

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION



Ben Calabretta
Commission Chair

~Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2018

Les MacDonald
Staff Liaison

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Thursday
February 8, 2018

4:00 PM

Council Chambers
206 E. 3rd St.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm.

Present: Chair; Ben Calabretta, Vice Chair Don Meyer, Phil Cook, Joel Hamilton, Brian Johnson, Bob Sanders

Absent: Mike McGahan, Jared Hopkins ITD, Mary DuPree

Staff: Gina Taruscio, Council Liaison
Les MacDonald, Public Works Director
Bill Belknap, Community Development Director
Sandra Collins, Administrative Assistant / Deputy City Clerk

1. Approval of minutes from January 25, 2018

ACTION: Meyer moved to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Johnson. Roll Call
Vote: Ayes: All, Nays: None, Abstained: None, Minutes Approved.

2. Commission Communications (Calabretta)

MacDonald gave a report on the City Council Special Meeting about Third Street. He said the consensus of the Council was to adopt Plan C and directed staff to begin implementation. The Council also directed staff to hire an outside consultant who will assist with implementation of the plan. The design for the common elements of the plan is underway. MacDonald thanked everyone for their help and said he heard a lot of positive comments about the outreach process from the public. Cook thanked MacDonald for his hard work together with City staff, Mike Lowry for his help, and to Tyler Palmer and Streets staff for being willing to work on a maintenance solution. Cook said there were a couple of items he would still like to be addressed such advisory signs for truck routes, garbage collection, and metrics for success. MacDonald explained they have speed and volume counts but also plan on getting pedestrian counts, bicycle usage counts and parking before the work starts. Then in the future they can do additional counts to see if the information has changed. Cook went on to say he is also concerned about educating both motorists and cyclists about how to use the bike facilities. Meyer said at the Council Meeting Bonzo gave a good explanation of how the budget process works. Calabretta felt the commission could definitely take on the concerns mentioned. At the Council Meeting Taruscio said she brought up a potential four-way stop sign at Third and Mountain View and felt that issue may come up again. Calabretta proposed to move the Right of Way Vacation agenda items to the end of the meeting as Taruscio will need to excuse herself from those. There were no objections.

3. SMART Transit Route Revisions – Introduction (Dan Gray – SMART Transit)

Daniel Grey from SMART Transit gave the Commission a handout of their spring schedule. He said there are going to be a couple of surveys, one to riders and one community wide. The surveys will ask about a preference between the addition of a third route or the expansion of service hours. Grey said they are on a tight timeline due to the end of their fiscal year and grant cycle and end of term for the University. SMART Transit has retained the services of two consultants. Nelson Nygaard will assist with the technical aspects, route design and ridership and will also do an onsite visit around the third week in February. From that information Nygaard will create a first draft of the proposed new system. Grey asked if a subcommittee of the Transportation Commission could be setup. This subcommittee could meet more frequently than once a month in order to finalize the draft and present it to the SMART Transit board. Commission members discussed this and asked questions about the current route and proposed changes. Total ridership was 155,000 last year. MacDonald asked about Grey's timeline and if there would be enough time for public comment and input, especially if there are route changes. Grey said besides the surveys, he would like to have a Public Open House at the Transit Center.

Calabretta asked if anyone would like to be on the subcommittee. Sanders and Meyer said they would both be interested. Cook suggested the Commission could also ask Michael Kyte to be on the subcommittee if he was interested.

4. Downtown Medical District Parking Program (Dennis Cockrell - Gritman)

MacDonald showed an overhead of the Health Services Parking District Map. Dennis Cockrell from Gritman thanked the Commission for their previous comments and feedback. He said the parking map has been scaled back from the previous one with a phased in approach. They suggest a one year trial period and each phase would be reassessed with the Commission to gauge its effectiveness. The effects on public parking would occur on Main Street, one block of Eighth Street and Lewis Street. Cockrell went over the proposed plan, which included two hour parking with permits for extended periods when patients were receiving treatment. The restrictions would only occur at certain times leaving public parking available in the evening and on weekends. There would also be permits for employees and other area clinics which wouldn't conflict with the public parking spaces.

