

City Council

Special Meeting Minutes

**February 11, 2025
Library Meeting Room
951 Spruce Street
6:00 PM**

Call to Order – Mayor Leh called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. **Roll Call** was taken and the following members were present:

City Council: ***Mayor Chris Leh
Mayor Pro Tem Caleb Dickinson
Councilmember Josh Cooperman
Councilmember Deborah Fahey
Councilmember Barbara Hamlington – remote
Councilmember Dietrich Hoefner
Councilmember Judi Kern – remote***

Staff Present: ***Samma Fox, Interim City Manager
Meredyth Muth, Interim Deputy City Manager
Kurt Kowar, Public Works Director
Rafael Gutierrez, Police Chief
Geoff Nettleton, Civil Engineer III
Jordan Jeffries, Assistant City Engineer***

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Leh asked for changes to the consent agenda; hearing none he asked for a motion. **Motion:** Councilmember Hamlington moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Councilmember Hoefner. **Vote:** All in favor.

- A.** Approval of Employment Agreement for Diana Langley, City Manager

REGULAR BUSINESS

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION: TRAFFIC CALMING

Director Kowar introduced Geoff Nettleton and Jordan Jeffries to give the presentation. He noted that staff brings information to council based on metrics, trends, and data. He

added the community often wants a variety of different things, but the goal from staff is to get things right and to do them well.

Nettleton agreed with Kowar that the goal is a safe system and vision zero. He then reviewed various community concerns staff hears related to traffic calming. He reviewed Colorado traffic laws related to crosswalks and pedestrians/cyclists. He reviewed the Federal Highway Administration's safe system approach, and the key principles staff uses to keep everyone safe. He highlighted the traffic calming that is already installed in town including HAWK and Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) signals, speed cushions, and other countermeasures.

He noted the focus areas staff use include speed management, pedestrian and bicycle safety, and intersection safety along with education, enforcement, and engineering. He added that different types of streets call for different measures. In addition to those factors, staff considers traffic volume, speed, school zones, accident history, on-street parking, community input, and other information. He reviewed upcoming traffic calming items staff may recommend be part of this year's paving contracts if costs allow.

Members discussed the traffic calming on Washington and Polk/Dahlia and the kinds of complaints they get from residents. Director Kowar stated the cushions on Washington are designed to exact specifications and are not larger or more difficult than intended for that street. Changing out the ones on Washington would likely cost \$100,000 or more.

Mayor Pro Tem Dickinson left the meeting at 6:42 pm.

Nettleton reviewed the work on Polk/Dahlia including handled raised crosswalks, advisory bike lanes, and more. The street is planned for repaving in 2026; staff will make a recommendation on what to do long-term at that time. He reviewed the community engagement process both before and after the changes and the speed data. Members discussed the survey results and possible ideas for when repaving happens.

Mayor Pro Tem Dickinson returned to the meeting at 7:11 pm.

Nettleton reviewed the lane reductions and buffered bike lanes on Via Appia that were installed to improve traffic safety on the corridor. He noted it has reduced speeds on the corridor. He reviewed the accident data for South Boulder Road and Via Appia; it shows a decrease in accidents. He highlighted some additional improvements that could be added to the corridor if Council is interested.

Members discussed how residents have been responding to the changes and the complaints or compliments they have received. Director Kowar noted the repaving of Via Appia is not scheduled until 2028 so there is plenty of time to decide what changes people and the Council might want.

Staff reviewed some of the recommendations they think could enhance the corridor further. Members discussed the recommendations, made suggestions, and discussed possible changes to the infrastructure that could happen before full repaving in 2028.

Nettleton reviewed possible options for photo enforcement including pros and cons associated with using photo enforcement. Chief Gutierrez added the department is happy to work with Public Works to get more information about this if Council is interested in exploring it further. Council was generally supportive of getting additional information on photo enforcement.

ADJOURN

Members adjourned at 9:20 pm.

G. Kline
Genny Kline, Interim City Clerk

Christopher M. Leh
Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

