

# TRAFFIC COMMISSION

Monday, November 19, 2018 ◆ 2:30 p.m. Municipal Building, Third Floor Conference Room

# **Agenda**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

 Request of Tom DeMuth, City of Findlay Traffic Signal Supervisor, to review the crosswalk signalization across Lima Avenue at Cooper Tire & Rubber Company leading from their corporate offices to their parking lot due to ailing equipment needing repaired or replaced.

### 4/16/2018

DeMuth stated that the traffic signal equipment at Cooper Tire was installed in 1993. The hardware is wearing out and it is outdated equipment. In lieu of spending money to update the light, DeMuth suggested that it be converted to a regular crosswalk like West Main Cross Street. Schmelzer stated that an RFB similar to West Main Cross Street is no longer recognized under the Uniform Traffic Code. DeMuth stated that if it is not a federal or state highway, should be able to use the RFB. Not a traffic control device just an enhancement. Option A is to just stripe a sign the crosswalk. Option B is to install a HAWK device or overhead light. Option C is to replace the existing. Schmelzer stated the cost of this type of device is born by the entity that needs it. Cooper Tire needs to pay for a HAWK system or traffic signal or we will put back to a crosswalk. DeMuth stated that they will not be happy with a HAWK system. Schmelzer stated that he will talk with Cooper Tire about cost of traffic signal after DeMuth gets actual costs.

### 08/20/2018

Schmelzer forwarded to Cooper and has not heard back.

10/15/2018

No new information.

 Request of Michael Chiarelli, Kan Du Group located at 17728 County Road 99, Findlay, for a traffic signal facing north at Speedway Drive to allow motorists to safely be able to turn left (east) from their facility as well as Flashover Sports.

### 4/16/2018

Chiarelli stated that the Kan Du Group is the former Blanchard Valley Industries and moved to a County Road 99 location. It serves adults with disabilities. There will be 45-50 adults on location at a time. There is a concern of the safety of turning left out of the drive onto CR 99. A traffic signal would allow a safer turn. The entrance to the facility will be moved to line up with the existing traffic signal. Schmelzer stated that usually the organization requesting an additional traffic signal would be responsible for the cost to purchase and install the signal. There may be grants or government funds available to cover the cost. Having a traffic signal there may spark additional development. Cost to install a new signal would be approximately \$15,000 if have to purchase all equipment. Schmelzer stated that if the owner moves the drive the City would pay for the signal. Chiarelli stated that the owner is aware that they would have to move the entrance.

Motion to table request pending further discussion regarding combining the driveways, by Director Schmelzer, second by Councilman Slough. Motion passed 5-0.

### 8/20/2018

Schmelzer met with property owner. Doubt we will do anything there very soon. Keep on the agenda.

10/15/2018

No new information

3. Request of Councilman John Harrington to review the traffic pattern around Jefferson School.

### 5/15/2017

Acting Chief Dunbar stated that he has assigned the Special Assignment Unit to review the traffic pattern around Jefferson School. They are to have their report completed by May 24, 2017, to bring back to Traffic Commission. It is suggested to reach out to Dennis McPheron to attend the next meeting when it is discussed.

Motion to table, by Director Schmelzer, second by Thomas. Motion passed 5-0.

### 06/19/2017

Chief Dunbar stated that Sgt. Brian Dill with the Special Assignment Unit reviewed the area for best options for traffic pattern around Jefferson School. He spoke with school personnel as well as the residents in the area. The following are several proposals for consideration:

- A. Remove the No Parking restriction on Seventh Street between S. Main St. and Maple Ave. to allow for additional stacking.
- B. Make Washington Ave. between Sixth St. and Seventh St. No Parking during school hours.
- C. Make Maple Avenue between Seventh Street and Fairlawn Place one-way going southbound allowing two lanes of stacking.

- D. Make Fairlawn Place from Maple Ave. to Washington Ave. No Parking during school hours.
- E. Maple Avenue between Fairlawn Place and Pearl Street has already been made No Parking Any Time on both sides of the street.

Schmelzer requested that Chief Dunbar develop a map with the recommendations and forward to the Superintendent of Findlay City Schools for review. The net benefit of these recommendations is to get cars off of Sixth Street and increase bus maneuverability on Fairlawn Avenue.

