

# Memo

**To:** Tupelo City Council  
**From:** Tupelo Traffic Committee  
**Subject:** Review/Approve Traffic Committee Minutes of March 23, 2023  
**Date:** March 30, 2023

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Attached are the minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting on March 23, 2023. The following is a summary of their actions.

## Old 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: Approved to send packet and let them get signatures

2. A request from Lee Long, 68 Harvester Square, [lee/long@bxs.com](mailto:lee/long@bxs.com), for the installation of speed tables on Harvester Square.

Action: Approved to send packet and let them get signatures

3. A request from Ms. Carolyn Roland, 3762 Lansdowne Drive, Tel. 662-321-1075, for the installation of speed tables.

Action: Approved to send packet and let them get signatures

4. A request from Councilman Chad Mims, Ward 1, for the installation of a 4-way stop at Country Club Road and Strain Street.

Action: Denied

5. A request from Mr. Philip Mansur, 11 Locust Lane, Tel. 662-810-7662, [philipmansur7@gmail.com](mailto:philipmansur7@gmail.com), for the installation of stop signs on Locust Lane at the intersections of Vermelle Cove/Locust Lane and Westwind Drive/Locust Lane.

Action: Denied

New Business

1. A request from Mrs. Janet Gaston, Councilwoman Ward 6, for the installation of solar stop signs at Thomas Street and Pemberton Avenue.

Action: Approved

2. A request from Mrs. Janet Gaston, Councilwoman Ward 6, for the installation of walking/bike lanes on both sides of Springlake Drive with 3-foot distance signs.

Action: Approved

3. A request from Mr. Stephen Speer, 1756 Hamm Street, Tel. 662-213-9118, [scspeer72@gmail.com](mailto:scspeer72@gmail.com), for the installation of speed tables on Hamm Street.

Action: Does not qualify

4. A request from Ms. Sonya Crayton, 2961 Beasley Drive, Tel. 662-231-3347, [sonya-crayton2000@yahoo.com](mailto:sonya-crayton2000@yahoo.com), for the installation of speed tables on Beasley Drive.

Action: Does not qualify

5. A request from Mr. Jack Foster, 1018 Ridgepark Drive, Tel. 662-231-4095, [jbfoster67@gmail.com](mailto:jbfoster67@gmail.com), for the installation of a 4-way stop at Jeff Homan Blvd and Graham Drive (currently a 2-way stop on Graham Drive).

Action: Postponed

6. A request from Mr. Robert Hereford for the following:
  - a) Installation of a 4-way stop at the intersection of Timberlane Road and Countrywood Road
  - b) Installation of speed breakers at intervals on Coleman Circle

Action: Denied

7. A request from Ms. Lucia Randle, Executive Director DTMSA, for the removal of the Downtown Tupelo Financial Subdistrict from the City of Tupelo's 2-hour parking restrictions. (See attachment "A")

Action: Approved modified map (See attachment "C")

8. A request from Mrs. Aubrei Wilson, 2201 Holmes Street, [aubreyoungwilson@gmail.com](mailto:aubreyoungwilson@gmail.com), for the installation of speed tables on Holmes Street.

Action: Does not qualify

9. A request from Mr. Charles Wikle, 9 Jackson Square, Tel. 662-213-5466, [cwwcmw12@gmail.com](mailto:cwwcmw12@gmail.com), for the installation of a convex traffic mirror on W. Jackson Street across from the entrance to Jackson Square.

Action: Approved to allow homeowner's to install mirrors on their own columns

10. A request from Ms. Caroline Beene, Parkway Terrace Apts # 72, 2700 W. Main Street, Tel. 662-401-5505, [carolinebeene@gmail.com](mailto:carolinebeene@gmail.com), for the installation of a stop sign or caution light at the exit from the Taco Bell parking lot onto the drive into Parkway Terrace Apartments.

Action: No action taken – private property

11. A request from Mr. Duke Loden, Ridgeway Homeowner's Association, for the installation of speed tables on Ridgeway Drive and Ridgemont Drive.

