



City of Wimberley

221 Stillwater, Wimberley, Texas 78676

REGULAR TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING WIMBERLEY CITY HALL – CITY
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
221 STILLWATER, WIMBERLEY, TEXAS 78676
WEDNESDAY, November 9, 2022 - 3:30 PM

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER** November 9, 2022, at 4:00 PM

4:09 p.m. Ben O’Kane

2. **CALL OF ROLL**

TAB Members Present: Alex Villaret, Lindsey Deringer, Ben O’Kane, Bob Harla, Matt Joyce

TAB Members Absent: Aaron Reed

City Staff Present: Damien Grimaldi, Public Works Leader; Alexis Esparza, Public Works Assistant; Nathaniel Glaiser, Director of Planning and Public Works, Tim Patek, City Administrator

3. **CITIZENS COMMUNICATIONS**

This provides an opportunity for the citizens to comment on agenda and non-agenda items in advance of the regular business of the Transportation Advisory Board. Those wishing to speak must sign-in before the meeting begins and observe a three-minute time limit when addressing the Board. Speakers will have one opportunity to speak during the time period. Comments from speakers should not be directed towards any specific member of the Board or City staff. Comments should not be accusatory, derogatory or threatening in nature.

NONE

4. **MINUTES**

4.1. Consider approval of minutes from the Transportation Advisory Board held on October 26, 2022.

Motion to approve: Alex Villaret; Second: Lindsey Deringer

Motion carried unanimously

5. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

5.1. Discuss and consider a recommendation regarding speed cushions/speed humps on, but not limited to, River Road and 1492. *(Tim Patek, City Administrator and Nathan Glaiser, Director of Planning and Public Works)*

Emergency Response speakers opposed to speed cushions:

Carol Czichos, Wimberley fire chief

Cathy Montgomery, Wimberly EMS operations director

Gib Watt, Wimberley fire marshal

They said speed humps are overly burdensome to emergency response because they require the heavy vehicles to slow down to practically a stop to avoid damaging vehicles and their passengers, including EMS patients. Speed humps would slow down their response times by too much, endangering lives and structures in cases of emergency.

Don Montague, Precinct 3 constable, said he gets complaint about reckless and speeding drivers on roads such as Flite Acres, Hillside, 1492, and Elder Hill. He said his six officers are normally too busy to conduct speed traps, and it is not their primary duty. He said it can be unsafe for law enforcement to stop drivers on narrow roads such as 1492 because there is no shoulder. He said his office is getting a new officer on January 1, which could allow for more traffic enforcement. He was hoping to get two new officers but was funded for one. He would like to have two new officers. He would like to hire two motorcycle officers for traffic enforcement. He says traffic safety enforcement would be more effective than speed humps to slow down drivers.

Gina Fulkerson, Wimberley mayor, said the city can advocate at the county for more funding to add another officer to the Precinct 3 constable's office.

David Cohen, Wimberley City Council member, said he brought the issue up with the council after hearing from a pedestrian who was hit by a driver on River Road. He noted that speed cushions are different than speed bumps, and they can allow wide-base vehicles to pass unimpeded. He asked if the roads suitable for configuration of speed cushions that would allow emergency vehicle to pass unimpeded?

Alyson Waldron, long time resident of Wimberley Valley, residing at 212 Winwood, submitted a letter saying speed humps are not the best solution. She requested a mirror at her road's intersection with 1492 to be installed to provide visibility. She also said a stop sign should be considered at 1492's intersections with Winwood and Chapparral.

Clark Christopher, resident of CR 1492, said 1492 is dangerous because of drivers speeding on the road. He said his family is afraid to pull out of their driveway because it's a blind hill and speeding drivers appear suddenly. He wants speed humps on 1492. He also said the city should figure out a way to download the data from the flashing speed limit signs to have data to verify the occurrence of speeding.

Craig Fore: 311 La Buena Vista Drive, said he had a speed cushion in front of his house, and it was constantly falling apart. Based on his experience, he said speed cushions, stop signs, yield signs, flashing speed signs don't work. The only thing that would work to slow people down is law enforcement.

