

Memo

To: Tupelo City Council

From: Tupelo Traffic Committee

Subject: Review/Approve Traffic Committee Minutes of November 18, 2021

Date: December 1, 2021

Attached are the minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting on November 18, 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: Approved

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: Approved

3. 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

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

Action: Postponed

5. 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

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

Action: Postponed

7. 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

Action: Postponed

8. 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: Approved

New Business:

1. A request from Ms. Delores Coleman, 1617 N. Green Street, Tel. 601-673-7606, for a handicapped parking space in front of her home.

Action: Referred to Tupelo Housing Authority

2. A request from Ms. Rosie Douglas, 901 Mercer Street, Tel. 662-255-0470, for the installation of speed tables on Mercer Street and to lower the speed limit (currently 20 mph).

Action: Denied

3. A request from Mr. Bruce Parker, Tel. 662-213-3663, for the lowering of the speed limit on Graystone Drive and the installation of a “No Outlet” sign.

Action: Approved sign, denied lower speed limit

4. A request from Mr. Lee Waldrip, 3598 Cottonbowl Lane, Tel. 662-297-8045, for the installation of two (2) “Watch for Children” signs: one at the top of the hill on Cottonbowl Lane and one at the entrance to Cottonwood Estates.

Action: Approved sign on Heartwood Lane

5. A request from Mr. Austin Marshall, 209 N. Foster Drive, Tel. 662-523-3636 for the installation of a stop sign at the intersection of Rhenda and N. Foster making this intersection a 3-way stop.

Action: Denied

6. A request from Mrs. Janet Gaston, Councilwoman Ward 6, for the installation of “No Littering” signs on Meadowbrook Drive close to Chesterville Road.

Action: Approved sign with fine

7. A request from Ms. Allison Holloway, 908 Garfield Street, Tel. 662-231-5829, for the installation of “Watch for Wheelchair” signs on Garfield Street and around the hospital.

Action: Denied

8. A request from Mr. Jim Hawkins, 106 Airpark Road, Tel. 662-871-8539, for the installation of a traffic light at Airpark Road and West Main Street.

Action: Denied

9. A request from Ms. Key Riddell for the installation of a large reflective sign on Coley Road at Butler Road to help with visibility for turning at night.

Action: Denied

**MINUTES OF THE TUPELO TRAFFIC COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 18, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Tupelo Traffic Committee was held on November 18, 2021, at 9:00 am in the in the council chambers on the 2nd floor at City Hall. Members present were Mr. Dennis Bonds, Mr. Jimmy Avery, Mr. Norman Cruse, Mr. Jake Logan, Officer Patrick Johnson, Mr. Barton Wynn, Mr. Emmitt Foster and Mrs. Pam Blassingame. Ms. Shanta Jones and Mr. Mike Williams were absent.

Audience members were Mr. Johnny Timmons, Manager TW&L, and Mr. Jason Rush, PW.

Call to Order

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

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 stated that he has talked to the county supervisor and this speed limit is good for them. Mr. Norman Cruse made a motion to approve this item, which was seconded by Mr. Jimmy Avery. The motion 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 and has worked well. Therefore, Mr. Jimmy Avery made a motion to approve this item. This request was seconded by Mr. Emmitt Foster and it passed unanimously.

3. **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 postpone this item along with items 4, 5 and 6. Mr. Norman Cruse seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

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

See Item # 3 (Old Business)

5. **A request from the Big Oaks Homeowner's Association c/o George Rutledge, 3446 Mosseycup Drive, Tel. 662-231-7178, georgerrutledge56@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.**

See Item # 3 (Old Business)

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

See Item # 3 (Old Business)

7. **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**

Mr. Jimmy Avery made a motion to postpone this item to check the accident stats and allow the Public Works Department to update the signage at these intersections. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jake Logan and it passed unanimously.

8. **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. Dennis Bonds provided documentation, as requested, from the AFA showing that the other businesses on Parkgate Drive did not object to a raised crosswalk/speed table. (See attachment "A".) Since there were no objections from the other businesses and the AFA will pay for the raised crosswalk/speed table, Mr. Norman Cruse made a motion to approve this request. Mr. Jimmy Avery seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New Business

1. **A request from Ms. Delores Coleman, 1617 N. Green Street, Tel. 601-673-7606, for a handicapped parking space in front of her home.**

Mr. Norman Cruse made a motion to refer this request to the Tupelo Housing Authority. The motion was seconded by Mr. Emmitt Foster and it passed unanimously.