Motion to have the Engineering Department create an exhibit to reflect proposals A, B, C, and D from Special Assignment Unit, and forward to Ed Kurt, Superintendent of Findlay City Schools, and Jefferson School Principal for review, by Director Schmelzer, second by Councilman Monday. Motion passed 5-0.

### 08/28/2017

Motion to lift item from table, by Director Schmelzer, second by Chief Eberle. Motion passed 4-0.

Director Schmelzer reported that Findlay City Schools Superintendent Ed Kurt stated that it is very difficult to make any changes to traffic patterns around schools during the school year. Superintendent Kurt stated that they would continue to monitor the traffic around the school throughout the year and, if necessary, make a change at the beginning of the summer to get resident acclimated and then parents. The Principal of Jefferson School stated that the double stacking on the one way of Maple Avenue is not a safe idea. Will look at periodically throughout school year with school staff and take notes.

Motion to table item and evaluate traffic patterns throughout the school year, by Director Schmelzer, second by Director Thomas. Motion passed 4-0.

### 8/20/2018

Schmelzer stated that a map was put together based on Police Department recommendation to the school. Have not heard back from Superintendent Ed Kurt or Dennis McPherson.

Motion to lift off table, by Schmelzer, second by Thomas. Motion passed 4-0.

Discussed plan.

- A. Remove parking restriction on school days south side of Seventh Street east of the first north/south alley
- B. Make a no parking zone on Washington Ave. between Sixth St. and Seventh St.
- C. Change Maple Ave. from Seventh to Fairlawn to a one way in southbound direction to create a row of parking on the west side and bypass lane on the east side
- D. No parking on Fairlawn

Modify map per discussions for next meeting. Will then give to Findlay City Schools to have them review recommendations.

Motion to table, by Schmelzer, second by Chief Eberle. Motion passed 4-0.

#### 9/17/2018

Thomas stated that the Engineering Department is in the process of modifying the map.

### 10/15/2018

Waiting to hear back from school.

4. Request of Jeremy Kalb, Engineering Department, to change the first alley east of Main Street from E. Main Cross St. to E. Crawford St. to one way southbound.

### 8/20/2018

The request to change the direction of the alley to one way south is so that access to the parking garage can be maintained when East Crawford Street is closed for events. This request was made by a business owner. Chief Eberle suggested that we contact the other business owners in the area to get their opinion.

Motion to table, by Chief Eberle, second by Chief Dunbar. Motion passed 3-0.

### 9/17/2018

No new information.

### 10/15/2018

Motion to lift item off table, by Director Thomas, second by Councilman Slough. Motion passed 4-0.

Tom Drake stated that a representative of the City talked with Dave Kuenzli, Amy Hackenberg of First Federal Bank, and himself about a year ago about changing the direction of this one way alley. No one came to talk with them recently. They are opposed to changing the one way direction of this alley. It would be inconvenient for the folks who come to the building and park in its parking lot to have to turn the opposite direction to exit. It would be very inconvenient not to be able to exit onto East Main Cross Street, having to exit onto East Crawford Street and fight traffic around the block back to Main Cross. Request additional time to discuss options.

David Owens, President of Mallet Enterprises, stated that whenever East Crawford Street or Main Street closes for an event or construction, it cuts off access to the businesses on East Crawford Street due to it being one-way. The alley from Sandusky to Crawford is oftentimes blocked with delivery trucks.

Motion to table request for further discussion, by Director Thomas, second by Councilman Slough. Motion passed 4-0.

5. Request to consider removing traffic signal at Lake Cascades and Western Avenue.

### 9/17/2018

This item has been briefly discussed before. The traffic signal at the intersection of Western Avenue and Lake Cascades Parkway is failing. The cabinet and controller is also failing. Thomas stated that traffic counts did not meet warrant for traffic signal to remain. Engineering Department

recommends to remove traffic signal and install stop signs on Lake Cascades Parkway. Western Avenue traffic will not stop. There are currently no sight issues. This may change if the southwest corner is developed. Chief Dunbar stated some concerns with the curve from Lake Cascades Parkway onto Western Avenue remaining a Yield. He proposes to eliminate the curve. Another suggestion was to replace the Yield with a Stop Sign. It is proposed to have Western Avenue as a thru street, have traffic on Lake Cascades Parkway stop at Western Avenue, keep yield sign at curve. Flash for two weeks on yellow for Western Avenue, red for Lake Cascades Parkway, then bag the traffic signals. If there are no concerns after this period, then come back for official determination of removing traffic signals. Motion to table and bring back to the Traffic Commission after review of the traffic pattern of the yield sign at the curve, by Chief Eberle, second by Councilman Slough. Motion passed 4-0.

