

## MEMORANDUM

Kohnt hillente

**TO:** Mayor and Council Members

**FROM:** Robert Spillar, P.E., Director,

Austin Transportation Department

**DATE:** October 6, 2020

**SUBJECT:** Resolution 20161215-029 – Grove PUD Traffic Program

This memorandum provides a response to <u>Resolution No. 20161215-029</u>, directing the City Manager to identify and return to Council a recommendation on how off-site sidewalk and traffic calming improvements (Traffic Program) associated with the Grove Planned Unit Development (PUD) in an amount not to exceed \$900,000 might be funded.

## Recommendations

In 2015, the Bull Creek Road Coalition (BCRC) and ARG Bull Creek, Ltd. (Developer) created a conceptual improvement plan with prioritized locations of off-site sidewalks and traffic calming devices near the Grove PUD to address anticipated impacts to safety and mobility as a result of the development.

Using this plan as a guiding document, the Austin Transportation Department (ATD) developed a Traffic Program based on a budget of \$400,000, the maximum contribution permitted by the Landowner per Ordinance No. 20161215-075. Based on this budget, and the BCRC's prioritization of traffic calming improvements over sidewalks, ATD developed a plan consisting of asphalt speed cushions. ATD's plan represents a high-level evaluation of effective device spacing, existing driveways, and other best-practice considerations for traffic calming. ATD presented this off-site traffic calming plan for review by BCRC representatives, who coordinated with area residents to gauge their level of support. ATD has been informed by the BCRC that residents have provided a positive feedback to the plan. The contractor began work on this program at the end of September.

## **Background**

Ordinance No. 20161215-075 established initial permanent zoning for the Grove PUD. Part 9, Section F of this ordinance includes the following language addressing off-site traffic calming and sidewalk improvements:

- 1. Prior to approval of the first site development permit within the Grove PUD, the Landowner shall contribute a maximum amount of \$400,000 to a fund established by the City to implement the Traffic Program. The Traffic Program shall be reviewed jointly by the City, the Landowner, and the BCRC, or successor organization, and approved by the City.
- 2. The Traffic Program may include public sidewalks, traffic calming measures, and other appropriate traffic improvements at locations within Allandale and Highland Park West Balcones Area north of the Grove PUD, Oakmont Heights west of the Grove PUD, Ridgelea and Bryker Woods south of the Grove PUD, and Rosedale east of the Grove PUD (collectively, the "BCRC Area") contingent on the feasibility and approval of Traffic Program improvements by the City, Landowner, and the respective Neighborhood Association(s). A tentative list of

improvements requested by the BCRC to be considered for feasibility review in the Traffic Program improvements has been provided to City staff.

- 3. Approved Traffic Program improvements shall be constructed by the Landowner at cost within the BCRC area during build-out of the Grove PUD. The Landowner's obligation to pay for such costs shall be limited to its \$400,000 maximum contribution. The City shall be responsible for securing and paying for all utility relocations, right-of-way and easement acquisitions, and permitting associated with the Traffic Program improvements.
- 4. The City may contribute an amount not to exceed \$900,000 to provide supplemental funding to implement the Traffic Program. Notwithstanding section F.1. above, any money contributed to the City to fund the Traffic Program shall be evaluated using the City's prioritization process for sidewalk and traffic calming projects.

## **Traffic Program**

ATD developed a Traffic Program including asphalt speed cushions on the following street segments:

Street	From	To
36th	Jackson	Lawton
37th	Jackson	Lawton
38th	Jackson	Bull Creek
39th	Jackson	Bull Creek
40th	Jackson	Bull Creek
41st	Jackson	Bull Creek
42nd	Jackson	Bull Creek
Finley	45th	Fiset
Jackson	35th	Bull Creek
Jefferson	Bull Creek	Ridgelea
Lawton	35th	Bull Creek
Oakmont	35th	Bull Creek
Perry	Highland Terrace	Bull Creek
Placid	45th	Perry

ATD developed traffic mitigation plans and associated traffic control plans on behalf of the Landowner. As per the PUD, the traffic program improvements shall be constructed by the Landowner. Based on the Landowner's cost estimate which ATD reviewed, the Traffic Program will be covered by the \$400,000 contribution.

Following requirements in the ordinance, ATD has also applied for the right-of-way and excavation permits on behalf of the Landowner's contractor. ATD is also creating the associated inspection and testing contracts for the asphalt speed cushions.

If there are further questions please feel free to contact me or Eric Bollich, P.E., ATD's Managing Engineer, at <a href="mailto:eric.bollich@austintexas.gov">eric.bollich@austintexas.gov</a>.

CC: Spencer Cronk, City Manager Gina Fiandaca, Assistant City Manager Rodney Gonzales, Assistant City Manager