

General Government & Social Services

May 2, 2017

Partial Summary for Report-Out (Pedestrian and Traffic Safety)

Chair Lamb called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Committee members Evans, Kay, Moloney, Stinnett, J. Brown, Farmer, F. Brown, and Henson were present. Council Members Plomin, Gibbs, Bledsoe, and Scutchfield were also in attendance as non-voting members. Council Member Farmer was absent.

I. Pedestrian and Traffic Safety

CM Stinnett introduced the item and gave a brief overview of how this came to committee. Keith Horn with Law Department presented the ordinance to the committee. The Law Department recommends a three-part solution: 1) further limit jay-walking by amending section 18-100; 2) prohibit being in the roadway and approaching cars on arterial roads; and 3) prohibit being in medians in Lexington's arterial roads, except for the purpose of crossing the street. Horn stated that the ordinance would take effect 60 days after the date of passage to allow for public education.

CM Scutchfield suggested that we may need to change the review from once a year to instead be reviewed "at least once a year." She suggested including language in the ordinance for bus stops where people sit. She also asked how this would impact fund raisers such as car washes or people on the street during football season trying to allow people to park in their yards. Horn stated that people should not be in the street doing these things anyway.

CM F. Brown asked if jay-walking applied to arterials only. Horn said no. CM F. Brown asked if it applied to residential streets. Horn said yes. CM F. Brown is concerned about people crossing the street to speak to their neighbors. He cannot support this ordinance if there is not an exception for this.

CM Gibbs asked about medians and ramps. He added that we need to put pressure on the state to add more crosswalks.

CM Bledsoe commented on pedestrian safety enhancements and reviewing the Mayor's proposed budget to make sure those funds are available.

A motion was made by CM Stinnett to move the Pedestrian and Traffic Safety ordinance item (as amended) to full council, seconded by CM Moloney. The motion passed without dissent.

A motion was made by CM Stinnett to amend the Pedestrian and Traffic Safety ordinance to add "public transportation" or "buses" under Section 18-94, Section 4 (3)(c), seconded by CM Evans. The motion passed without dissent.