### 10/15/2018

The traffic count in this are showed that there is not much traffic. Need to look at traffic that uses the right turn curve with the yield sign.

Request of Councilwoman Holly Frische to look at the need for a traffic signal at the intersection of Deer Ridge Drive and East Melrose Avenue.

### 9/17/2018

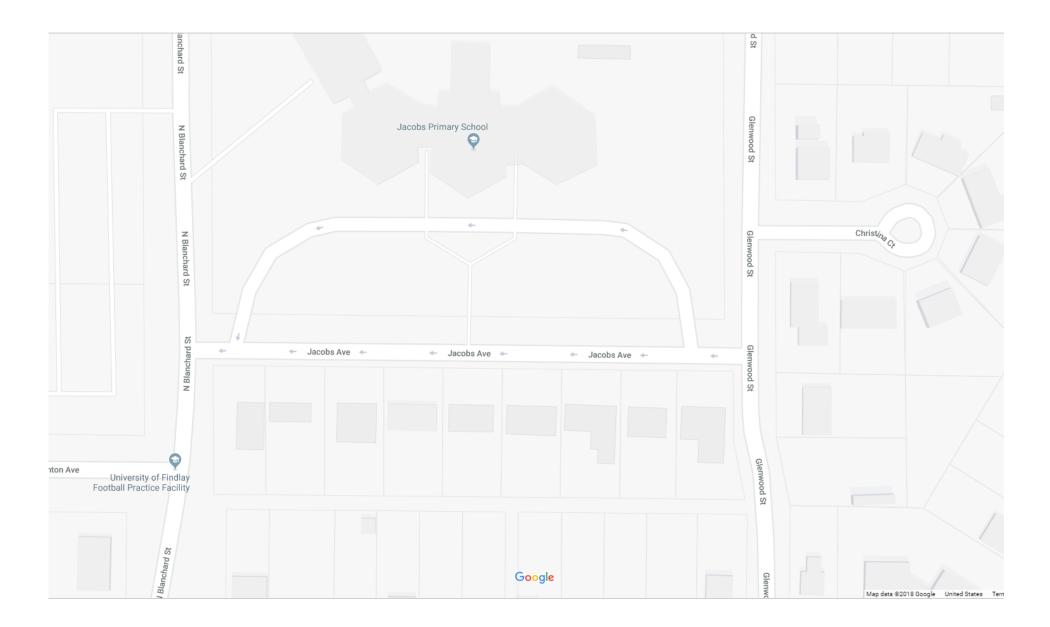
Thomas stated that the last traffic count done was in 2015. The average daily total did not meet the warrant for a traffic signal. With the new apartments going in on the north side of Melrose Avenue, there will be an increase in traffic. Deer Ridge is a private drive. A new signal will cost approximately \$150,000. Recommend get current traffic counts after the apartments are built and occupied. Motion to table until traffic counts are obtained, by Chief Eberle, second by Councilman Slough. Motion passed 4-0.

#### 10/15/2018

Traffic counters have not been placed yet.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. Request to consider a mid block crossing across Jacobs Avenue to line up with the entrance of the school.
- 2. Request of Jason Flechtner, Lowes Distribution Center, for an upgrade to the existing traffic signal at the intersection of County Road 212 and McLane Road to add left turn signals for north/south traffic.
- 3. Request of Dale Rieman, 718 Deer Valley Court, to increase the speed limit to 45 miles per hour on County Road 236 from State Route 224 to State Route 12 and on Bright Road from State Route 12 to County Road 212.
- 4. Request of Jen Fulton, Buggy Whip Bakery, East Sandusky Street, to make the parking spaces on the north side of the first block of East Sandusky Street 15 minute parking.



