



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and Council
FROM: Howard S. Lazarus, City Administrator
DATE: March 14, 2018
SUBJECT: Monthly Update on Council Resolution R-17-422

This memorandum is in response to City Council resolution R-17-422, which directed the City Administrator to provide monthly updates on various safety related items in the vicinity of Huron High School, implementation of Vision Zero, evaluation of crosswalks, lane conversions, and speed reduction.

Monthly updates on safety measures around Huron High School requested in the Resolution include the following:

Crossing Guards: Covered in the January Update.

Adjustment of Signage: Staff has reviewed and made the appropriate adjustments to signage.

Review of AAATA Service: At this time, Transportation Engineering staff have observed positive near term results from the changes implemented (as described in detail in the February update). Staff is meeting with AAATA and AAPS staff shortly to review the changes and determine whether they should be made permanent.

Analysis of RRFB vs. HAWK/PHB signal: Covered in the February Update.

Enforcement: No additional updates. AAPD is working with Ann Arbor Public Schools (AAPS) on busing route changes inside their property.

Ann Arbor Public Schools (AAPS) Education & Schedule Options: AAPS will be engaging OHM Advisors shortly to do an on-site traffic study of Huron High School to help assess separating the bus and car traffic for pick up and drops off. In the short term, they are also looking at ways to better separate cars and buses this spring for the sake of safety at these locations.

The following two items were given a February 15th deadline in the Resolution, and are also being updated in this memo:

“A local traffic safety data inventory and data gap analysis, including traffic counts, speeds, and injury and crash data on all 4- and 5-lane roads, major one-way roads, MDOT roads, and known dangerous other roads”

Staff has completed an inventory of available data, and provides the following summary:

Traffic Counts: City engineers have access to the most recent traffic count data for all of the types of roadways listed above. For any types of traffic analyses that require more updated data than what is currently available, City staff has the equipment necessary to obtain updated traffic counts as needed.

Speed Data: City engineers also have access to speed data for any road on which traffic counts have been recently taken. Again, City staff has the equipment necessary to obtain updated traffic counts and speed data when it is needed. Much of the data on traffic and speeds is publically available in map form at: <http://semcog.org/Map-Gallery> in the “Transportation” section.

Crash Data: Staff have access to detailed analytics tools through a program called RoadSoft. This data set is updated annually, normally around May, when the State releases the certified crash records for the year. All crash data is also available through the Michigan State Police (MSP) online database. Crash reports are normally posted within 30-45 days. Crash reports are also available upon direct request from the AAPD. AAPD will provide a UD-10 (State crash report form) once it has been completed for serious injury crashes if Engineering staff requests it. RoadSoft and the MSP website provide tools for sorting and ranking crashes by a variety of factors, including crash type and injury level. Crash data are available to the public through <https://www.michigantrafficcrashfacts.org/>.

“An evaluation of the recommendations and findings of the Transportation Commission concerning speed reduction options throughout the city.”

Update: The Transportation Commission Speed Reduction Committee expects to make recommendations at the March 21 Commission meeting. A staff evaluation of the Committee’s recommendations could be provided to City Council by April 2.

The following item was given a specific March 15th deadline in the Resolution:

“A work plan to implement Vision Zero, including additional recommended engineering changes to reduce road user injuries.”

To accelerate and further inclusion and implementation of Vision Zero at a system wide level, Staff has initiated the process of drafting a Request for Proposals (RFP) to procure a qualified consultant for the 2018/2019 Transportation Plan Update (TPU) project. The TPU will be based on Vision Zero Principles.

Funding for the Transportation Plan update is included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 budget, however it is anticipated that additional financial resources will need to be allocated to the project in order to award a contract for this work as described. The amount of this additional funding need will be known following the RFP process and before a request for contract award is presented to City Council.

The current draft schedule for the TPU has the Request for Proposal being issued in March of 2018, with Council action to approve the selected consultant anticipated in June. The TPU process is expected to take approximately 12-18 months to complete once the consulting contract is approved, and then a possible additional 4-6 months to complete the approval process as an element of the City Master Plan. Once completed, this will be the first Vision Zero plan of its kind for the City and in the region. This represents a dramatic new way to thinking about transportation planning – it is an exciting opportunity, but one that will require the time needed to develop a strong plan.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance on this matter.

cc: C Hupy
N Hutchinson
C Slotten