

AGENDA: TSC 11/4/13

ITEM NO. 5: Consider construction of TRAFFIC CALMING on Vermont Street between 21st Street & 23rd Street.

Staff Report:

1. The city plans to reconstruct the brick portion of Vermont Street between 21st Street & 22nd Street in 2014.
2. During neighborhood meetings about the reconstruction project, significant discussion occurred concerning the need for traffic calming between 21st Street & 23rd Street.
3. Vermont Street is classified as a "local" street in a residential area with a speed limit of 30mph.
4. Traffic data collected for 24 hours October 1-2 found approximately 210 vehicles per day using the street traveling at an 85th percentile speed of approximately 32.9mph; the peak hour was 2-3pm.
5. A cut-through study was conducted on October 21 with the following results:
 - a. Total traffic, 10; cut-through, 4; 40%
 - b. Northbound, 5; cut-through, 3; 60%
 - c. Southbound, 5; cut-through, 1; 20%

MINUTES: TSC 11/4/13

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Woosley reviewed the information provided in the staff report.

Public Comment:

Linda Cottin, 2244 Vermont Street: When motorists see congestion at 23rd & Massachusetts, they immediately turn down Vermont because it cuts all the way through; Vermont was repaired this summer, except for the brick portion, and I can attest that the speed of traffic has probably tripled since the repairs were made; the only thing that slows them down is when they hit the brick portion; we are in favor of blocking Vermont Street at 23rd and making it an exit only; the cars entering from 23rd are mostly cutting-through; I think that will reduce the amount of speed on the street dramatically; it's crazy how fast they go, especially late at night.

Janet Dehnert, 2130 Vermont Street: I live on the brick portion of Vermont which today is a natural traffic calmer; the neighborhood feels that it is very important to keep the street brick, but we know that traffic will speed up after it is re-built; we would like for the intersection at 23rd to be blocked or a traffic calmer in the 2200 block.

Carol Jacobson, 2203 Vermont Street: I would support what has been said and point-out that there are no sidewalks between 22nd and 23rd and we have a lot of people that walk in the neighborhood; traffic calming would improve safety for people walking in the neighborhood.

Commission Discussion:

Commissioner Rothrock: I'm concerned that this doesn't meet any of the criteria for traffic calming, but I do believe that traffic will increase greatly once the street is improved. Woosley advised that northbound traffic does meet the criteria, 60% of the northbound traffic during the peak hour was cut-through traffic.

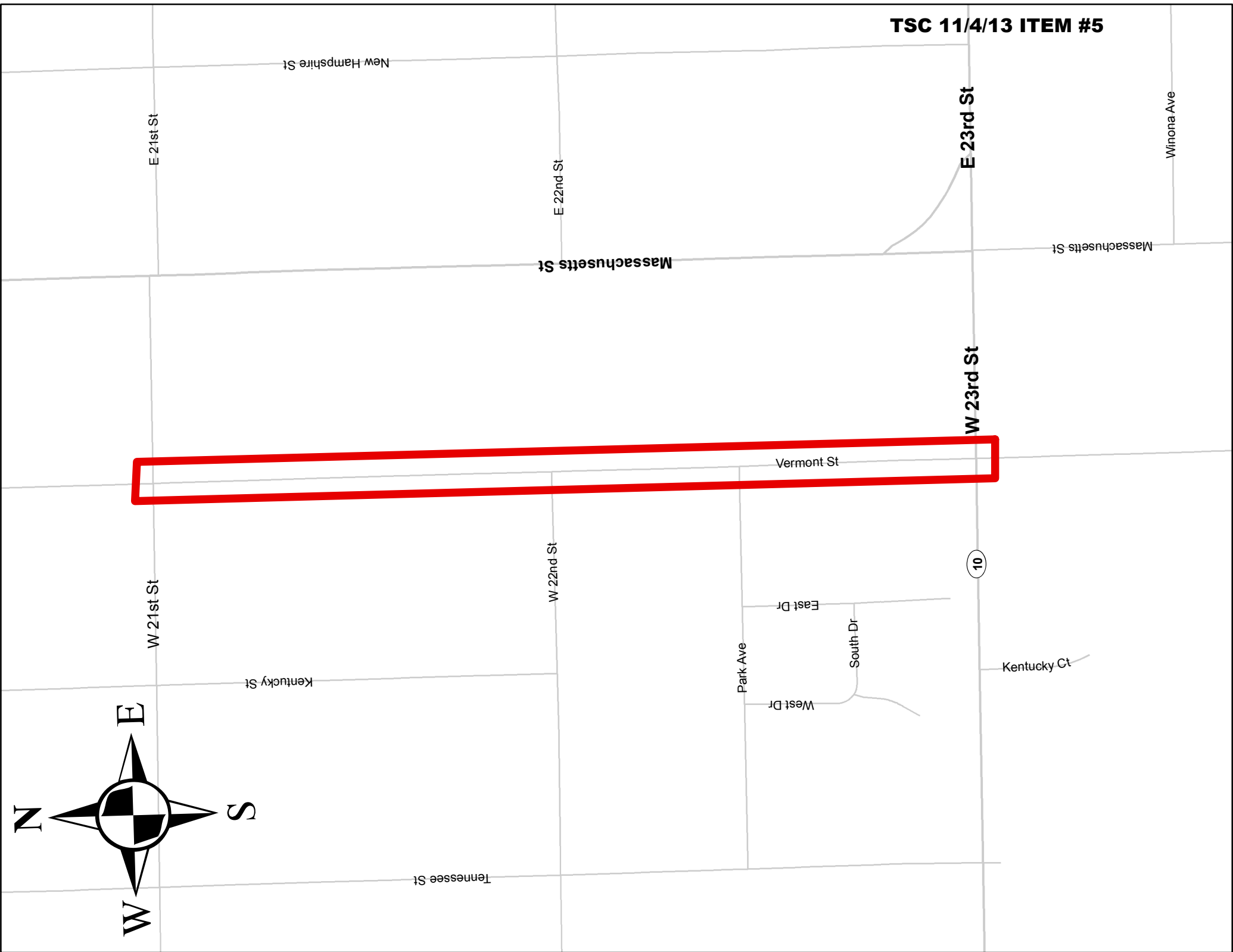
MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HARDEN, SECOND BY COMMISSIONER ZIEGELMEYER, TO RECOMMEND CONSTRUCTION OF TRAFFIC CALMING ON VERMONT STREET BETWEEN 21ST STREET & 23RD STREET; THE MOTION CARRIED, 8-0.



