

# Memo

**To:** Tupelo City Council  
**From:** Tupelo Traffic Committee  
**Subject:** Review/Approve Traffic Committee Minutes of May 25, 2021  
**Date:** May 26, 2021

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Attached are the minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting on May 25, 2021. The following is a summary of their actions.

## Old Business:

1. A request from Ms. Lindsey Cochran, Tel. 662-422-9007, for the installation of 40 mph speed limits signs on Heardtown Road.

Action: Postponed

2. A request from Mr. Don Lewis, COO, for the installation of a 4-way stop sign at the intersection of Park and Leake Streets.

Action: Postponed

## New Business:

1. A request from The Grove Neighborhood Association c/o Mr. Henry Robinson, 529 Wooten Cove, Tel. 769-251-3315, for the installation of speed tables throughout the neighborhood.

Action: Postponed

2. A request from Ms. Amanda Powell, 145 Road 1046, Tupelo, Tel. 662-321-7158, [abpowell51@yahoo.com](mailto:abpowell51@yahoo.com), for the installation of a caution light in front of Bissell Baptist Church, 4662 Main Street, for driver's turning left.

Postponed: Postponed

3. A request from Ms. Sasha Robinson, 2981 Old Belden Circle, Tel. 662-213-7734, [sashasenter93@gmail.com](mailto:sashasenter93@gmail.com), for the installation of an "Autistic Child" sign on each end of the road.

Action: Approved "Watch for Children" sign

4. A request from Ms. Maegan Knight, 2482 Barnes Crossing Road, Tel. 662-401-5714, for the installation of an “Autistic Child” sign.

Action: Approved “Watch for Children” sign

5. A request from Mr. Jacque Grayson, 2461 Barnes Crossing Road, Tel. 662-842-4748, for the installation of “Slow-Children at Play” signs on Barnes Crossing Road (before the hill).

Action: Approved “Watch for Children” sign

6. A request from the Big Oaks Homeowner’s Association c/o George Rutledge, 3446 Mosseycup Drive, Tel. 662-231-7178, georgerutledge56@gmail.com, for the installation of some “Slow-Children at Play” signs to be installed in the neighborhood and help with speeding and cut-through traffic.

Action: Postponed to perform speed study

7. A request from the Wilemon Acres Neighborhood Association c/o Ms. Sara Rutledge, 413 N. Ione Street, Tel. 662-231-9566, for the installation of stop signs on Thomas Street at Holmes, Crabapple and Rhenda (at the new addition).

Action: Denied

8. A request from Mr. Lyndsey Rasberry, 2501 Bryan Drive, Tel. 770-410-9195, for help with excessive speeding.

Action: Postponed to allow TPD to install digital radar sign and monitor traffic

9. A request from the Bristow Acres Planning Committee for installation of the following:

- a) Marquette and Lumpkin: Flashing red light at stop sign
- b) George and West Jackson: Flashing caution light
- c) Lumpkin (Down by railroad tracks): Speed tables
- d) Marquette: Speed tables on both ends
- e) West and East Bristow: Speed tables on both ends
- f) George: Speed tables off hill at George and Lambard

Action: Postponed items (a) and (b); Denied items (c), (d), (e) and (f)

10. A request thru Mr. Emmitt Foster for help with on street parking at the intersection of Bickerstaff Street and Shonda Circle.

Action: Postponed to allow fire marshals to speak to church

11. A request from the American Family Association, c/o Mr. Stephen Ladd with McCarty Architects, for the installation of a raised crosswalk/speed table on Parkgate Drive for their employees to safely cross the road from the parking lot to their building.

Action: Postponed to get approval of other businesses affected

12. A request thru Mr. Chuck Williams, Public Works Director, for the installation of 20 mph and "Watch for Children" signs on Mercer Street.

Action: Approved

**MINUTES OF THE TUPELO TRAFFIC COMMITTEE  
MAY 25, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Tupelo Traffic Committee was held on May 25, 2021, at 9:00 am in the in the council chambers on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor at City Hall. Members present were Mr. Dennis Bonds, Mr. Jimmy Avery, Mr. Norman Cruse, Mr. Jake Logan, Mr. Barton Wynn, Mr. Emmitt Foster, Mr. Mike Williams and Mrs. Pam Blassingame. Ms. Shanta Jones and Officer Patrick Johnson were absent.

