



Transportation Committee - Board of Representatives

David Watkins, Chair

Terry Adams, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Tuesday, December 20, 2022
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: *This meeting was held remotely.*

The Transportation Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Watkins, Vice Chair Adams, and Committee Member Reps. Di Costanzo, Gilbride, Grunberger, Moore, and Sandford. Also present were Rep. Summerville; Mayor Simmons; Lou DeRubeis, Director of Public Safety, Health, and Welfare; and Frank Petise and Luke Buttenwieser, Transportation, Traffic and Parking Bureau.

Chair Watkins called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. T31.018	REVIEW; Pedestrian Safety in 2022, Including Remedial Plans Going Forward and the Implementation of Vision Zero 12/06/22 – Submitted by Rep. Watkins	Report Made

Mayor Simmons stated that as a result of the recent accident on Washington Boulevard, they have met with DOT about immediate steps that can be taken to increase road safety. Items discussed included a road safety audit, raised crosswalks, better enforcement and getting drivers to slow down on State roads. The City has also started a Vision Zero task force with an all-around approach. There are 3 prongs to the approach – engineering, enforcement, and education. The City is also seeking federal funding for safe streets.

Mr. Petise reviewed the [attached presentation](#) with the Committee.

Committee members discussed this item with the invited guests. Items discussed included:

- Speed monitoring on Washington Boulevard, including the electronic speed indicators
- DOT has agreed to review Washington Boulevard
- Pedestrians also need to be made aware that they must pay attention
- More enforcement is needed to change behaviors
- The traffic enforcement unit is currently full staffed
- Mr. DeRubeis will ensure that officers are aware that enforcement of traffic violations is a priority
- The task force meets on the first Tuesday of each month and the agendas are posted on the City website and there is a dedicated webpage on the City website. They will be added to the City social media page and calendar.
- It is difficult to control reckless driving
- The Vision Zero initiative will accomplish a lot, but the City should work with students to give them a way to identify specific issues that they see, such as near misses

- Complete Streets design is a way to slow vehicles down with designs such as raised intersections and crosswalks
- Maybe speed bumps should be reconsidered in residential areas
- Parking a police car also slows down traffic
- Traffic circles may be an effective traffic control mechanism but US drivers are not as familiar with them as in Europe and they will require additional driver education

Chair Watkins adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
David Watkins, Chair