schneider read the e-mail from Councilman O'Donnell, dated July 5, 2023. Teri Reiter said this is the third time this has come up. The last time was about a year ago. Kim Redden said she really likes the idea of putting up "cross traffic does not stop" signs on St. Joseph. She said there was a car parked right in front of the fire hydrant on St. Joseph. She said she couldn't see beyond the car for oncoming traffic. Zach Schneider said he agrees that the cross traffic signs would be the best solution.

Teri Reiter said St. Joseph is the only street between Lafayette and W. St. Anthony that doesn't have a stop sign. She said there are too many stop signs in Old Town.

Kyle Rachow said we actually have cross traffic signs ordered. He said not specifically for this one intersection, but we do have the signs ordered. Teri Reiter said we don't need any more stop signs in Old Town. We already have too many stop signs and nobody stops for them anyway. Donna Smith-Pupillo suggested that we deny the stop sign and put up "Cross Traffic Does Not Stop" signs on St. Joseph.

Motion was made by Donna Smith-Pupillo to make a recommendation not to place stop signs on Lafayette at St. Joseph, but add "Cross Traffic Does Not Stop" signs on the stop signs on St. Joseph. Motion was second by Zach Schneider. On the roll call the commission voted: Donna Smith-Pupillo – yes, Al Schneider – yes, Teri Reiter – yes, Zach Schneider – yes, Dave Clasby – yes, and Kim Redden - yes. Motion carried. Item 07/23 was dropped from the Agenda.

MISCELLANEOUS:

There were no miscellaneous items sent to the Traffic Commission for review.

Next Traffic Commission meeting is scheduled for September 12, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

No other items were brought before the Commission this evening. The meeting was adjourned.

For the Chairman
Mayor's Advisory Traffic Commission

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "MaryAnn Fitzpatrick". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

MaryAnn Fitzpatrick
Recording Clerk