Audience members were Mr. Johnny Timmons, Manager TW&L, Mr. Don Lewis, City COO, Mr. Chuck Williams, Director PW, Mr. Jason Rush, PW, Mr. Stephen Reed, City Attorney, Mr. George Rutledge (NB#6), Mr. Jim Curtis (NB#6), Mr. Tom Collins (NB#6), Mr. Charlie Eatmon (NB#10), Mr. Stephen Ladd (NB#11) and Mr. Walker Wilemon (NB#11).

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Dennis Bonds.

A motion was made by Mr. Norman Cruse to approve the Traffic Committee minutes of the February 11, 2021 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jimmy Avery and it passed unanimously.

**Old Business**

1. **A request from Ms. Lindsey Cochran, Tel. 662-422-9007, for the installation of 40 mph speed limit signs on Heardtown Road.**

Mr. Dennis Bonds reminded the committee that the south side of Heardtown Road is in the city and the north side is in the county. He stated that he has not been able to talk to the county supervisor about this yet and therefore, he made a motion to postpone this item. Mr. Norman Cruse seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. **A request from Mr. Don Lewis, COO, for the installation of a 4-way stop sign at the intersection of Park and Leake Streets.**

Mr. Dennis Bonds noted that during construction on Jackson Street, this 4-way stop has been temporarily installed. Mr. Norman Cruse made a motion to postpone this item until construction is complete and see if it is still needed. This request was seconded by Mr. Emmitt Foster and it passed unanimously.

**New Business**

1. **A request from The Grove Neighborhood Association c/o Mr. Henry Robinson, 529 Wooten Cove, Tel. 769-251-3315, for the installation of speed tables throughout the neighborhood.**

Mr. Norman Cruse made a motion to postpone this item until the Traffic Committee has completed the Speed Table Policy. Mr. Jimmy Avery seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. **A request from Ms. Amanda Powell, 145 Road 1046, Tupelo, Tel. 662-321-7158, [abpowell51@yahoo.com](mailto:abpowell51@yahoo.com), for the installation of a caution light in front of Bissell Baptist Church, 4662 Main Street, for driver's turning left.**

The speed limit in the area is 45 mph. Mr. Dennis Bonds made a motion to postpone this item to allow a check of the accident history and possibly a traffic count. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jimmy Avery and it passed unanimously.

3. **A request from Ms. Sasha Robinson, 2981 Old Belden Circle, Tel. 662-213-7734, [sashasenter93@gmail.com](mailto:sashasenter93@gmail.com), for the installation of an “Autistic Child” sign on each end of the road.**

Mr. Chuck Williams asked the committee to consider “Watch for Children” signs instead of the specialty sign. He stated that after these specialty signs are installed, often times the families move away or the children grow up and no one ever notifies us that the signs are no longer needed, but a “Watch for Children” sign would cover all situations. Therefore, Mr. Jake Logan made a motion to install “Watch for Children” signs. Mr. Norman Cruse seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. **A request from Ms. Maegan Knight, 2482 Barnes Crossing Road, Tel. 662-401-5714, for the installation of an “Autistic Child” sign.**

Mr. Norman Cruse made a motion to approve installation of “Watch for Children” signs and it was seconded by Mr. Jimmy Avery. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **A request from Mr. Jacque Grayson, 2461 Barnes Crossing Road, Tel. 662-842-4748, for the installation of “Slow-Children at Play” signs on Barnes Crossing Road (before the hill).**

Mr. Norman Cruse made a motion to approve installation of “Watch for Children” signs and it was seconded by Mr. Jimmy Avery. The motion passed unanimously.