Action: Approved to send packet and let them get signatures

#### Study Item

1. A request from Ms. Bridgett Betts, Dynasty College at 449 N. Front Street, Tel. 662-841-0710, for the following:
- a) A reduction of the speed limit to 30 mph near the entrance to the Dynasty College parking lot
  - b) Signs and flashing lights on the north and south sides of the entrance, warning drivers that they are in a school zone
  - c) A crosswalk on Front Street from the school's parking lot to the public parking lot, north of the Tupelo Police Department
  - d) Permission for students to park in the public parking lot north of the Tupelo Police Department.
- (See attachment "B")

**MINUTES OF THE TUPELO TRAFFIC COMMITTEE  
MARCH 23, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Tupelo Traffic Committee was held on March 23, 2023, at 10:00 am in the council chambers on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor at City Hall. Members present were Mr. Dennis Bonds, Mr. Jason Rush, Mr. Norman Cruse, Mr. Barton Wynn and Mr. Mike Williams. Officer Patrick Johnson, Mr. Michael Montgomery, Ms. Laura Kramer and Mr. Emmitt Foster were absent.

Audience members were Mr. Johnny Timmons, Manager TW&L, Mr. Don Lewis, COO, Mr. Chuck Williams, Public Works Director, and Mrs. Janet Gaston, Councilwoman Ward 6.

**Call to Order**

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

**Old 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. Dennis Bonds made a motion to approve this request, along with items 2 and 3 of Old Business, since the Speed Table Policy has been adopted and the streets meet the requirement of the residential classification. Mr. Jason Rush seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The requesters will be sent a packet to explain the process and get the required signatures for approval.

2. **A request from Lee Long, 68 Harvester Square, [lee/long@bxs.com](mailto:lee/long@bxs.com), for the installation of speed tables on Harvester Square.**

See item #1 above

3. **A request from Ms. Carolyn Roland, 3762 Lansdowne Drive, Tel. 662-321-1075, for the installation of speed tables.**

See item #1 above

4. **A request from Councilman Chad Mims, Ward 1, for the installation of a 4-way stop at Country Club Road and Strain Street.**

Mr. Dennis Bonds noted that the traffic count does not qualify this intersection for a 4-way stop according to the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Also, there have been no accidents reported here in the last 12 months. Therefore, Mr. Mike Williams made a motion to deny this request which was seconded by Mr. Jason Rush. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **A request from Mr. Philip Mansur, 11 Locust Lane, Tel. 662-810-7662, [philipmansur7@gmail.com](mailto:philipmansur7@gmail.com), for the installation of stop signs on Locust Lane at the intersections of Vermelle Cove/Locust Lane and Westwind Drive/Locust Lane.**

Mr. Dennis Bonds noted that Mr. Mansur is requesting these stop signs to help slow the speed of traffic in the area. He also noted that the MUTCD does not allow the use of stop signs to slow traffic. Mr. Jason Rush made a motion to deny this request. It was seconded by Mr. Mike Williams and it passed unanimously.

### **New Business**

1. **A request from Mrs. Janet Gaston, Councilwoman Ward 6, for the installation of solar stop signs at Thomas Street and Pemberton Avenue.**

Mr. Jason Rush asked if the request is to replace all four (4) stop signs with solar or just the two (2) on Thomas Street. Mr. Dennis Bonds said that he would check the crash history to see if all four are warranted to just the two. Mr. Jason Rush made a motion to approve this request for either two or four solar stop signs, depending on what the crash history shows. Mr. Barton Wynn seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. **A request from Mrs. Janet Gaston, Councilwoman Ward 6, for the installation of walking/bike lanes on both sides of Springlake Drive with 3-foot distance signs.**

Mr. Jason Rush noted that, if approved, the street is wide enough and would be striped only for a bike lane with the 3-foot distance noted on the ground within the lane. Mrs. Gaston stated that she would be amendable to this. Therefore, Mr. Dennis Bonds made a motion to approve this item. The motion was seconded by Mr. Mike Williams and it passed unanimously.