# **Kathy Launder**

From: Tom Demuth

Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2018 3:15 PM

**To:** Traffic Commission

**Subject:** Fw: Stoplight at Lowe's Distribution Center- Safety concern

Kathy can you add this request to the agenda

From: Fletcher, Jason - Jason L < Jason. Fletcher@lowes.com>

Sent: Wednesday, October 24, 2018 1:45 PM

To: Traffic-All

**Subject:** Stoplight at Lowe's Distribution Center- Safety concern

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

### Good afternoon.

I would like to ask that the stop light at the entrance to the Lowe's Distribution Center be looked at to be a possible upgrade with green turn arrows. Now that McLane's and Campbell's have been added on the south side of the street and our shifts let out around the same time, we would like some clear distinction on right away to ensure that we are keeping all parties safe at that intersection. If you have any other questions, please feel free to reach out to me. If this is not the correct group to approach on this subject, please point me in the right direction. I would like to share with our 600+ employees the feedback if this is going to be possible.

Thanks in advance!

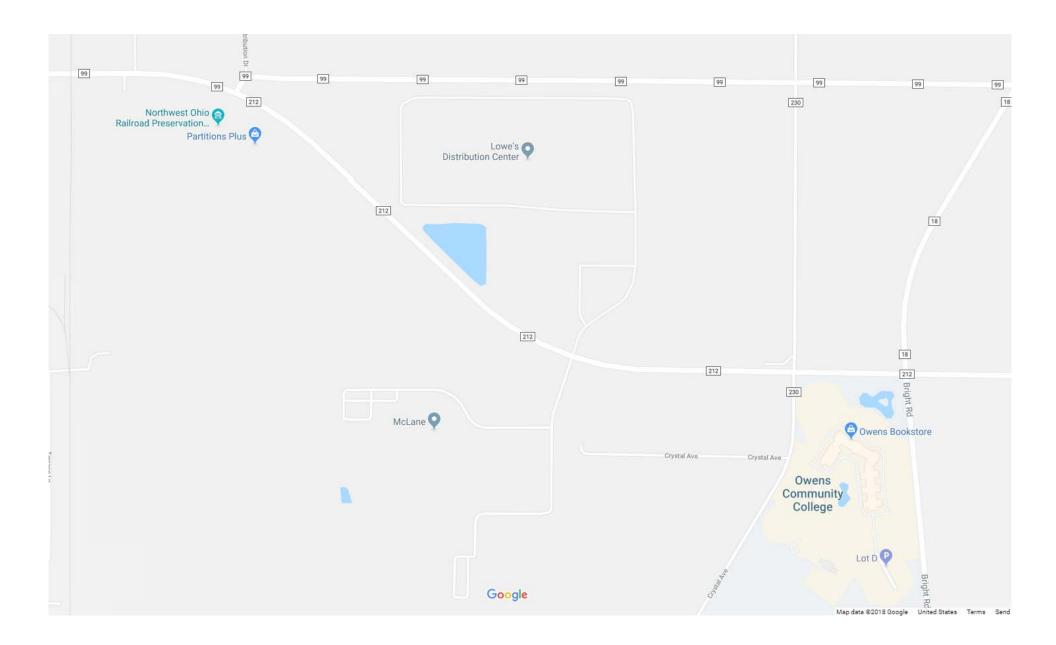
Jason Fletcher Assistant General Manager RDC 990- Findlay,OH 419-429-5700 x4803 Jason.Fletcher@lowes.com



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# **Kathy Launder**

From: Dale Rieman <dnrieman2010@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 06, 2018 7:13 PM