6. **A request from the Big Oaks Homeowner’s Association c/o George Rutledge, 3446 Mosseycup Drive, Tel. 662-231-7178, [georgerutledge56@gmail.com](mailto:georgerutledge56@gmail.com), for the installation of some “Slow-Children at Play” signs to be installed in the neighborhood and help with speeding and cut-through traffic.**

Mr. George Rutledge, Mr. Jim Curtis and Mr. Tom Collins were present to discuss this item. Mr. Rutledge stated that most of the speeding problems are from people cutting through from Barnes Crossing Road to CR 811. He also stated that the posted speed limit is 15 mph and he thinks that is too slow. Mr. Rutledge asked if the committee could do a speed study and also study the feasibility of speed tables and “Watch for Children” signs. Mr. Mike Williams made a motion to perform a speed study and present findings at the next meeting. Mr. Barton Wynn seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

7. **A request from the Wilemon Acres Neighborhood Association c/o Ms. Sara Rutledge, 413 N. Ione Street, Tel. 662-231-9566, for the installation of a stop signs on Thomas Street at Holmes, Crabapple and Rhenda (at the new addition).**

Mr. Jason Rush noted that an intersection marker sign has been installed at Holmes Street. Mr. Dennis Bonds stated that Thomas Street is designated as a collector road and no eligible for speed tables. Mr. Jimmy Avery made a motion to deny this request which was seconded by Mr. Jake Logan. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **A request from Mr. Lyndsey Rasberry, 2501 Bryan Drive, Tel. 770-410-9195, for help with excessive speeding.**

Mr. Dennis Bonds made a motion to request that TPD install their digital radar sign and report the findings at the next meeting. Mr. Mike Williams seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

9. **A request from the Bristow Acres Planning Committee for installation of the following:**

- a) **Marquette and Lumpkin: Flashing red light at stop sign**
- b) **George and West Jackson: Flashing caution light**
- c) **Lumpkin (Down by railroad tracks): Speed tables**
- d) **Marquette: Speed tables on both ends**
- e) **West and East Bristow: Speed tables on both ends**
- f) **George: Speed tables off hill at George and Lambard**

Mr. Dennis Bonds noted that Lumpkin Street is classified as a collector and Marquette, Bristow Drive and George Street are classified as residential and are not eligible for speed tables. Therefore, Mr. Norman Cruse made a motion to postpone items (a) and (b) to check on costs associated with these lights and perform a traffic count and to deny items (c), (d), (e) and (f) due their classifications. Mr. Jimmy Avery seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

10. **A request thru Mr. Emmitt Foster for help with on street parking at the intersection of Bickerstaff Street and Shonda Circle.**

Mr. Charlie Eatmon was present to discuss this item. He stated that the problem arises when the Harvestime Church has events such as weddings, funerals and special programs. During these times, church members and guests will park on both sides of Shonda leading into the circle, which drastically narrows the roadway and makes it very hard for residents to get into and out of their homes. It also makes it impassable for a fire truck or ambulance. It was noted additional parking is located behind the church. Mr. Emmitt Foster suggested installing "No Parking" signs on the east side of the street. Concern was expressed that the No Parking signs could hinder the residences on the east side. Therefore, Mr. Jimmy Avery made a motion to postpone this item and allow the fire marshals check code requirements and to contact the pastor or elders of the church and ask if they could help by speaking to their congregation about not blocking the road during events. The motion was seconded by Mr. Norman Cruse and it passed unanimously.

11. **A request from the American Family Association, c/o Mr. Stephen Ladd with McCarty Architects, for the installation of a raised crosswalk/speed table on Parkgate Drive for their employees to safely cross the road from the parking lot to their building.**

Mr. Stephen Ladd and Mr. Walker Wilemon were present to discuss this item. Mr. Ladd explained that all parking for AFA is on the south side of the street with 75% of the employees working in the buildings on the north side of the street. AFA is requesting a raised crosswalk/speed table to allow their employees to safely cross the street and to slow down cut through traffic from Thomas Street to Main Street. It was noted that per city policy, speed tables must be installed in pairs at a total cost of \$7,000. Mr. Dennis Bonds made a motion to postpone this item and allow AFA to provide approval from the dentist office, Skate Zone and any other businesses on Parkgate that would be affected by this request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Emmitt Foster and it passed unanimously.

**12. A request thru Mr. Chuck Williams for the installation of a 20 mph and “Watch for Children” signs on Mercer Street.**

Mr. Williams explained that there is no posted speed limit signs or “Watch for Children” signs on Mercer Street. He also said they would install one pole with both signs mounted. Mr. Norman Cruse made a motion to approve this request and it was seconded by Mr. Jake Logan. The motion passed unanimously.

With there being no further business, Mr. Norman Cruse made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Emmitt Foster seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Submitted by: Pam Blassingame