2. **A request from Ms. Rosie Douglas, 901 Mercer Street, Tel. 662-255-0470, for the installation of speed tables on Mercer Street and to lower the speed limit (currently 20 mph).**

Mr. Dennis Bonds noted that Mercer Street is a "No Outlet" street that is only 500' long. Also, the current speed limit of 20 mph is the lowest speed limit allowed on a residential street. Therefore, Mr. Jimmy Avery made a motion to deny this request, which was seconded by Officer Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **A request from Mr. Bruce Parker, Tel. 662-213-3663, for the lowering of the speed limit on Graystone Drive and the installation of a "No Outlet" sign.**

It was noted that the current speed limit on Graystone Drive is 20 mph, which is the lowest allowed on a residential street. Mr. Jimmy Avery made a motion to deny lowering the speed limit and approve installation of the "No Outlet" sign. Mr. Emmitt Foster seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. **A request from Mr. Lee Waldrip, 3598 Cottonbowl Lane, Tel. 662-297-8045, for the installation of two (2) “Watch for Children” signs: one at the top of the hill on Cottonbowl Lane and one at the entrance to Cottonwood Estates.**

Mr. Jason Rush stated that the main road into this subdivision, Heartwood Lane, is a public street and the rest are private. Mr. Jimmy Avery made a motion to install one (1) “Watch for Children” sign on Heartwood Lane as you come into this subdivision. The motion was seconded by Mr. Norman Cruse and it passed unanimously.

5. **A request from Mr. Austin Marshall, 209 N. Foster Drive, Tel. 662-523-3636 for the installation of a stop sign at the intersection of Rhenda and N. Foster making this intersection a 3-way stop.**

Mr. Jimmy Avery made a motion to deny this request and it was seconded by Mr. Jake Logan. The motion passed unanimously.

6. **A request from Mrs. Janet Gaston, Councilwoman Ward 6, for the installation of “No Littering” signs on Meadowbrook Drive close to Chesterville Road.**

Several of the committee members stated that they have checked this area and there is a problem with people dumping trash and household items on the side of the road and in the ditch. Officer Johnson made a motion to approve the installation of this sign with a fine attached. Mr. Jimmy Avery seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

7. **A request from Ms. Allison Holloway, 908 Garfield Street, Tel. 662-231-5829, for the installation of “Watch for Wheelchair” signs on Garfield Street and around the hospital.**

It was noted by several committee members and audience members that it is very dangerous for wheel chairs to be on the streets around the hospital (they are not road approved vehicles), especially if they are trying to cross Gloster from Garfield Street. Therefore, Mr. Dennis Bonds made a motion to deny this request which was seconded by Mr. Emmitt Foster. The motion was approved unanimously.

8. **A request from Mr. Jim Hawkins, 106 Airpark Road, Tel. 662-871-8539, for the installation of a traffic light at Airpark Road and West Main Street.**

It was noted that this intersection is right in the middle of two signaled intersections at Rutherford Road/West Main Street and Coley Road/West Main Street. Mr. Jimmy Avery made a motion to deny this request. It was seconded by Mr. Emmitt Foster and passed unanimously.

9. **A request from Ms. Kay Riddell for the installation of a large reflective sign on Coley Road at Butler Road to help with visibility for turning at night.**

Mr. Jason Rush and Mr. Jake Logan both noted that PW can move the existing road sign on Butler Road closer to Coley Road so that the street light will make it more visible. Mr. Norman Cruse

made a motion to move the existing sign and deny the installation of a bigger sign. Mr. Dennis Bonds seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

With there being no further business, Mr. Jimmy Avery made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Officer Johnson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Submitted by: Pam Blassingame

Dennis Bonds

From: Stephen Ladd <sladd@mccartycompany.com>
Sent: Monday, September 13, 2021 1:02 PM
To: Dennis Bonds
Cc: Walker Wildmon; Bo Hefner
Subject: American Family Association Speed table request
Attachments: Traffic Committee Request.pdf

Good afternoon, Dennis.

