



Citizens Advisory Traffic Commission (CATC)
May 15, 2019
Traffic Control Center Conference Room 325
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	STAFF PRESENT
Ken Adams Nick Cantonwine John Ledger Keith Quick Denise Van Dyke Lowell Wetzell Reuben Worster	Alan Scott	Kevin Hottmann Tony Martin Carol McMann

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Called to order at 6:03p.m. Alan Scott is absent.

MINUTES

The April 10, 2019 meeting minutes were approved.

ISSUE

Should the City remove on-street parking on the east and west sides of Winter Street NE, north of Belmont Street NE, and on the east and west sides of Winter Street NE at D Street NE?

STAFF PRESENTATION AND RECOMMENDATION

Kevin Hottmann, City Traffic Engineer described the process the City's responsibility such are right-of-way, signage and vision issues. The City investigates traffic concerns as related to those such issues. Cherriots is a private, separate organization from the City of Salem and is governed by a Board of Directors appointed by the Governor. Mr. Hottmann explained the process that Cherriots, or any one requesting on-street parking removal, would go through as well as the appeal process of on-street parking removal. Mr. Hottmann also that he had received concerns from neighbors effected by the 4 of the 5 proposed removal of on-street parking areas. We did not receive concerns for one of the areas of proposed parking removal.

After the staff presentation and recommendation, several questions were asked from Commissioners and the public. Steve Dickey and Chris French from Cherriots answered questions that were Cherriots specific. Cherriots is updating its routes to be in compliance with the Federal ADA rules. Cherriots has provided general bus maneuvering needs for the various curbside bus stop zones.

CATC will send a recommendation to the Public Works Director. There are 3 options for CATC to decide tonight: agree with staff recommendation, reject staff recommendation or send the issue back to Cherriots to determine alternatives.

TESTIMONY

John Lehmann, Property Owner of 900 block of Winter Street NE (opposed recommendation)

Mr. Lehmann said he and his wife own 2 triplexes in the area. They have 6 parking spots for 6 units the on-street parking is essentials for their tenants. He previously grow up in that neighborhood and is familiar with issues of the neighborhood. He asked if the ADA requirements were a mandate

or at the discretion of Cherriots? They have a daughter who is an attorney for Tri-Met Transit Service in the Portland area. He understands the needs that the ADA serves but questions if there are other options and what the law specifically says. He additionally asked about the ability of being able to put trash receptacles on the curb for pick up.

Anne Marie Thompson, resident in 1100 block of Winter Street NE (opposed recommendation)

Ms. Thompson address concerns for the local Grant Elementary students' safety as that area is already congested with school children drop-off and pick-up as well as Oregon state workers coming and going to work at offices localized to that area. Would it be possible to move bus route down to Union Street NE or Broadway Street NE where there are already routes. Winter Street NE is the only residential street with buses on it.

Carol Corner, resident in 1100 block of Winter Street NE (opposed recommendation)

Ms. Corner seconds what Ms. Thompson and Mr. Lehmann have already stated.

Steve Corner, resident in 1100 block of Winter NE (opposed recommendation)

Mr. Corner also agrees with Ms. Thompson and Mr. Lehmann have already stated. He said that parents of the Grant Elementary School have not abided by parking in bus stop areas and there is a lot of congestion.

Brody Anderson, resident in 1000 block of Winter Street NE (opposed recommendation)

Mr. Anderson also agrees with objections already been stated and adds that there is a ripple effect to adjacent streets leading to more area congestion. Residents without on-street parking on Winter Street NE and Belmont Street NE will have to on-street park the next street over which will displace parking for owners on that street and so on.

Nick Beleiciks, resident in 1100 block of Winter Street NE (opposed recommendation)

Mr. Beleiciks states he lives in the corner house and it will not affect his family but he is frustrated by the process. No one from Cherriots came and talked to him personally nor did he received a notice. He and his family have lived at that residence for 2 years. He does not agree with taking parking away from one owner but not the next; causing conflict between neighbors. He also expressed concern for the children of Grant Elementary School and their safety.

