

Agenda

OLD BUSINESS

1. Request for review of the Center Street corridor as it relates to traffic flow, speed, barriers for safety as well as sound, and pedestrian crossings.

11/15/2021

Director Martin stated that a group of residents of the Center Street corridor requested a review of the corridor as it relates to traffic flow, speed, barriers for safety as well as sound, and pedestrian crossings.

Kalb stated that he has traffic counts from Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for Center Street from railroad tracks to Main Street and Tiffin Avenue from Blanchard Street to the split. Currently getting counts for Center Street. Director Martin stated the plan is to get traffic counts and analyze the data. Then discuss what next steps are. Are there things we can do or do we hire an outside source to do a traffic study? Kalb stated that looking at traffic counts from ODOT, on Tiffin Avenue east of Blanchard Street was 18,000 cars per day, on Center Street between the railroad tracks and Main Street was 8,000 cars per day. Kalb is working on ideas, but waiting for traffic counts to come in first. Director Martin stated that the recommendation is to table the request until we are able to get the traffic counts in and analyze the data.

Motion to table request, by Councilman Slough, second by Kalb. Motion passed 5-0.

12/20/2021

Motion to lift item from table, by Councilman Slough, second by Kalb. Motion passed 4-0.

Kalb stated that traffic counts on Center Street from Tiffin Ave. to Blanchard Street westbound was 300 vehicles and eastbound was 800 vehicles.

Looking at the safety of those travelling eastbound from S. Main St. and speeding over the railroad tracks to go straight to this area of Center St. Kalb drew up a sketch of what it would look like if a 90° turn was put in to enter onto Center Street at Tiffin Avenue rather than being able to drive straight through. There are no barriers available to slow people down in the area of the railroad tracks. The only thing to really do is to have a safety study done that will cost about \$100,000. Chief Ring suggested we try something more simple with signage that there is a curve ahead especially westbound. Kalb stated that traffic counts at Blanchard and Tiffin Avenue has 18,000 vehicles, and the railroad tracks to Main Street has 8000 vehicles. Director Martin asked if we should look at some signage before we make any significant changes. Kalb stated that in order to get any funding from the State to make changes, a safety study would have to be conducted.

Chief Ring stated that changing Center Street to a 90° turn will slow eastbound traffic, but will do nothing for westbound traffic where most of the issues occur with vehicles running into houses. Rayle asked if raising the pavement on the other side of the railroad tracks to make less of an incline over the tracks would help. Kalb stated that there is a lot of coordination with the railroad company that would need to be done. Kalb further stated that if that comes up in the safety study there is the potential to secure safety funds to pay for it. Director Martin stated that it all comes back around to a safety study. Kalb stated that it is a lot of money, but we collect a lot of data and are then eligible for safety funds.

Signage suggestions: dangerous curve sign with 25 MPH speed designation, chevrons on guardrails or reflectors.

Motion to install dangerous curve signs with railroad and a 25 MPH designation for both directions on either side of the railroad tracks on Center Street and to install chevrons on guardrails on Center Street near railroad tracks, by Chief Ring, second by Kalb. Motion passed 4-0.

Motion to table Center Street corridor safety discussion, by Chief Ring, second by Kalb. Motion passed 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Request of Jack Winans of We Serve, Coffee located at 114 East Sandusky Street, to revisit the three 15 minute parking spaces on East Sandusky Street.
2. Request of Jeff Love for crossing signals at the marked crossing at North Main Street on the north side of the Main Street bridge.

From: Jack Winans <weserve@weservecoffee.org>
Sent: Wednesday, January 5, 2022 12:33 PM
To: Grant Russel
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Parking

Security Checkpoint: External Email! Do not click on links or open attachments unless you trust the source and know the content is safe.

Mr. Russel and council members,

I am writing this email as a frustrated business owner.
So a brief backstory-

A few years ago now, a petition was filed to change the parking time on E. Sandusky St. to 15 minutes. The change was made quickly and without notice. Our business, We Serve, Coffee, was neither consulted or given an opportunity to question the need for the change.

I am not placing blame, nor am I willing to disrupt the community excessively.
However, the changes were made at the behest of businesses that A) open later in the morning and/or B) are no longer in existence and C) without the consultation of all businesses. The changes were made with assumptions that it would benefit every business on the street.

We are now in 2022 with frustrations from customers that frequent our shop and some no longer come because of the parking issue. The only 3 - 15 minute parking spots in downtown Findlay directly affect our business flow. While some people may come in for a quick cup and leave promptly others linger a little longer than they expect, to come out to sometimes multiple tickets. Oftentimes, early in the day the street parking is largely open and a common sense approach is not being taken.

The purpose of this inquiry is to come to a compromise. Maybe, we could enforce a parking timeframe later in the morning and afternoon. I would imagine 30 minutes from 11a-5p.

We as a downtown, whether it be government or business owners, need to advance the discussion surrounding the parking issue. I park off street, our staff has designated parking (off street), that allows the consumer the opportunity to park instead.

I know for certain this policy is not adopted by a majority of the businesses I am familiar with. The parking shuffle is a real thing, and we need to curtail this behavior, but discussing an alternative. We also need to discuss the possibility of an increased fine system for those that choose to violate. Honestly speaking, a \$5 fee/fine to park for 4 hours is worth it for many people.

I would love to come to a meeting to discuss the possibilities and problems surrounding parking in downtown Findlay!

Thank you for your time,

Jack Winans
Owner
We Serve. Coffee



★ - 15 minute parking space

Kathy Launder

From: Jeffrey Love <jnlove@ameritech.net>
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 6:06 PM
To: Mayor (website)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]Main St pedestrian crossing for the Heritage Trail

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Madam Mayor,

I frequently enjoy walking the Heritage Trail along the river until I encounter the marked crossing at the Main St. Since there are no crossing lights the wait becomes tedious unless I walk down to Front St. to wait for the walk light there.

It would be far safer and more convenient if the city would install the same crossing lights already in use at the jaywalking crossings further to the south at the existing marked curb cuts at the north end of the bridge.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter,

Jeff Love

[Sent from AT&T Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

