

Special City Commission Workshop
June 22, 2021
Video of the meeting and agenda can be found [here](#).

All Commissioners, Vice Mayor and Mayor were present. This workshop was to approve the adoption of the Traffic Calming Manual that had been updated based on the April 15th workshop discussion and further input from City Staff. Mayor Owen stressed that this meeting wasn't to discuss individual traffic problems but to look at the overall plan of the manual. The complete manual can be found [here](#).

Public Participation:

Five residents spoke to the Commission:

- Four were concerned about the increased traffic, speed, and tailgating that is now on south Riverside due to the speed humps on Magnolia have moved drivers to So. Riverside.
- One resident, who represented the Neighborhood Council, suggested lowering the 75% resident approval rating to 70%.

Brian Fields, Assistant City Manager, gave an overview of the three parts of the manual:

- **Process for Handling Requests.** The steps required before approval by the City Commission for implementation. This is where the 75% resident ballot approval could be lowered. It was noted that the process can take 4-6 months.
- **Establish Evaluation Criteria.** This is a 100-point system based on seven criteria, but there is no minimum score to get a request fulfilled. However, the higher the score, the quicker funding for the request might be fulfilled.
- **Traffic Calming Measures.** Various methods can be used, but it was stressed that STOP signs are not one of them as they are based on warrants per the State. The City does have the power to override this, and a statement stating so was added to the manual on page 5. It was noted, too, that speed adjustment can be made by the City at any time based on the collected data of speed studies.

Discussion of what was presented centered around these concerns:

- Why adopt a manual now? ANS: it provides an organizing process that we do not have at this time, and it also shows a logical and systematic framework.
- We need to look at a larger area when there is a problem. EXAMPLE: solving the Magnolia St. problem created increased traffic on Live Oak. When additional STOP signs were put on Live Oak, the traffic moved to S. Riverside.
- Traffic studies need to be more than one week as traffic is different depending upon the month/season.
- Standards are needed for the point system and a reasonable goal score is needed. Mr. Fields suggested 50 points as the minimum for a request to move forward.

After the discussion, a motion to approve the **adoption** of the Traffic Calming Manual was made **with the insertion** of the City staff recommendation that any request must meet a score of 50 points in order for it to move forward. The 75% resident approval benchmark was kept. **The motion to approve the adoption of the Traffic Calming Manual passed unanimously.**