



Environmental Quality and Public Works Committee Meeting
April 21, 2015
Summary and Motions

Vice Chair Stinnett called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Committee Members Kay, Moloney, J. Brown, Gibbs, Evans, F. Brown, Mossotti, and Lane were in attendance. Chair Farmer was absent. CM Henson was also in attendance.

I. Approval of Committee Summary

A motion was made by Moloney to approve the March 10, 2015 Environmental Quality & Public Works Committee Summary, seconded by Kay. The motion passed without dissent.

II. Keep Lexington Beautiful Commission

James Pendergest, Chair of the Keep Lexington Beautiful Commission (Commission) presented an annual update. He reviewed the 2014 program priorities and work schedule, and presented event outcomes. Pendergest stated that the LFUCG's investment in the Commission's work results is a cost-benefit ratio of nearly 10:1 when accounting for the value of volunteer hours, in-kind donations, and private donations.

Lane thanked Pendergest for the presentation and inquired about their annual budget from all sources of funding, to which Pendergest required that it is \$18,000 for the year. Lane inquired if the amount is adequate. Pendergest stated that it is, and they have exceeded the amount needed through the Public Service Grant.

Kay thanked the Commission for their work, citing their work on Richmond Road, and commented that Lexington receives a very positive impact for a small investment. Kay asked that Council consider the investment of additional funds to support the work of the Commission.

In response to a question from F. Brown, Pendergest replied that the Commission is a government organization through the Department of Environmental Services.

Moloney thanked the Commission for their efforts and Henson for her involvement.

J. Brown stated that his neighborhood participates each year and inquired which entryways are targeted for cleanup prior to the Breeders' Cup. Pendergest replied that Newtown Pike and Versailles Road have been identified for cleanup, with more areas to be determined.

Susan Plueger, Director of Environmental Services, stated the Breeders' Cup beautification is a joint venture with the Commission, administration and Council who have previously provided funding for the project. Plueger stated they are looking at Newtown at I-75, Newtown at Main Street, Iron Works Pike, and potentially Georgetown at Citation, Oliver Lewis Way and Pine Street in addition to the aforementioned streets.

Henson stated she enjoyed her work the Commission and inquired if they could send copies of the community index to Council so they will be aware of areas in their district that are in need of attention.

Evans inquired what information the Commission can provide to interested neighborhood associations. Pendergest stated that associations can visit the Commission's website for more information and to schedule a Great American Cleanup in their neighborhood.

Moloney inquired how much funding is set aside for the Breeders' Cup cleanup. Plueger replied there is \$100,000 in the FY 2015 budget and an additional request is coming to Council for the FY16 budget. Plueger stated they are projecting a budget between \$600,000 and \$700,000 for the initial rollout prior to the Breeders' Cup. Moloney inquired about the start date, to which Plueger stated the work began in December. Moloney inquired if they have a relationship with UK, due to the timing of the football games. Plueger stated there is a Breeders' Cup Coordination Committee with many ties to the community, including UK.

III. Consolidate Greenway Responsibilities

Susan Plueger presented LFUCG greenway program responsibilities, consolidation changes in process, and greenway coordination tasks. She reviewed the responsibilities of each Division, and explained consolidation changes that have occurred since 2014.

Mossotti inquired about trails and the areas in new subdivisions that are disturbed from construction. Plueger stated Commissioner Paulsen from Planning will be presenting this information, and they are looking at how the city will determine what conditions should be met for the government to take ownership of these areas. Plueger stated they are developing a decision matrix for those issues. Mossotti inquired how many of those properties are currently on the list, to which she replied approximately 165 properties.

Kay stated it would be useful to hear about the way the resources are managed, and inquired if they are managed through contract. Plueger stated some management is contracted but many of the greenway areas are maintained in-house. Kay inquired about the workforce and tree maintenance. Plueger replied that Streets & Roads have staff assigned to tree maintenance.

Moloney inquired about funding for maintenance on Town Branch Commons, and stated his desire to make sure future funding is adequate to address this need.

F. Brown requested a list of greenways in the 8th district.

In response to a question from Stinnett, Plueger replied that Environmental Services handles tree enforcement. Stinnett inquired if code enforcement is engaged in enforcement related to trees, to which Plueger stated the maintenance of street trees was moved to the urban forester. Stinnett inquired if they have adequate staff, to which Plueger replied that they do. Stinnett requested that Environmental Services monitor their workload and complaints this summer. Plueger stated they are identifying efficiencies in this area. Stinnett inquired about maintenance policies and asked if there is consistent application of policy. Plueger stated this is part of the greenway manual conversation, and that a draft operational handbook has been created to address these issues.