John Creighton, resident in 1100 block of Winter Street NE (opposed recommendation)

Mr. Creighton takes exception to the document stating the area residents were notified. He has had multiple interaction with Mr. Hottmann. The barricade notices were first he and his neighbors knew about the removal of on-street parking and relocations of the bus stops. The removal of the parking and the move of the bus stops should have been done at the same time. Mr. Creighton asked if City of Salem's Planning Division was aware of the changes. He stated that there are future plans for the addition of a crosswalk and a stops lights (at the intersection of Winter Street NE and Market Street NE). He suggests a holistic planning approach. He also states that this is not cost effective for the taxpayers of the City of Salem. Mr. Creighton also addressed the frustration of the damage to the streets due to Cherriots traffic. He stated that buses speed through the residential streets and near the elementary school. He also agrees the congestion from the elementary school and local state offices add congestion to the area and worries about the safety of the school children and bicycle riders. Mr. Creighton expressed concern for the livability issues such as

cigarette butts and trash left in neighbors' yard where the bus stops have been moved to. He asked if Cherriots was going to install garbage cans and benches at each stop.

Jeff Corner, speaking for mother who is the resident of Winter Street NE (opposed recommendation)

Mr. Corner stated that he is the son of the senior resident on the corner of the street which has had the greatest impact by the changes in location of the bus stop. He feels the property value has gone down because there is no longer on-street parking on either of the streets next to the residence. The house has a one car driveway so there is no parking for guests or even care-givers of the owner. Mr. Corner stated that the bus stop was moved six feet from the entrance of house. He states this property will have a difficult resale process and diminished value. He is concerned that this constitutes eminent domain without compensation. He also expressed concern that people utilizing the bus leave garbage and cigarette butts on the property diminishing its' value.

Julie Yip, Salem resident

Ms. Yip states whatever decision is made, the Salem-Keizer School District needs to be notified so they can pass along information to the parents of Grant Elementary School.

Public Testimony closed.

REBUTTAL:

Steve Dickey from Cherriots stated that notices were mailed out to residents of the neighborhood on April 2nd, 2019. The only way of contact was checking the Marion County Assessor's database for the registered owners of the affected properties. Mr. Dickey also re-iterated that Cherriots has a Board of Directors appointed by the Governor as well as a Citizen's advisory board. The information about upcoming meetings is on the Cherriots web site under the "About Us" section. He stated that if there is a bus speeding in the area, please call Cherriots immediately. If unable to call immediately, please document dates and times.

Questions from the Commissioners:

Commissioner Quick asked the City's interaction to these type of issues. The response was that the City is responsible for right-of-way issues such as the on-street parking, requiring new bus stop construction to comply with City requirements. The City staff asks Cherriots if they have completed the process of notifying the residents in areas in question. The City can't manage where Cherriots puts bus stops, or require garbage cans at each stop or benches.

Commissioner Quick asked if there was an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) in place between the City and Cherriots. The response was yes but only deals with right-a-way issues.

Commissioner Quick also asked if route on Winter Street NE could be changed to another street. Cherriots responded that the linear distance a person with disabilities could walk would be considered too long. Cherriots tries to keep a balance between having too many buses on an Arterial route causing traffic issues and the ability to deliver the rider closer to residential areas.

Commissioner Quick asked about the usage of the "Dial-A-Ride" vehicles and the regular transit bus services. The response was the para-transit or "Dial-A-Ride" vehicles are pre-arranged and planned

stops. The para-transit vehicles are much more expensive to operate. Cherriots is obligated to provide this services. The para-transit vehicles have a different type of lift than the regular transit buses. The para-transit vehicles take 5-10 minutes on average to load a rider that needs use of the lift. The regular transit buses require 1-3 minutes depending on route.

Commissioner Worster asked how much impact does the ADA have versus Cherriots; more one sided. The response was that it's not a one sided conflict.

Commissioner Ledger asked if there is case law regarding ADA bus stop compliance. Response: Cherriots will research the issue and let the commission and City staff know.

Commissioner Quick asked about long term planning of moving bus stops. Response: Cherriots has 80 bus stop changes planned. However it is a long process and they don't want to inundate the City with requests. They are taking it step-by-step. Commissioner Quick also asked if the long range plans for Cherriots was on the Cherriots website. Response: Cherriots has long range plans but is not on their website.

Kevin Hottmann reminded the commission that their responsibility was to make a recommendation regarding the proposal for removal of on-street parking only. Tony Martin, stated that the commission had three option: Yes vote would remove on-street parking as recommended by City staff; No vote would leave on-street parking as it is and the third option is to send it back to Cherriots to come up with other options.

MOTION

Commissioner Ledger moved to endorse the removal of on-street parking recommendation by staff. Motion seconded by Commissioner Adams.

Mr. Martin said no.

Vote:

Commissioners Ledger, Adams, Wetzel and Cantonwine were in favor of the staff recommendation. Commissioners Van Dyke, Quick and Worster opposed. The motion carried 4-3 in favor.

This issue is deemed controversial and will be presented to City Council

ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.