Perhaps you recall the May Traffic Committee meeting in which we presented the idea of a speed table installation in the 100 block of Parkgate Drive. Our takeaway from the meeting was that the committee generally appeared to be in favor of the installation. One question that was raised however was whether the other property owners on Parkgate would be in favor of a traffic calming device.

Attached please find a letter of from AFA formally requesting the speed table, also signed by Drs. Hester and West, the only other property owners on the east-west section of Parkgate. We respectfully request to be placed on the docket for the next Committee meeting, in order to bring this issue to a close. Please advise us of the date and time so we may be able to schedule and let us know if you need any other information in this regard.

In the meantime Dennis, if you wouldn't mind looking into a related matter. Please correct me if I'm wrong, but I recall you saying during the meeting that Parkgate is deemed a "collector street"? If I'm reading the Traffic Manual correctly, it is classified as a "local" street. This classification has implications, not only as it relates to a speed table, but for speed limits it's subject to. Currently there are no speed limit signs on Parkgate anywhere. If there were signs for 25 mph, the current problems might be mitigated.

Thank you!



Stephen Ladd, ACHA, NCARB - Architect

McCarty Architects, P.A. | 533 W. Main St. Tupelo, MS 38804

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American Family Assoc.
107 Parkgate Drive
Tupelo, MS 38801
Tel: 662-844-5036

Skate Zone of Tupelo Inc.
103 Parkgate Drive
Tupelo, MS 38801
Tel: 662-841-1260

October 28, 2021

Traffic Committee
111 Troy Street
Tupelo, MS 38804

Dear Committee,

The undersigned businesses are located on Parkgate Drive in Tupelo, MS. Between the two businesses located on Parkgate, we employ almost 130 individuals. The majority of these employees have to walk across Parkgate to access their office space. Parkgate is often used as a cut thru between Thomas Street and Main Street with no posted speed limit on Parkgate Drive.

As a business representative at the aforementioned location, we would find it appropriate for the City of Tupelo to authorize the installment of signage stating the speed limit and a speed control system such as a speed table on Parkgate Drive. A speed control system would ensure traffic abides by the posted speed limit and most importantly it would protect the pedestrians that cross Parkgate throughout the day.

Please see the attachment for our recommendation on what type of speed control system should be installed and the precise location of said system.



Walker Wildmon, Vice President of Operations,
American Family Association



Dale Taylor, President/Owner
Skate Zone of Tupelo Inc.

American Family Assoc.

107 Parkgate Drive

Tupelo, MS 38803

Tel: 662-844-5036

Fax: 662-821-2044

Tupelo Dental Group

105 Parkgate Drive

Tupelo, MS 38803

Tel: 662-844-7231

Fax: 662-844-0142

July 22, 2021

Traffic Committee

111 Troy Street

Tupelo, MS 38804

Dear Committee,

The undersigned businesses are located on Parkgate Drive in Tupelo, MS. Between the two businesses located on Parkgate, we employ over 130 individuals. The majority of these employees have to walk across Parkgate to access their office space. Parkgate is often used as a cut thru between Thomas Street and Main Street with no posted speed limit on Parkgate Drive.

As a business representative at the aforementioned location, we would find it appropriate for the City of Tupelo to authorize the installment of signage stating the speed limit and a speed control system such as a speed table on Parkgate Drive. A speed control system would ensure traffic abides by the posted speed limit and most importantly it would protect the pedestrians that cross Parkgate throughout the day.

Please see the attachment for our recommendation on what type of speed control system should be installed and the precise location of said system.

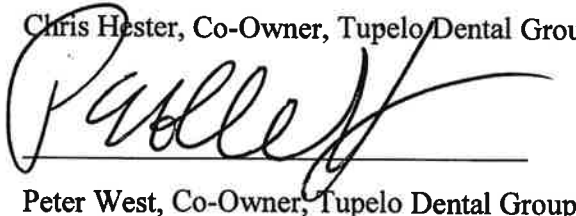


Walker Wildmon, Vice President of Operations,

American Family Association



Chris Hester, Co-Owner, Tupelo Dental Group



Peter West, Co-Owner, Tupelo Dental Group