Gary Barchfelt, resident of Flite Acres, said speed bumps are not the answer. He advocated negotiating with the county to bring in more law enforcement between the constable and sheriff's office to manage and warn the citizenry.

Other ideas mentioned by citizens: Fresh center line paint and maybe reflector bumps for 1492 to encourage safety. A sign at RR 12 and CR 1492 announcing it's a residential area. Encourage map apps to take 1492 off their Wimberley routes.

TAB members discussion points:

The effort for Wimberley to hire a city marshal seems to have stalled out. Wimberley City Manager Tim Patek said the city does have a court that could be activated to handle traffic citations.

Asphalt on Wimberley roads could be too thin to handle speed cushions and their stakes without crumbling, which is what happened on Las Flores.

Montague: Aaron Jones is a resource with Hays County Road Department who knows this type of stuff.

O'Kane: It will take an expert to figure out if speed cushions would work on our current roads. With little budget, we will have to get creative and get help from the county. We will take this into consideration and move this forward once we pass the Transportation Plan, and then move this forward, possibly after January 1.

5.2. Discuss and consider the Transportation Advisory Board meeting schedule.

The normal TAB meeting time is at 4 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month.

Nathan Glaiser: Aaron Reed, not present, has a conflict during regular meeting time. He could meet at 9 a.m. second Wednesday of the month, but possibly moving it to a different day would be beneficial.

TAB: Two alternatives could be first Wednesday of the month at 4 p.m. or second Monday of the month at 4 p.m. Maybe we could switch with parks board?

Glaiser will check with Reed and follow up with TAB by email to establish schedule.

5.3. Discuss and consider making a recommendation to City Council for the 2023 TxDOT Transportation Alternatives Set Aside Grant Program.

Glaiser: The city could use TxDOT Transportation Alternatives Set Aside Grant to fund the construction of sidewalks on the south side of RR 12 between the Blanco bridge and the square. It's an 80/20 split. There's a call for projects preliminary application deadline

is Dec. 2. The actual application is due of February/March. Would the TAB like to recommend approving this?

Mayor Fulkerson: TxDOT says it's important we get engineering done. That would be our 20 percent. TxDOT has indicated they are favorable to this. We would come up with 20 percent but engineering would be part of that, and they said we could also try to get part of that back later, depending on circumstances.

O'Kane: Are we in favor with continuing forward with the TxDOT transportation alternatives set aside program for sidewalks on 12?

Motion to proceed with application: Deringer; Second; Bob Harla

5.4. Discuss and consider making a recommendation to the City Council on the Wimberley Transportation Master Plan.

O'Kane is working on a letter to present TAB recommendations at 6 p.m. Nov. 17 meeting. O'Kane will be out of town, but Aaron Reed can present the recommendations. Other TAB members were encouraged to attend.

Recommendations were discussed at previous meeting. They are:

Recommend approval of the Wimberley Transportation Plan as presented, including the "Planned Edits" document, as well as the following TAB recommendations:

- Prioritize Old Kyle Road one-way and Oldham Road extension. The resulting changes to downtown traffic could impact potential TxDOT plans to install a traffic light on Highway 12 downtown. At this point, TxDOT deems the light warranted but not funded.
- Prioritize sidewalk construction throughout town.
- For Collector Roadways, expand right-of-way guidelines to 80 feet, rather than 60 feet. This is to hold developers to higher standards for new development outside of the town core and on properties contiguous to the city limits.
- Prepare application for TxDOT Transportation Alternative Set-Aside Program, which has a December deadline for proposals. This could be used to fund sidewalk construction on Highway 12 downtown and elsewhere. The programs funds projects at an 80/20 split between TxDOT and the city. TxDOT has already developed the schematic for Highway 12 sidewalks between the square and 3237.
- Add concrete surface to River Road west (upstream) from the Wayside intersection. This stretch of road floods routinely, and asphalt surface gets too many potholes as a result.

6. BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

1. **6.1.** Announcements

NONE

6.2. Future agenda items

Ask Aaron Jones from Hays County road department to come to the next TAB Meeting to discuss speed cushions and traffic calming in general.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn at 5:40 p.m.: Villaret; Second: Deringer

RECORDED BY:

APPROVED BY:

TAB Secretary

TAB Chairperson