3. **A request from Mr. Stephen Speer, 1756 Hamm Street, Tel. 662-213-9118, [scspeer72@gmail.com](mailto:scspeer72@gmail.com), for the installation of speed tables on Hamm Street.**

Mr. Dennis Bonds noted that Hamm Street is classified as a Local Road and does not qualify for speed tables.

4. **A request from Ms. Sonya Crayton, 2961 Beasley Drive, Tel. 662-231-3347, [sonya-crayton2000@yahoo.com](mailto:sonya-crayton2000@yahoo.com), for the installation of speed tables on Beasley Drive.**

Mr. Dennis Bonds noted that Beasley Drive is classified as a Local Road and does not qualify for speed tables.

5. **A request from Mr. Jack Foster, 1018 Ridgepark Drive, Tel. 662-231-4095, [jbfooster67@gmail.com](mailto:jbfooster67@gmail.com), for the installation of a 4-way stop at Jeff Homan Blvd and Graham Drive (currently a 2-way stop on Graham Drive).**

Mr. Dennis Bonds made a motion to postpone this request until a traffic count and crash history could be obtained. Mr. Norman Cruse seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

6. **A request from Mr. Robert Hereford for the following:**
  - a) **Installation of a 4-way stop at the intersection of Timberlane Road and Countrywood Road**
  - b) **Installation of speed breakers at intervals on Coleman Circle**

Mr. Dennis Bonds stated that the TPD records do not show any crashes at the intersection of Timberlane Road and Countrywood Road in the past 12 months. According to the MUTCD, there must be at least five (5) accidents to qualify an intersection for a 4-way stop. Also, although Coleman Circle is classified as a residential street and would qualify for speed tables, Mr. Hereford stated that he wants the speed tables to slow down ATV's that are driving illegally on the road. Mr. Jason Rush made a motion to deny both items, based on the following:

- (a) Does not meet the requirements for a 4-way stop set forth in the MUTCD;
- (b) Do not want to install speed tables to control illegal ATV use – liability issues.

Mr. Norman Cruse seconded the motion to deny both items and it passed unanimously. Mr. Dennis Bonds said that he would ask the TPD to help monitor Coleman Circle and stop the ATV's on the road.

7. **A request from Ms. Lucia Randle, Executive Director DTMSA, for the removal of the Downtown Tupelo Financial Subdistrict from the City of Tupelo's 2-hour parking restrictions. (See attachment "A")**

Mrs. Lucia Randle provided a map of the requested area (attachment "A"), but Mr. Jason Rush noted that it would be less confusing for out of town guests to Tupelo and the TPD for enforcement to relinquish the 2-hour parking restrictions from Troy Street south. (See attachment "C") A motion was made by Mr. Norman Cruse to approve the recommendation in attachment "C" and was seconded by Mr. Dennis Bonds. The motion passed unanimously.

8. **A request from Mrs. Aubrei Wilson, 2201 Holmes Street, [aubreyoungwilson@gmail.com](mailto:aubreyoungwilson@gmail.com), for the installation of speed tables on Holmes Street.**

Mr. Dennis Bonds noted that Holmes Street is classified as a Local Road and does not qualify for speed tables.

9. **A request from Mr. Charles Wikle, 9 Jackson Square, Tel. 662-213-5466, [cwwcmw12@gmail.com](mailto:cwwcmw12@gmail.com), for the installation of a convex traffic mirror on W. Jackson Street across from the entrance to Jackson Square.**

Mr. Dennis Bonds and Mr. Jason Rush noted that this would not be a traffic committee or city issue. They both also noted that the best place for the mirrors would be on the columns coming out of Jackson Square. Mr. Bonds said he would talk to Dr. Wikle and let him know that the homeowners in Jackson Square can install these themselves on their own property.

