

User Group Members Present: Ellen Walker, Emily Tatum, Clint McCrory, Peter Norris, Sam Eberhard (for Bruce Lonnee), Mark Ebell, Stephen Bailey, Jeanne Connell, Daniel Sizemore

Members Absent: Bruce Lonnee, Jen Rice, Ilka McConnell

Other Staff Present: Brad McCook, Chinesia Thompson, Diana Jackson, Gavin Hassemer, Tim Griffeth

Guests: Erik Hammarlund, John Walker, Ernie Boughman

General Business

Diana Jackson called the meeting to order at 3:04 P.M., welcomed the members in attendance and thanked them for being present.

Quorum: Established quorum was present.

No additional items were added to the agenda.

User Group Actions

Meeting Minutes Review & Approval – Jeanne Connell made a motion to approve the January 26, 2022 Minutes, as amended by Ellen Walker, Emily Tatum seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Ellen Walker made a motion to include additional crosswalks at Park Avenue and Talmadge Drive that includes pedestrian signals and upgrades to the left turn light signal from Prince onto Talmadge. Mark Ebell seconded that motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

The below is a brief summary of the key discussion items, not a transcript. The full video is available at the above noted YouTube link. The below notes are only to identify the items discussed and the general order of those discussion to make finding the information on the video easier.

Traffic Study Results

Erik Hammarlund listed Kimley-Horn recommendations from the Traffic Study results. The recommendations are listed as followed if ACCGov decides to follow through with road diet:

- Coordinate with GDOT
- Consider testing road diet with removable barriers prior to restriping/ Made recommendation to phase Pulaski to Barber
- Monitor adjacent roadways for potential traffic diversion
- Adjust traffic signal timing and signal head placements
- Coordinate with transit to consolidate or minimize stops along the corridor
- Consider green painted bike boxes

Tim Griffeth stated his concerns with EMT response times and also traffic being diverted to Boulevard and recommended testing road diet first to monitor response time. After much discussion, the UG agreed that the study is accepted and to wait for implementation plan, and scope and fee.

Traffic Safety Analytics Update

Erik specified that Street Simplified emailed him this morning and that they are uploading the data to an account accessible to TPW by the end of the week. Erik asked that the presentation be set up with TPW for next week or the week after so the next UG meeting will have information and links to share.

Talmadge/Park Intersection

Interim Solution

Diana discussed the interim solution for Park and Talmadge intersection including placing pedestrian heads/signals across Park Avenue and across Talmadge Drive. Diana indicated that she received pricing from Tim Griffith that can be completed by TPW. The pricing for Talmadge would be \$6,000, and the pricing for Park would be \$5,000.

Clint McCrory mentioned that there is a long and confusing left turn from Prince to Talmadge (a problem noted in the 2014 GDOT Road Safety Audit) and that a red left turn signal should be in place so that cars are not turning while the pedestrians are crossing. Tim said that's a change that can be made inside of the signal cabinet and that he appreciated the group thinking through these things.

Diana discussed that this could be achieved through a NOPA instead of taking this item to the M&C.

Diana asked if there was a crosswalk striping on either of the proposed crossings. Ellen Walker answered only on Talmadge; but due to construction, it is almost gone. There is no crosswalk striping on Park. Diana then asked Tim if they would need to find budget for this, or if this was something that would need to be added to our interim solution. Tim answered that there should be enough to do Talmadge, but we should add another \$750 to do the striping on Park.

Longer Term

Ellen asked the question that since the M&C approved the project list, where does that put the project since there is no money for it. Diana answered that she has a meeting scheduled with GDOT and the Hospital to discuss Talmadge and Park. She also stated that they can begin to use the TSPLOST 2018 funds to begin to design the intersection. She also said there was \$9M in TSPLOST 2023 that could be used for construction. Ellen asked about how this would work with Jefferson Road being included in the overall project with Prince Avenue corridor. Diana answered that the Jefferson Road schedule would be behind Prince Avenue's schedule as there have been no studies per se along this corridor. Monies would be used to begin Jefferson Road studies while leaving funding to allow for the Prince/Talmadge/Park intersection construction.

Next Steps

The next meeting is March 23rd; we will begin meeting monthly but can call a special session if needed. Diana will reach out after meeting with GDOT & Hospital to give a brief written summary from the meeting.

Assignment for future meetings

- Next meeting is **March 23, 2022 from 3-4:30 PM NOTE TIME**
- Traffic Studies/Updates
- Next Steps

These minutes are not a transcript of the meeting but instead is a general summary of the key points, ideas, or considerations from the discussion.