IV. Changing Signalized Intersections to Four Way Stops – Woodland Ave. & Central Ave., Kentucky Ave. & Central Ave.

Steve Cummings, Traffic Signal Manager, gave an overview of the proposal to decommission intersections at Woodland & Central Avenue and Kentucky & Central Avenue.

Mossotti inquired what the department does with the old signals, to which Cummings replied they will utilize any of the materials they can including everything within the cabinet. Cummings stated the cabling and everything outside of the cabinet is too degraded to be reused.

Kay inquired if there are other signals in the city that would qualify for decommissioning, and how those inquiries are initiated. Cummings stated that Traffic Engineering would need to be contacted to study specific intersections.

Moloney inquired why these signals were initially installed. Cummings stated the traffic patterns are significantly different than they were when the signals were installed. Moloney inquired if any other signals had been decommissioned in the city, to which Cummings replied that signals have been previously decommissioned in the 1st district.

F. Brown stated he would like the department to examine other intersections across the city to identify other signals that could be decommissioned, stating they can be an eyesore and create more noise than multi-way stop control.

Gibbs stated that feedback from residents in the Aylesford area was solicited, stating most respondents were in favor.

There was public comment about future improvements to adjacent roadways that could impact the subject intersections.

A motion was made by Gibbs to move to full Council changing signaled intersections to four-way stops at Woodland Avenue & Central Avenue, and Kentucky Avenue & Central Avenue, seconded by Mossotti. The motion passed without dissent.

V. Monthly Financials

There was no discussion on this item.

VI. Items Referred to Committee

A motion was made by J. Brown to Adjourn, seconded by Angela Evans. The motion passed without dissent.

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 2015

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIVISION OF TRAFFIC ENGINEERING, PURSUANT TO CODE OF ORDINANCES SECTIONS 18-51 AND 18-86, TO DECOMMISSION THE TRAFFIC-CONTROL SIGNALS AT THE INTERSECTION OF CENTRAL AVENUE AND WOODLAND AVENUE, AND TO INSTALL MULTI-WAY STOP CONTROLS, WITH PROPER AND APPROPRIATE SIGNS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS DESIGNATION.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Code of Ordinances Section 18-51 and other authorities, the Division of Traffic Engineering is authorized and empowered to place and maintain traffic control signs, signals, and devices to regulate traffic; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Code of Ordinances Section 18-86, the Division of Traffic Engineering is further authorized and empowered to designate intersections where stop controls are necessary to regulate traffic; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Traffic Engineering has performed a Decommissioning Study regarding the removal of traffic control signals and the installation of multi-way stop controls at the intersection of Central Avenue and Woodland Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the Urban County Council has determined that the intersection of Central Avenue and Woodland Avenue should have multi-way stop controls in lieu of traffic control signals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE LEXINGTON-FAYETTE URBAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT:

Section 1 – That the Division of Traffic Engineering is hereby authorized and directed to decommission the traffic control signals at the intersection of Central Avenue and Woodland Avenue, and to install multi-way stop controls.

Section 2 – That the Division of Traffic Engineering is further authorized and directed to install proper and appropriate signs in accordance with that designation.

Section 3 - That this Resolution shall become effective on the date of its passage.

PASSED URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL:

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CLERK OF URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL

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RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 2015

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WHEREAS, pursuant to Code of Ordinances Section 18-51 and other authorities, the Division of Traffic Engineering is authorized and empowered to place and maintain traffic control signs, signals, and devices to regulate traffic; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Code of Ordinances Section 18-86, the Division of Traffic Engineering is further authorized and empowered to designate intersections where stop controls are necessary to regulate traffic; and

WHEREAS, the Division of Traffic Engineering has performed a Decommissioning Study regarding the removal of traffic control signals and the installation of multi-way stop controls at the intersection of Central Avenue and Kentucky Avenue; and

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ATTEST:

CLERK OF URBAN COUNTY COUNCIL

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Decommission
Signal to
4-Way Stop

Decommission
Signal to
4-Way Stop

Existing
4-Way Stop

Existing
4-Way Stop

East Main Street

Central Avenue

Woodland Avenue

Kentucky Avenue