10. **A request from Ms. Caroline Beene, Parkway Terrace Apts # 72, 2700 W. Main Street, Tel. 662-401-5505, [carolinebeene@gmail.com](mailto:carolinebeene@gmail.com), for the installation of a stop sign or caution light at the exit from the Taco Bell parking lot onto the drive into Parkway Terrace Apartments.**

Mr. Dennis Bonds informed the committee that this driveway and the Taco Bell parking lot are not city streets. The city cannot install a stop sign or caution light. He did note that he would follow up with Taco Bell and see if they would be willing to install a stop sign themselves.

11. **A request from Mr. Duke Loden, Ridgeway Homeowner's Association, for the installation of speed tables on Ridgeway Drive and Ridgemont Drive.**

Mr. Dennis Bonds said these roads are classified as residential streets and would qualify for speed tables. Mr. Jason Rush noted that speed tables must be installed in pairs. Mr. Dennis Bonds made a motion to approve this request and send Mr. Loden the packet explaining the process and to get the required signatures. Mr. Mike Williams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Study Item**

1. **A request from Ms. Bridgett Betts, Dynasty College at 449 N. Front Street, Tel. 662-841-0710, for the following:**
  - a) **A reduction of the speed limit to 30 mph near the entrance to the Dynasty College parking lot**
  - b) **Signs and flashing lights on the north and south sides of the entrance, warning drivers that they are in a school zone**
  - c) **A crosswalk on Front Street from the school's parking lot to the public parking lot, north of the Tupelo Police Department**
  - d) **Permission for students to park in the public parking lot north of the Tupelo Police Department.**

**(See attachment "B")**

Mr. Dennis Bonds stated that he would speak with Ms. Betts about her request and report at the next meeting.

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

Submitted by: Pam Blassingame



December 27, 2022

Dear City of Tupelo Traffic Committee:

I am writing to request the removal of the Downtown Tupelo Financial Subdistrict from the City of Tupelo 2-hour Parking restrictions. We have received several requests from businesses in this area to be removed. The Financial Subdistrict primarily consists of banking and finance offices and there is ample parking to accommodate customers.

I have attached a map which outlines this area for your reference.

Thank you for your consideration and I am happy to answer any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Lucia Randle".

Lucia Randle  
Executive Director  
Downtown Tupelo Main Street Association





**COURT ST**

**Downtown Historic**

**TROY ST**

**Financial**

**CLARK ST**

**BROADWAY ST**

**S FRONT ST**

**S COMMERCE ST**

**CLARK ST**

**CLARK BLV**

**ING ST**

**FA**



449 N. Front St., Tupelo, MS 38804  
662-841-0710  
[www.dynastycollege.net](http://www.dynastycollege.net)

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Councilwoman Nettie Davis  
City of Tupelo, Ward 4  
Tupelo, MS

Re: Front Street traffic in front of Dynasty College

Dear Councilwoman Davis:

This letter is to request your assistance regarding the speed of traffic on Front Street in the vicinity of Dynasty College. Dynasty College is open Mondays through Fridays and has plans to start opening on Saturdays, in the near future. Over 46 students are presently enrolled, and enrollment is increasing, rapidly. Additionally, we have a staff of eight and clients who are serviced regularly by the school.

With the speed of traffic in front of the school, it is very difficult to safely enter or exit the school's parking lot. Specifically, we are requesting the following from the appropriate governmental body of the City of Tupelo:

1. A reduction of the speed limit to 30 mph near the entrance to the Dynasty College parking lot.
2. Signs and flashing lights on the north and south sides of the entrance, warning drivers that they are in a school zone;
3. A crosswalk on Front Street from the school's parking lot to the public parking lot, *north of the Tupelo Police Headquarters; and*
4. Permission for students to park in the public parking lot north of the Tupelo Police Headquarters.

