



TRAFFIC COMMISSION

AGENDA SECTION	OLD BUSINESS
MEETING DATE	APRIL 19, 2022

ITEM:	Continue Discussion on Traffic and Pedestrian Safety	
DEPARTMENT:	Public Works	BY/DATE: Kathy Young/April 13, 2022

BACKGROUND: At the February meeting commissioners agreed to continue the discussion on traffic and pedestrian safety at the March 15th meeting. At the March 15th meeting a motion was passed requesting the Traffic Commission page of the city website be updated to make the process for traffic-related improvement requests clearer and provide links to the Report a Concern form and appropriate resources. Another motion to table reducing the speed limit on city streets until the next meeting was also passed. Below are the items for continued discussion.

- A. Website update: Items 1.a. and 1.b. are included in the attached draft for website update for your review and comment.

The Columbia Heights Traffic Commission recommends the Columbia Heights City Council take the following actions:

1. Update the Traffic Commission page of the city website to make the request process clearer. The Traffic Commission page should include the following:
 - a. Make it clear that residents can ask the Traffic Commission to consider requests for traffic-related improvements.
 - b. Provide instructions for making a Traffic Commission request and describe the process and next steps, perhaps create a web form for making requests.
 - c. A link to the MnDOT best practices documents, Minnesota’s Best Practices for Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety to assist residents making requests
<https://www.dot.state.mn.us/stateaid/trafficsafety/reference/best-practices-ped-bike-safety.pdf>
 - d. The pedestrian crossings and safety improvements listed in the Columbia Heights 2040 Comprehensive Plan (6-141) to assist residents making requests.

- B: Traffic speed discussion: This discussion was tabled at the March meeting.

Below are other items discussed at meetings and the work session.

Minutes of the work session of April 4th are not yet available. Items of past interest are listed below, however, commissioners may want to delay this discussion to a future meeting.

- A. Stop Sign Policy

Is the Commission interested in proceeding with a city-wide stop sign policy for 4-way intersections, assigning traffic control in either north/south or east/west directions at each intersection? The stop sign map with uncontrolled intersections marked is attached for

reference. If interested, staff will review traffic control at each 4-way intersection and prepare a draft policy for Traffic Commission review.

B. MnDOT PEL Demonstration Projects

The temporary PEL demonstration projects for improved pedestrian safety are scheduled to be installed this summer. Opportunities for public comment will be available after the demonstration projects are in place.

C. Other items

RECOMMENDED MOTION(S):
MOTION: None

ATTACHMENT(S): Draft Website Update
Stop Sign Map