To: Traffic Commission
Subject: Speed Limits

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

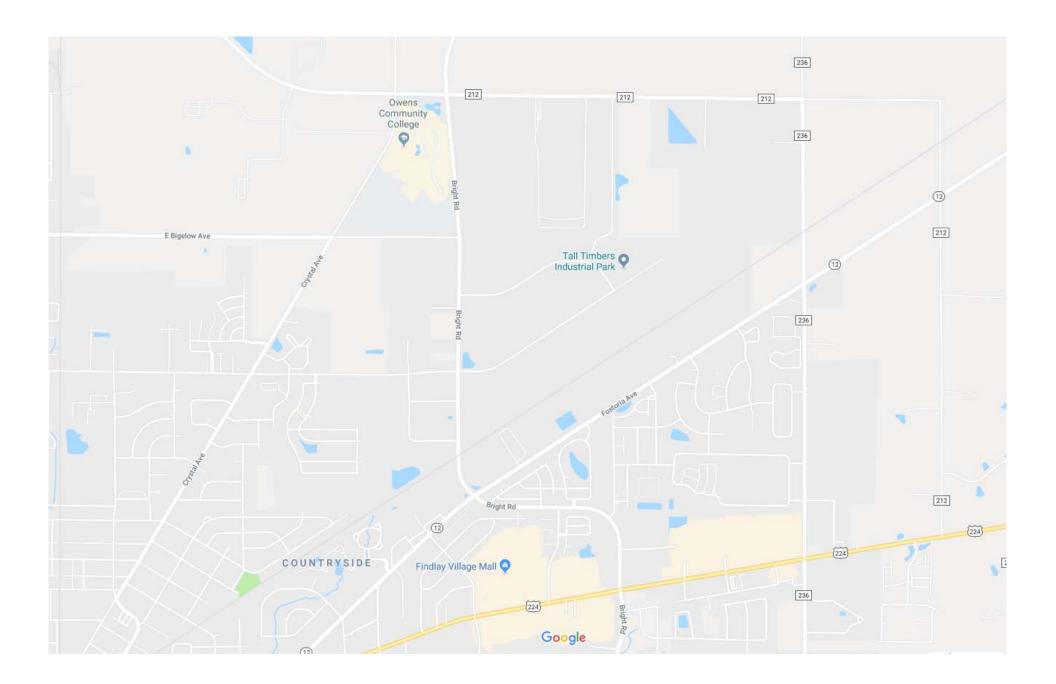
The speed limit on Co. Rd 236 between Rt. 224 & Rt. 12 is 35 mph. It makes no sense why it is not 45 mph. Also, Bright Rd from Rt.12 to Co Rd.212 is also 35 mph. It is a four lane road and 236 is four lanes. Rt. 12 from Bright Rd going east is 45 mph on a two lane highway. I think it should be considered to change the speed limit on both Rt 236 and Bright Rd to 45 mph. Thank you for looking into this.

Dale Rieman

718 Deer Valley Ct. Findlay, Ohio 45840

cell# 419-410-8600

email: dnrieman2010@yahoo.com



# **Kathy Launder**

**From:** Brian Thomas

Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2018 11:34 AM

To: Kathy Launder

**Subject:** FW: Traffic Commission item

Thank you,

### Brian A. Thomas, PE, PS, CPESC, CFM

Director of Public Service/Acting City Engineer City of Findlay 318 Dorney Plaza, Room 304 Findlay, Ohio 45840 Phone: 419-424-7121

From: Grant Russel

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 13, 2018 10:09 AM **To:** Brian Thomas <a href="mailto:state-10:05">state-10:09</a> AM

**Subject:** Traffic Commission item

Brian, can we get the below item on the Nov 19 Traffic Commission agenda?

I like the idea in concept but think it should be limited to business hours, thus enabling overnight parking for residents.

Jen Fulton is working on obtaining support from all local business owners.

Thank you - g

Grant C. Russel

Findlay City Council, at-large

grussel@FindlayOhio.com

www.FindlayOhio.com

419.422.6875

<sup>\*</sup>Nothing in these comments is to be construed as authorizing extra work for which additional compensation may be claimed without prior approval.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: "Jen Fulton" < fultonjen@ymail.com >

Date: Tue, Oct 2, 2018 at 10:05 AM -0400

Subject: Question for you

To: "grant.russel@gmail.com" <grant.russel@gmail.com>

Good morning Grant,

I am relocating my Buggy Whip Bakery to E. Sandusky St. next to Joey Fratello's.

I am interested in pursuing a change of time limit on parking spots in the first block of East Sandusky. On the North side of the street, all of the businesses are carry-out type businesses and would benefit from 15 minute parking. Joey Fratello's, myself with Buggy Whip, Cammy's (repurposed furniture store), the R& J Cheesecake shop and Jack B's. Across the street is Baker's Cafe.

How do I go about this? Who do I present this idea too and what is the best way to sell the idea?

Thanks in advance
Jen Fulton