TRAFFIC CALMING POLICY

Resolution No. 6602, August 23, 2005

1. TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES may include but are not limited to Traffic-Calming Circles, Speed Humps and Speed Cushions, Speed Tables, Partial Diverters, Full Diverters, Center Island Narrowing, Chokers, and Road Closures; however, roundabouts are traffic management devices and are not subject to this policy.
2. TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES may be permitted on "local" streets as designated by the City's Major Thoroughfares Map, and under any one of the following conditions:
 - A. The 85th percentile speed of traffic is 5 mph or greater over the speed limit, or
 - B. The 24-hour two-way traffic volume is greater than 1000, or
 - C. Cut-through traffic comprises more than 50% of the traffic during the peak hour of the day, or
 - D. Where no single condition is satisfied, but where any two of A, B or C above are satisfied to the extent of 80 percent or more of the stated values.
3. TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES (except SPEED HUMPS) may be permitted on "collector" streets as designated by the City's Major Thoroughfares Map, under any one of the following conditions:
 - A. The 85th percentile speed of traffic is 5 mph or greater over the speed limit, or
 - B. The 24-hour two-way traffic volume is greater than 3000, or
 - C. Cut-through traffic comprises more than 50% of the traffic during the peak hour of the day, or
 - D. More than 50% of the frontage of the roadway consists of residential lots with the houses facing the roadway in question, or
 - E. Where no single condition is satisfied, but where any two of A, B, C or D above are satisfied to the extent of 80 percent or more of the stated values.
4. Traffic data will be collected with city personnel using city equipment only. In the event that a requested location does not meet the minimum requirements as stated in 2 or 3 above, subsequent requests will not be considered for a minimum of one year.
5. The Lawrence-Douglas County Fire & Medical Department, the Police Department, the Public Works Department and the Traffic Safety Commission must review all requests for TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES before being presented to the City Commission.
6. If a project is approved by the City Commission, the City Commission will determine financing of the construction. The City Commission may require 0-100% of the costs to be paid by the group or neighborhood making the request.
7. After a project is approved and funded by the City Commission, TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES will only be constructed at a location if 70% or more of the property owners within 300 feet measured along the centerline of the street in each direction approve of the installation or if directed by the City Commission. The individual, group or neighborhood making the request shall be responsible for obtaining the property owners' and residents' approval in writing and submitting it to the city.
8. Once installed, TRAFFIC-CALMING DEVICES may only be removed at a location if more than 70% of the property owners and residents within 300 feet measured along the centerline of the street in each direction approve of the removal or if directed by the City Commission. The individual, group or neighborhood making the request shall be responsible for obtaining the property owners' and residents' approval in writing and submitting it to the city.
9. TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES may initially be landscaped (if appropriate) by the city, provided that the group or neighborhood making the request agrees in writing to maintain the landscaping or pursuant to the payment of a landscape maintenance fee. No privately installed landscaping is permitted unless approved by the city in writing.



E 21st St

New Hampshire St

E 22nd St

Massachusetts St

E 23rd St

Winona Ave

Massachusetts St

W 23rd St

Vermont St

W 21st St

Kentucky St

W 22nd St

10

Kentucky Ct

Tennessee St

Park Ave

East Dr

South Dr

West Dr

E

S

W

N