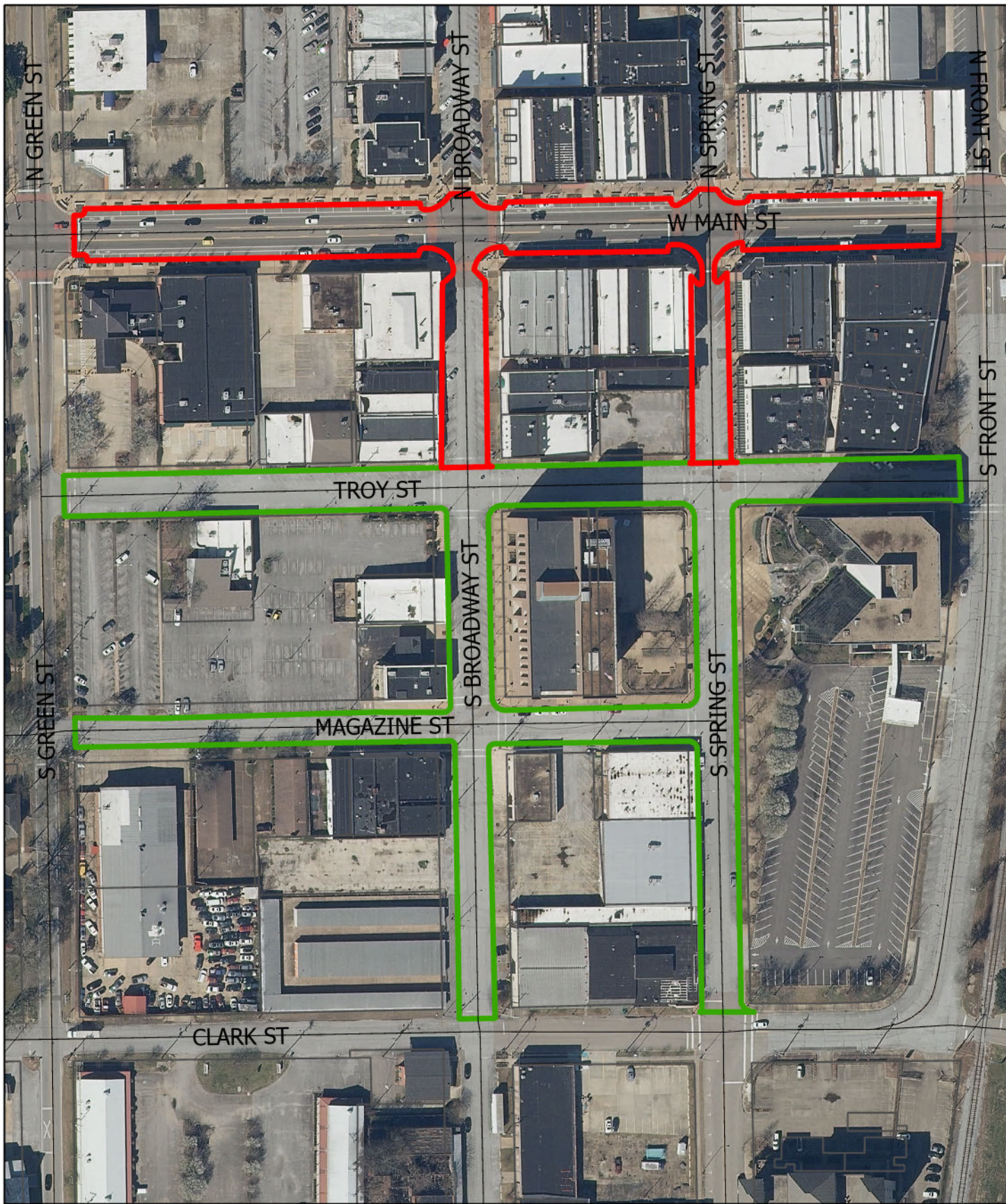
We will gladly appear before a *committee or the Tupelo City Council* to further explain our requests in this letter.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

Bridgett Betts, Chairperson



BB/pa



# FINANCIAL OVERLAY DISTRICT PARKING



March 24, 2023

-  No Limit
-  Two Hour Parking

