



Nixa Utilities & Public Works
Nixa, Missouri
417.725.2352
www.nixa.com



MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Steele and City Council
Cc: Jimmy Liles, CA
From: Doug Colvin
Date: 03.23.2022
RE: Traffic Commissions/Traffic Advisory Boards

As requested by Mayor Steele at the March 14th Council meeting, staff has investigated the operations and responsibilities of quite a number of municipal Traffic Commissions and/or Traffic Advisory Boards throughout the local area and regionally. Though it seems there are more communities without some form of board or commission than ones where they exist, the ones we found have a number of similarities.

In most cases, these Boards consist of three to five citizens chosen by the Mayor and Council, and are in place to study and provide recommendations on a wide range of traffic and transportation issues. The remainder of the groups makeup typically consists of some combination of members representing the local police department or law enforcement, city council, legal counsel or city attorney, in-house or consulting engineers and public works directors or transportation related staff.

Members investigate and discuss complaints and comments regarding traffic issues such as parking, speed limits, congestion, signage within city rights-of-way and, pedestrian concerns during quarterly or other regular meetings. Some meet only as needed to study a related topic or to make recommendation to council on a specific issue. The outcome or recommendations of these discussions are usually relayed to the Mayor and Council so that any further direction can be provided to staff. All cities are slightly different however one commonality among many of the boards in smaller municipalities is that they exist in communities where certain traffic control measures such as speed, STOP and No Parking for example, are approved directly by the elected body as required by state law.

Other aspects of these or similar Boards could be to discuss the implementation of traffic control and calming devices during early review of new developments or other major improvements to existing roadways. They may make recommendations on trails and sidewalks or other modes of travel, on parking areas and other design amenities such as roundabouts, chicanes, speed humps/bumps or horizontal chokers to deter undesirable speeds. Some provide feedback on code and policy and may make recommendation for modifications with development, planning or even operations.

Staff is available to answer (or find answers) for any other questions you may have or gather more specific informaiton if desired.