Cook asked about the effect on parking enforcement and would the Police Department be able to do that with a two hour frequency. Calabretta asked if the reduction to two hours would also be a parking deterrent to people not using medical facilities. Johnson asked about current parking times in this area. Cook asked what would happen if someone's appointment was running late and the person couldn't get out to their vehicle to move it. MacDonald asked what the benefit of two hour verses three hour parking was. Cockrell said it mainly discouraged employees and people who were not using the health facilities from parking there. Johnson asked if Gritman was enforcing parking with employees. Cockrell said they were working on that issue. Cook asked where patients who currently have longer procedures park. Cockrell gave an overview of that and said he receives complaints from patients who do not have anywhere to park. Cockrell showed an example of the proposed parking sign Gritman has designed. Cockrell said Gritman would cover the cost of the signs and the restriction times were flexible, depending on what the Commission decided. Hamilton suggested the City could carry out an assessment of how much it would cost for Parking Enforcement to check parking every two hours verses every three hours.

MacDonald said for the City Street portion, Council will need to know what the problem is they are trying to solve and what goal they want to achieve. The issues seem to be employees parking

in unsigned three hour patient parking, people who are not health services patients parking in the spaces, and a lack of parking for patients needing more than three hours due to undergoing lengthy treatments. Going to three hour parking with permits would address patient needs for extended time, assuming they can find a parking space. MacDonald asked if parking spaces are not available, what the reasons are for that. Cockrell said the spaces are used by students parking and walking to campus, people parking and walking up Main Street to other business, and parking by medical district employees. He said restrictions would help these problems. Sanders asked about the parking on Washington.

Cockrell said some of the reasons for wanting permits was so Gritman could also enforce their own parking lots. Cockrell said they are using every lot and space they own for parking. He showed an example permit to the Commission. Patients would be asked where they were parking and if they were on the street they would be given a permit, depending on how long their procedure was, including multi-day treatment. Johnson asked how permits would work for other health care providers in the medical district. Cockrell said there would be one Medical District Permit used by all the health care providers. Cook said he felt they should hear input from the other health care providers in that area.

MacDonald made a suggestion that the Commission could first decide if the parking plan was a viable proposition. Then the plan could be discussed in more detail, including obtaining input from the Police Department and engaging other medical providers. MacDonald said he would also like to know what private parking was available to the other health care providers. Johnson asked about phasing enforcement in private lots by health service providers. Cockrell said they are going to re-sign their private lots to make it clear who should park there. MacDonald said perhaps the first phase could be private parking lot enforcement before re-signing public parking. MacDonald asked if the Commission members wanted to move forward with this proposal and they agreed. Sanders said he would also like to hear from the other medical providers.

5. Lande Lane Right of Way Vacation Request (MacDonald)

MacDonald showed a Power Point of the Lande Lane Right of Way Vacation request. He asked that the Commission consider the vacation and make a recommendation to City Council. MacDonald went over the Lande Lane history, maps of the current right of way, the proposed lot division and proposed new right of way to be dedicated. MacDonald also pointed out a pedestrian easement that had been granted previously. If the vacation goes through that pedestrian easement would be cut off, so there is also a proposition for an additional easement to connect to the previous one. Cook said he would only be willing to recommend vacation if retaining the easements were made part of the conditions. Hamilton said he agreed and the reconfiguration made sense for the property. He said the property is elevated about five or six feet above the existing Lande Lane and asked if this would make problems for current residents. Scott Becker (Hodge Associates) gave an explanation on the plan to combat this problem. Johnson made a motion to recommend that City Council allow the Right of Way Vacation with the conditions previously mentioned. Hamilton seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: All, Nays: None.

6. C Street Alley Right of Way Vacation Request (MacDonald)

MacDonald showed a Power Point of the C-Street Alley Right of Way Vacation request. He asked the Commission consider the vacation and make a recommendation to City Council. The applicant is asking for this vacation as their adjacent property used to be a duplex but was converted to a single family home. The new owners would like to convert it back to a duplex, but are short of the minimum lot size by 115 square feet, resulting in their request for vacation of

1.17 feet by 110 feet of alley right of way along their property line. Johnson asked if the City would ever develop it. MacDonald said it was unlikely but he would include the retention of a utility easement in the vacation ordinance. Cook made a motion to recommend approval of the vacation with retention of a utility easement, seconded by Johnson. Roll Call Vote: Ayes, All, Nays: None.

Adjourned: 5:50 pm.

Minutes Approved On

MAR - 8 2018

Clerk/Deputy Signature